

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 20, 2022**

**INVITEES/ATTENDEES**

<b>Voting Members- Chairs</b>		<b>Voting Members- Other</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members-</b>	
<b>Allison, Jeroan, MD</b>	<b>Rhein, Lawrence, MD, MPH</b>	Abramo, Kristin	<b>Ahn, Mary, MD</b>	<b>Hinchey, Kevin, MD</b>
<b>Ayers, David MD</b>	<b>Rock, Kenneth, MD</b>	Colwell, Lauren	<b>Artenstein, Andrew, MD</b>	<b>Larkin, Anne, MD</b>
Baldor, Robert, MD	<b>Rosen, Max, MD</b>	Fain, James	<b>Berryman, Jennifer</b>	Lindstedt, John, CPA
Boney, Charlotte, MD	<b>Sankey, Heather, MD</b>	<b>Flotte, Terence, MD</b>	<b>Chakrabarti, Parth, MD, MBA</b>	Luzuriaga, Katherine, MD
<b>Budnik, Vivian, PhD</b>	<b>Sarvet, Barry, MD</b>	<b>Lane, Mary Ellen, PhD</b>	<b>Collins, Michael F., MD</b>	Mattocks, Kristin, PhD, MPH
<b>Davis, Roger, PhD</b>	<b>Schaal, Shlomit, MD</b>	<b>Mandrekar, Pranoti, PhD</b>	Colombo, Lisa, DNP, MHA, RN	Pryciak, Peter, PhD
Feldmann, Edward, MD	<b>Schiffer, Celia, PhD</b>	<b>McMaster, Erin, MD</b>	Dekker, Job, PhD	<b>Peterson, Kenneth, PhD, MS, RN</b>
FitzGerald, TJ, MD	Silver, Brian, MD	Pavao, M. Richard, MD	<b>DeMarco, Deborah, MD</b>	<b>Rosal, Milagros, PhD</b>
<b>Green, Michael, PhD</b>	<b>Sokoloff, Mitchell, MD</b>	Sadasivam, Rajani, PhD	Dickson, Eric, MD, MHCM	Schanzer, Andres, MD
<b>Harris, John, MD, PhD</b>	<b>Thomas, Abraham, MD, MPH</b>	<b>Vitello, Joan, RN, PhD</b>	Duncan, Marlina, EdD	Sell, Peter, MD
<b>Hicks, Richard, MD</b>	<b>Vieira, Peter, MD</b>		<b>Emerson, Charles, PhD</b>	Weaver, David, PhD
<b>Jabbour, Nicolas, MD</b>	Volturo, Gregory, MD		Fino, Mireli, MBA	<b>Weng, Zhiping, PhD</b>
<b>Jacobson, Allan, PhD</b>	<b>Walhout, Marian, PhD</b>		Fischer, Melissa, MD, Med	<b>Wolf, Gregory</b>
<b>Johnson, Mark, MD, PhD</b>	Walz, Matthias, MD		Frazier, Jean, MD	
<b>Khan, Ashraf, MD</b>	<b>Yonkers, Kimberly, MD</b>		Friedmann, Peter, MD	
<b>Kim, Daniel, MD</b>	Zamore, Phillip, PhD		<b>Gao, Guangping, PhD</b>	
<b>Litwin, Demetrius, MD</b>			Gottlieb, Amy, MD	
<b>McKee, Diane, MD, MS</b>			<b>Green, Michael, MD, PhD</b>	
McManus, David, MD			<b>Gustafson, Michael, MD</b>	
<b>Moore Simas, Tiffany, MD, MPH Med</b>			Harlan, David, MD	
<b>Rathlev, Niels, MD</b>			Hayes, John	

In place of Dr. Walz, Dr. Rock called the meeting to order.

**BRIEF DISCUSSION AND VOTE: MINUTES**

A quorum was not met at the beginning of the meeting. However, towards the end of the meeting, a quorum was reached, and a motion was put forward to approve the November minutes. Motion approved.

**STANDING REPORTS**

*Chancellor Update*

The concrete has now been poured on the foundation of the new Education and Research Building: 20 million pounds of concrete. We had an interesting meeting with the team in which we discussed supply chain issues and getting steel on campus. The foundation around the building is complete. The steel will arrive on campus sometime in March and will come out of the ground by the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Very shortly, we should begin to see the future of a building. By Friday, we will have \$200 million of the building contracts in place. I have learned a lot about how inflation effects the cost of plywood, how steel gets here, and how much cement gets put in the group. We're still in good shape in terms of the project being on time.

The budget season is on us. The Accounting and Finance team is working assertively with all of you to get the FY23 budget in place. We are shooting for all of our fee discussions to occur with the Board at the April Board meeting. We recognize that workforce is a major issue in FY23 regarding retaining employees. We are well aware of the rate of inflation. We are seeing what we can do with regards to salary and range increases to remain competitive in the marketplace. There are 700 open positions across campus. It is a very challenging time. We're mindful of the fact that every business is trying to recruit employees. John Lynch and his team have been working with HR and the President's Office to come up with an attractive and reasonable plan for FY23.

We've been quite active on the Advancement front. The Chan gift has spurred many other donors to come forward. Next week, I expect that we will make some very nice announcements about additional gifts. I'm very excited about the enthusiasm for the Medical School. Donors that had reached out prior to the Major Gift are now expressing interested in moving forward with additional gifts.

Commonwealth Medicine continues to do terrific things. We have engaged a consultant there to look at the brand identity of Commonwealth Medicine. Not everyone knows that Commonwealth Medicine is a large consulting division of the Medical School. So, we will be attending some presentations next week to see how that entity will be branded. As we know, the name of the Medical School is well known so we will be looking at linking those two together.



MassBiologics has a consultant in place. We would like to look at vaccine production, oligo production, vector production, and future opportunities. If we believe that this pandemic will get behind us, we need to consider what the future of MassBiologics will be.

We have a thorough report by the Mass Life Sciences Center. They will be working with our team to think about what the future of MassBiologics will be. In terms of the recruitment efforts that we have underway, the fact that we have biologics manufacturer within the Medical School is a very attractive offering.

We have been interacting with the Strategic Plan working groups to do a reset of the plan. Now, we're about one year to a year and a half into the plan. In the coming month or two, we will see what that reset will look like. Some folks have been working with Vice Chancellor Duncan on some diversity and inclusion efforts. One of the modifications to the Plan, will be the addition of a sixth pillar that has to do with the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity. We have so many efforts underway in that area with Dr. Rosal in Health Equity, Vice Chancellor Duncan within the Diversity and Inclusion Office, and our Admissions office with recruiting a more diverse class and the hiring of faculty.

On April 4-6, the Medical School will be undergoing the accreditation process through NECHE. Each of the schools and the University will be involved. Drs. Nealon and Larkin and their team have been working. The document is in. We have had some pre-meetings with the Vice Provost at Wake Forest, Dr. Anthony. We are not yet sure if the site visit will be in-person or virtual.

### ***Dean and Provost Updates***

First, I want to express my support and solidarity to our clinical partners on the call, UMass Memorial Health counterparts, and UMass Chan Baystate Regional Campus. We recognize the incredible stress related to the latest COVID surge. We want to express gratitude for the education of our clinical year students in both the TH Chan School of Medicine and the Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing. The students' clinical education goes on. We appreciate that you and your faculty are at work caring for patients, and educating our students, residents, and fellows without a pause.

Baystate and UMass Memorial have completed their residency interviews for the coming cycle. For students who are in their fourth year, this is their career-making time. We appreciate your efforts in support of them: students who are being interviewed and those students who are moving off the main Worcester track or the PURCH track.

For Match Day, I am optimistic that we will have good matches. More information to follow on how we will celebrate that event.

Dr. Ahn's office is handling the Chancellor's Medal Awards. We value and encourage your nominations for the Chancellor's Medal Awards.

Dr. Vivian Budnick is planning to step down as Chair of the Department of Neurobiology. We want to thank her and acknowledge her work related to mentoring faculty, recruiting a cadre of faculty, and for the integration of the efforts of Neurobiology across campus. I am sure that we will have many opportunities to thank her as the search for a new chair continues. We appreciate particularly in the great continuity that you brought to this Department and to the faculty is immensely beneficial as we work towards filling the position.

I want to thank and acknowledge the work of Kate Fitzgerald and Daryl Bosco who are co-chairing the search committee. The search is now at the stage of honing in on some finalists.

Also, the search for the new Chair of Genetics is also underway.

At the next Chair's Council, we will discuss a variety of strategies for recruitment, retention, and compensation adjustments. This is going to be a long-term topic. We are aware that you are facing a lot of challenges regarding staffing. If you have acute issues regarding hiring, let us know, and we will work with you on this.

### ***Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Updates***

Dr. Mary Ahn, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, delivered a post-event wrap up on the pilot of the New Faculty Orientation event that took place on January 11, 2022.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **COVID Update**

Dr. Green presented data on COVID positivity rates from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, hospital admission data from UMass Memorial Health, and testing data from UMass Chan Medical School's Testing Site. The data collected was from December 2021-January 2022. Surgical masks rather than cloth masks are required on campus.



**COVID Update – Baystate**

Dr. Artenstein presented on the status of COVID infection and its impact on the health system two years after the start of the pandemic. The presentation included data collected at UMass Chan Baystate-Regional Campus that was local to the Baystate Regional Campus, the State of Massachusetts, and nationally.

**IT Questions and Concerns**

Greg Wolf provided an update on the status of campus IT security and upgrades to Wi-Fi. 5-minute discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Rock called for a motion to adjourn. Motion approved.