

The Harvard Medical School (HMS) Faculty Council held a welcome dinner meeting on October 2, 2019 at the Harvard Club of Boston, 374 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA.

Present: Drs. Abraham, Blackwell, Bourdeaux, Chang, Da Silva, Daley, Dienstag, Donoff, Ferran, Fishman, Galaburda, Gaufberg, Howley, Khoshbin, Klig, Kroshinsky, Lee, Mullen, Murray, Nour, Pain-Smith, Poussaint, Rexrode, Richardson, Rodriguez, Solomon, Stone, Taqueti, and Weinstock.

Guests: Drs. Bates and Westlund.

Staff: Mss. Hecht and Ryan.

Dean Daley welcomed members of the Faculty Council.

The Dean stated that Faculty Council is vital to the governance of HMS and they are the members of the school's only democratically elected faculty body. He values the Council's advice and guidance on subjects of particular importance to the school's present and future.

The Dean further noted that beyond serving in an advisory capacity, Faculty Council is the body charged with considering and recommending action, via its voting power, on particularly serious matters ranging from changes in HMS governance and policy to cases of possible student expulsion. Such responsibility is weighty and will draw upon the members' wisdom, experience, and commitment to our community.

The Dean recognized the new Faculty Council members:

- Annah N. Abrams
- T. Keith Blackwell
- Angela Depace
- Bernard T. Lee
- Mary P. Mullen
- Megan B. Murray
- Sang E. Park
- Chirag Patel
- May C. Pian-Smith
- Edward Kenneth Rodriguez
- Caren G. Solomon
- David M. Weinstock

He also recognized three returning members who were reelected:

- John D. Da Silva
- Jean E. Klig
- Valerie E. Stone

Dean Daley recognized this year's Vice Chair, Kathy Rexrode, MD. The two have met to discuss subjects for the Council's consideration. One of the items they discussed and Dr. Rexrode will share more about is a review of faculty council governance. In particular, Dean Daley has felt, and an LCME site visitor also noted, that it is strange for the Dean to chair the Faculty Council when he looks to this group for recommendations in so many important areas of the school. As such, he has asked that this governance review take up this question of the Dean's role at Faculty Council and whether we would all be better served to have a Faculty Chair. The Dean noted that he would attend all of the meetings and continue to engage in the critical work that the Council does, if the change was approved by the Council.

Next, the Dean shared the principles that guide him and the school as decisions are made, how he balances the many underfunded priorities and thinks strategically about how he and his leadership team can work towards the HMS mission.

In January 2020, he will celebrate the anniversary of his third year as dean of HMS. Throughout his tenure thus far, he and his academic and administrative leadership teams have focused intently on building a strategic framework for enacting improvements that will enhance the impact of every aspect of our school's mission.

He then discussed three of those key priorities.

- He discussed a few initiatives:
 - the therapeutic innovation at HMS
 - Innovation Hub, or I-Hub
 - a biotech-focused business incubator here on the Longwood Medical Campus called the Blavatnik Harvard Life Lab Longwood
- Search for a new Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, the DAFA.
- Graduate Education, Dr. Roz Segal has started as the Dean for Graduate Education and is spearheading an organizational assessment and already has made substantive changes which will positively impact how we train and support our graduate students.

Lastly, the Dean mentioned one of the areas that he knows HMS faculty are interested in, and that he, himself, have thought much about is climate change. "Climate change harms those we seek to heal and we recognize that it compromises our ability to provide care. As we hear about the warming of our planet, the outbreak of EEE and the rise of anxiety, asthma and allergies, I think about what we are doing to our planet and how its impact is felt in the health of our communities and patients. While our institutions are taking steps to prepare for climate change and we have committed to ensuring that our students learn about climate change and what it means for health and the health of their future patients, we all know that there is more that we can do. This is a topic that is important to me, and I hope to all of you. I would love for a group of you to band together and come up with some ways that we can do more, do better."

After dinner, Kathy Rexrode, Faculty Council Vice Chair for AY19-20, took the podium. She expressed appreciation for being asked to serve and then announced the membership of the AY19-20 Docket Committee:

- Margaret Ellis Bourdeaux
- John Da Silva
- Christiane Ferran
- Randy King
- Daniela Kroshinsky
- Mary Mullen
- May Pian-Smith
- Valerie Stone

Dr. Rexrode reviewed the Faculty Council and its role within HMS. She also discussed subjects that she's interested in having the Council explore during the year, noting that some of which will require a subset of Faculty Council to do a deeper dive. This includes a subcommittee on Standing Committees, one on faculty governance, and one on climate change.

Dr. Rexrode and Dean Daley then asked for feedback from the members and took questions.

The Dean closed the meeting at 7:50 pm.