

Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee Report FY 2021-2022

Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee: *The COM-Tucson Faculty may, but is not required to, elect a Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee, which will consist of six (6) members of its Faculty. A Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee will advise the Dean on matters related to the mission of the college or that are of interest to the Faculty. It will meet with the Dean at least quarterly. The Chairperson may attend monthly meetings of the Department Heads' Council and represent the COM Faculty at these meetings.*

The Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee for 2023-23 met with Dean Abecassis in September 2021, December 2021, and in March 2022. December 2021 meeting: Several members of DFAC raised concern about the diminished role and function of the Education Policy Committee in relation to the Office of Curricular Affairs. Faculty elected to the Educational Policy Committee were blocked from bringing up issues for discussion and approval/disapproval. Also, faculty generally were not kept informed by Curricular Affairs or involved in discussions and decisions related to curriculum design, proposed changes, and implementation that directly involve them and affect the student body.

Discussion included the COM-T Policy for Annual Reviews. It was brought up that review process was not public and was not voted on. Another issue that was discussed was that the old Annual Review process is inconstant with Department's own review criteria. The DFAC committee met with COM-T Faculty Affairs to make edits and recommendations to current language on the Annual Review process in February 2022.

It was also pointed out that faculty do not provide input for yearly or periodic review of Vice-Deans, Associate Deans, etc. The Dean stated that he would implement a system so that faculty does have yearly input on Vice Deans, Associate Deans, etc. as well as periodic full reviews that include faculty.

March 2022 meeting: Concern was expressed about the large number of medical students who delay taking their Step 1 exam. The Dean indicated that the Strategic Plan was attempting to address this issue.

DFAC also suggested that Faculty be involved in COM-T Administrator hiring and review(s).

On August 25, 2022, Dr. Marlys Witte was voted in as Chair of the Dean Faculty Advisory Committee and Dr. Michael Ditillo was voted in as Vice Chair for the FY 2022-2023. The DFAC screens all questions submitted to the "Ask the Dean" section of the weekly COM-T newsletter.

Committee Members (2022-23):
Marlys Witte, MD – Surgery, Chair
Michael Ditillo, DO-Surgery, Vice-Chair
Emmanuel Katsanis, MD – Pediatrics
Tanya Anand, PhD, PhD – Pharmacology
Richard Ablin, PhD – Pathology
Edita Navratilova, PhD – Pharmacology
Eva Ybarra, MBA- Faculty Affairs

Respectfully submitted,
Marlys Witte, MD – 2023 DFAC Chair