



University Faculty Council

Meeting: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 - 4:00-5:30 PM

Location: G204 | <https://neomed.zoom.us/j/97592756946?pwd=mqrXS6oUNTHbu2fm9ACJXmG02HFTeK.1>

ZOOM Information: Connection time 3:55 PM

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Or Telephone: +1 312 626 6799 (US Toll); +1 646 876 9923 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 975 9275 6946 | Password: 928357

Members (attendees in bold): **Jeffrey Mellott (chair), Petrea Cober (vice-chair), Timothy Barreiro, Natalie Bonfine,** Stacey Gardner-Buckshaw, Yeong-Renn Chen, Lukas Everly, Sheila Fleming, Alex Galazyuk, Kristen Knepp, Yong Lu, **Jennifer McKay, Vahagn Ohanyan, Matthew Smith, Erica Stovsky, Xinwen Wang**

Speaker: Provost Faison III, M.D., Sc.D.(hon), FAAP , George Litman, M.D.

Administrative Support: Andrea Coard, Deborah Loyet

4:00 p.m.- 4:05 p.m.	1	Welcome <i>Jeff Mellott, Ph.D., Chair, University Faculty Council</i>	Dr. Mellott convened the meeting at 4:01 p.m. He informed the council members that Provost Faison would be providing the Leadership Report.
	2	Approve previous UFC minutes 05.06.2025 <i>(Approved minutes located on NEOMED website)</i>	Dr. Galazyuk moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Smith seconded. The minutes were approved by the council members.
	3	Executive Management Team Notes Executive Management Team Fall 2025 meeting sign-ups	Fall sign-ups are available for the EMT meetings – faculty are required to sign up for at least one meeting.
4:05 p.m.- 4:10 p.m.	4	Ohio Faculty Council Update <i>George Litman, M.D., University Faculty Council Representative</i>	Dr. Litman provided an update from the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the discussion was around the topic of Senate Bill 1 (SB1) • Great concern about the elimination of programs • A lot of push back – petition to withdraw the bill • Representatives provided updates on their University - Dr. Litman shared an update on the Bitonte College of Dentistry.
4:10 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.	5	UFC Representative for University Bylaws Committee (UBC) – Self Nomination from Dr. Jesse Young <i>Jeff Mellott, Ph.D., Chair, University Faculty Council</i>	The UFC received a self-nomination from Dr. Jesse Young to represent the UFC on the University Bylaws Committee (UBC). Dr. Cober moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Galazyuk seconded. Dr. Young’s nomination was approved by the council members.

<p>4:15 p.m.- 4:40 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Leadership Report <i>Provost Faison III, M.D., Sc.D.(hon), FAAP</i></p>	<p>Provost Faison shared his leadership report:</p> <p><u>College of Medicine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doing very well • CBSE (Comprehensive Basic Science Exam) scores have improved • Student satisfaction scores have increased • Student-Run Free Clinic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enhancing the quality of 4th-year electives ○ Working to make the clinic sustainable and not dependent on grants • Launching a national search for the College of Medicine’s Chair of Family and Community Medicine. <p><u>College of Pharmacy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On track to reach an enrollment of 55 • Dr. Kat Tromp appointed as permanent Dean • Set a stretch goal to increase enrollment to 75 students by 2028. <p><u>College of Graduate Studies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 PhD students enrolled • Set a stretch goal of 20 and ultimately 40. <p><u>Bitonte College of Dentistry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Coat and Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies – August 22 • Permission from CODA to increase enrollment to 52 students • Completed recruitment for faculty for the fall semester • Dr. Sorin Teich, appointed as BCOD Dean and commences on July 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A renowned educator and researcher in the dental community. <p><u>New Programs</u></p> <p><u>Certified Mental Health Assistant (CMHA) Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested by the legislature to matriculate 109 students in the inaugural class in Fall 2026 • Dr. Randon Welton appointed as Program Chair • Working through prerequisites • Under the Chancellor’s sponsorship, an advisory committee will be convened • Program aims to address a significant statewide need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 77 counties in Ohio lack sufficient mental health providers ○ 20% of Ohioans have a diagnosed mental health condition • It takes approximately 11 years after high school to train a psychiatrist • This master’s degree program can be completed in just two years. <p><u>Master of Science in Health Data Science and AI</u></p>
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- Dr. Aultman presented the program to the State Graduate Studies Approval Committee of the Chancellor, where a unanimous vote approved it
- Expanding partnership with UH to establish a Center of Excellence in Health-Related AI and Data Analytics
- Few universities nationwide offer programs focused specifically on Health-Related AI and Data Analytics.

Provost office

Dean of Students

- Final stages of hiring the Dean of Students
- Replacement for Sandra MacPherson, Senior Executive Director of Student Services and Academic Affairs – position changed to Dean of Students
- Retirement Reception planned for June 16.

Workgroups

NEOMED Administrative Committees Review Workgroup - UFC

SB1 - What is the value of education – Bryce Cain, Institutional Accreditation

- Tie resources to compliance with SB1

University Scheduling Workgroup – Katherine Miranda and representation from the colleges

- Purchasing software to assist with room scheduling – Coursedog
- The group will define business rules.

Faculty Information System (FIS)

- Third year for vendor support
- Faculty Workload Reporting System
 - Drs. Soric and Thewissen are developing a system to configure into the FIS
 - Provost working with deans to define what constitutes scholarly activity.

Wasson Center Review

- Finishing reviews and revisions to make Wasson more efficient
- Reduced staff numbers
- Dr. Gerzina retiring at end of June – stop by and say thank you to her
- Jordan Cinderich has applied LSS
- Good case study.

Institute for Teaching Excellence

- Canvas support
- New BCOD faculty receiving consultations to assist with curriculum development
- Peer mentoring program pairs senior faculty with junior or new faculty

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebration of Health Professions Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The peer mentoring program offers funding for faculty to attend conferences, contingent on presenting at the Celebration of Health Professions. <p><u>Senate Bill 1 (SB1)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective June 27 • NEOMED in strong position – Senator Cirino reviewed our policies to help inform the legislature • NEOMED serves as a solid benchmark • Minor tweaks to some policies. <p><u>Partnerships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalized 20-year non-compete partnership with Christ Hospital in Cincinnati • Guaranteed clerkships for 3rd year medical students effective 2026 • Approached by Youngstown State University for collaboration – enhance early assurance program for professionals interested in the CMHA program. <p><u>Questions</u></p> <p>Workload Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification regarding the calculator • Faculty are not required to enter hours manually • Assumption fully employed – no audits • Faculty Workload Policy is to help department chairs and deans to identify where there are opportunities to share faculty, to better distribute the workload • Help to inform succession planning. <p>Is the current realm of faculty hiring sufficient for student growth, or how will faculty growth be determined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Focus Areas • Hiring new faculty – ensure existing faculty with the necessary expertise and capacity are considered first. • Assess how many additional faculty members are needed to accommodate class growth. <p>Clarification on searches for Family and Community Medicine Chair and Psychiatry Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopening search for Department of Family and Community Medicine Chair – did not find a local candidate – doing a national search • Also search for Department of Psychiatry Chair.
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4:40 p.m.- 4:55 p.m.	7	<p>UFC Taskforce for Committee Review <i>Jeff Mellott, Ph.D., Chair, University Faculty Council</i></p> <p>NEOMED Administrative Committees Review Workgroup Charter Enclosure</p>	<p>Dr. Mellott discussed the UFC Taskforce for Committee Review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composition of committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair – Dr. Mellott ○ Representatives from each college <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Smith - COGS - Dr. Young – COM - Dr. Soric – COP ○ Individual from Mary Taylor’s office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laura Good - HR • Three monthly meetings through to August • The committee will review 48 committees and determine whether to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keep as is ○ Merge if opportunity for merging ○ Sunset • Are there other committees not identified? • Present report to Provost and EMT by end of August.
4:55 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.	8	<p>Open Forum and Department updates from Council members <i>Group Discussion</i></p>	<p>Dr. Mellott confirmed there would be no UFC meeting in July and the August meeting would be on August 12 instead of August 5. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.</p>

Upcoming Agenda Items

July – no meeting

August 12, 2025 – Leadership Reports – Dr. Marc Basson, Dean, College of Medicine and Dr. Sorin Teich, Dean, Bitonte College of Dentistry