

MEDICAL SCHOOL FACULTY COUNCIL

**Speaker's Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 2009
5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.**

BCRI 139 (Baxter Conference Room @ Batchelor Children's Research Institute)

Members Present:	Others Present:
Norman Altman, V.M.D. Sanjoy Bhattacharya, M.D. Coralie Carraway, Ph.D. Mary Ann Fletcher, Ph.D. Marta Galarza, M.D. Diana Lopez, M.D. Tomas Salerno, M.D.	William Awad, M.D. John Bixby, Ph.D. Bart Chernow, M.D. Leonidas Koniaris, M.D. Richard Lee, M.D. Sandra Lemmon, Ph.D. Jennifer McCafferty-Cepero, Ph.D. Richard Thurer, M.D.

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by the Speaker, Dr. Norman Altman.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Dean's Meeting of April 28, 2009. The motion was unanimously approved.

1. MD/PhD Program Committee Report – Dr. Sandra Lemmon

Dr. Lemmon provided an extensive report which is appended to these minutes. The report emphasizes how the program has grown and developed, including plans to submit an NIH T32 MSTP application for the September 25, 2009 deadline. A discussion was held pertaining to some concerns the MD/PhD Committee would like the Council to address, including the return of MD/PhD students for MS years 3 and 4, credits from the PhD towards the medical degree, and career counseling for MD/PhD students. Dr. Altman stated that he would set up a meeting with Dr. O'Connell's group to discuss these points.

2. Technology Transfer – Dr. Bart Chernow

Dr. Bart Chernow began by introducing himself and briefly describing his roles as a Professor of Medicine and Anesthesiology while serving the University as Vice Provost of Technology Advancement in charge of all technology advancement, and also as the Vice President for Special Programs and Resource Strategy for the Miller School.

Dr. Chernow went on to describe the missions of the University. These include 1) the provision of clinical care to all individuals regardless of their ability to pay, 2) the generation of new knowledge or the "discovery mission", 3) sharing knowledge with others or the "educational mission" and, uniquely at the University of Miami, 4) partnership with the community. The focus on technology advancement is critical if we are to realize the full potential of discoveries made at the University of Miami. The NIH budget is approaching \$30 billion a year and billions more are invested in other agencies, including the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense. The constituents of many legislators in the United States have taken the position of, "You're spending all of this money with NIH, what's in it for us?" Researchers understand and appreciate the importance of laying the foundation of knowledge on which subsequent science is built and the importance of basic science discovery. The concept of translational science was created to describe the process of moving discovering from concepts to bedside to improve human health and to provide a tangible return on the Federal investment. In order to

achieve that goal, it became very clear that there had to be some sort of interface with industry or the ability to augment the translation of discoveries from medical schools to the commercialization process.

UM Innovation. Dr. Chernow was recruited to the University to develop an umbrella organization to augment the translation of discoveries. This umbrella within the University of Miami umbrella is called UM Innovation. The eight components of UM Innovation are: 1) Patent and Copyright Committee, 2) Office of Technology Transfer, 3) Wallace H. Coulter Center for Translational Research, 4) an Annual UM Innovation Technology Showcase, 5) the UM Life Science Park, 6) a Corporate Advisory Council, 7) a Scientific Advisory Council and 8) a Conflict of Interest Committee.

How does this work? First, there was a 140-page document provided to the Faculty Council, and subsequently approved by the Faculty Senate, that included information detailing intellectual property. Embedded in that, is the Patent and Copyright Committee which is chaired by Dr. Chernow. Any discoveries that are made at the University of Miami must be disclosed to the university. There are defined standards by which the university will pursue the discovery or release it to the investigator. A licensing manager assigned to each discovery to review with the scientist the discovery and make recommendations. At that time, the discovery gets vetted in terms of two considerations: 1) is it potentially patentable and 2) does it have commercialization potential?

One of three decisions will result from this careful review. Decision #1 may be that the university may choose to retain title to the discovery. If the sponsor of the study that resulted in the discovery was a federal agency, there are two conditions that must occur for the university to retain title: 1) the university must make it best efforts to commercialize the product on behalf of the citizens of the United States, and 2) the federal government must be notified that the university will be taking title. Decision #2 that can be made is to release title to the discovery to the investigator and allowing the investigator with the University retaining 1/6 interest in that discovery. Dr. Chernow explained that retention of 1/6 interest is a national standard. Decision #3 is to do nothing with the discovery for one year. This means the Patent and Copyright Committee gives the investigator one year to demonstrate the enablement of the discovery.

Dr. Chernow addressed the questions and concerns of the Council members concerning space and future plans for UM Innovation.

A private firm is building a 2,000,000 sq. ft. UM Life Science Park that will be located between NW 17th Street and NW 20th Street and between I-95 and 7th Avenue. Dr. Chernow worked with the architect in designing the six stair step buildings. The new buildings will be the first environmentally friendly structure in South Florida. The university intends to break ground for the new science park in July or August 2009 with an expected completion timeframe of 1 ½ years.

To learn more about Technology Transfers or UM Innovation, you may visit the website at www.med.miami.edu/uminnovation .

3. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.