

**AGENDA**  
**Health Sciences Committee**  
**November 5, 2020**

- I. Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2020
- II. Review of Operational Metrics
- III. Informational Items
  - A. Health Sciences Division Update – Dr. Mark Stacy
  - B. COVID Response – Dr. Peter Schmidt
  - C. Medical Student Experience – Michael Denning, MBA, MPH
  - D. Vidant Health/BSOM COVID Update – Dr. Michael Waldrum & Dr. Mark Stacy
- IV. Closed Session



## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item: I. Approval of Minutes  
September 10, 2020

Responsible Person: Tom Furr  
Chair, Health Sciences Committee

Action Requested: Approval

Notes:

**Health Sciences Committee – Open Session**  
**ECU Board of Trustees**  
**September 10, 2020**  
**Main Campus Student Center**

**Board Members Present:**

Tom Furr (Committee Chair)  
Angela Moss (Committee Member)  
Jim Segrave (Committee Member)  
Scott Shook (Committee Member)  
Vern Davenport  
Jason Poole  
Leigh Fanning  
Max Joyner, Jr.  
Bob Plybon  
Tucker Robbins  
Vince Smith

**Others Present:**

Interim Chancellor Mitchelson	Jenny McKellar
Michelle Brooks	Peter Schmidt
Sylvia Brown	Rob Spahr
Michelle DeVille	Mark Stacy
Lisa Hudson	Sara Thorndike
Meagan Kiser	Amanda Williams
Lisa Lashley	Paul Zigas
Chris Locklear	

**Recorder:** Cindy Reaves

**Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Furr called the meeting to order at approximately 3:12 pm and read the conflict of interest statement required by the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified. The minutes of July 9, 2020 were approved.

**Health Sciences Division Update:**

Dr. Mark Stacy reviewed the Health Sciences Division metrics that were selected for the dashboard. Metrics for the Health Sciences division will remain consistent with fiscal year 2020 metrics. The first three metrics reflect ECU-P's financial performance, productivity and patient experience and the fourth metric demonstrates the scholarly activity of faculty in all of our health sciences colleges/schools. For ECU Physicians'

financial performance, the budget is comprised of 12 monthly budgets and in most of the months there is a budgeted loss, but there are also months which are budgeted to show profit largely due to enhanced Medicaid payments (UPL). We had budgeted to lose \$1.9 million in July and we lost \$3.6 million. The higher than budgeted loss is attributable to the continuing recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic that led to the shut-down of most services in the Spring of 2020. If you recall, during our last discussion, we had anticipated we would see financial challenges during the first two quarters of FY21. For total wRVUs, across the practice we planned to generate 140 thousand wRVUs in July but we only generated 114 thousand. Causes for lower than budgeted wRVUs include: July is a big transition for first year residents - they are simply not as productive as second and third year residents; July is also a big transition for new providers each year; for most new providers, the initial ramp-up period may take 90 days (or longer depending upon the specialty); we are still dealing with the reduced volume from the COVID-19 Pandemic shutdown; Surgery did not fully resume full schedules until late Summer; significant decrease in Emergency Medicine volume; and, coder shortages in certain areas of our practice have led to coding backlogs. There were some positive signs in July that, if they continue, will result in higher wRVU generation in August and beyond: Outpatient visits were up and procedures were up. For a patient's willingness to refer a friend or family member to ECU-P for care, generally we continue to see improvement in our overall "Likely to Refer" score month over month. Our new annual goal is 90.7%. The monthly targets reflect our desire to see continual improvement across the year.

Dr. Mark Stacy provided a brief Health Sciences Division update in which he focused on Brody's efforts toward developing better treatments, advancing vaccine research and minimizing COVID-19's impact in the region and state while contributing to the global body of knowledge about the novel coronavirus. NCGA Session Law 2020-4, provided BSOM with a \$15M appropriation to support three key initiatives – targeting prevention, testing and treatment of COVID-19. Public health is a critical focus for BSOM, as our region is so impacted by social determinants of health – from diet and exercise to occupational exposures to chemicals, this is an important area of research for us. ECU was a top recruiting site for the national study on convalescent plasma transfusions, the subject of an FDA emergency use authorization a couple of weeks ago. Plasma contains many potential disease-fighting components, and so the plasma study helped drug companies to focus on the most beneficial components of the plasma, and now we have drug studies going on now looking at whether specific antibodies can provide an increased benefit. HB 1105, the most recent COVID Relief Bill includes funds for a project in partnership with the Dartmouth Atlas team to understand the key impacts of the disease to date. In a first for the Dartmouth Atlas, the ECU team will bring its partnership with Vidant Health to analyze every case in the 29-county region to validate the Dartmouth Atlas population-level approach.

**College of Nursing Update:**

Dr. Sylvia Brown, Dean of the College of Nursing, presented highlights from the college. WHO designated 2020 as “Year of the Nurse and Midwife” as the College of Nursing celebrates 60 years of educating nurses. With nearly 12,000 alumni, they have scheduled events such as virtual alumni reunions and a legacy launch to raise money for Beacon Scholars. They have a record fall enrollment of 1,374 nursing students. They have enrolled 21% of minority students and 10% of male students for this year which is above the national average. Dr. Brown outlined the goals for the college for FY2021. Employment of RNs are projected to grow by 12% from 2018-2028 which is much faster than average for all occupations. The future looks bright for the ECU College of Nursing.

**College of Nursing Student Remarks:**

Ms. Lisa Lashley, Nurse Anesthetist student, discussed her experiences as a student of ECU’s College of Nursing. As an out of state student, she and her husband (a member of the armed forces) have found a new home in eastern NC because of the national reputation of ECU and the College of Nursing’s Anesthesia program. Ms. Lashley spoke of the safety measures put in place to protect students while providing the opportunity to progress in their studies during the pandemic and complimented the faculty and staff on the family atmosphere and caring environment that exists in the school.

**Closed Session:**

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Furr that the Health Sciences Committee go into closed session. Mr. Shook read the motion to go into closed session:

1. to prevent the disclosure of confidential information under N.C. General Statutes §126-22 to §126-30 (personnel information) and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; and
2. to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, or appointment of prospective and/or current employees and/or to hear or investigate a complaint or grievance by or against one or more employees.
3. to prevent the disclosure of competitive healthcare information under N.C. General Statute 130A-45.11; G.S. 131E-97.3.
4. to consult with an attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the Committee.

Action: Motion passed.

**Action Items from closed session to be announced in full BOT open session:**

*Request - The Board approve the following motion:*

I move that:

- The Board approve the incentive payment request for Dr. Doyle Cummings, PharmD in the Brody School of Medicine as presented in board materials.

The meeting moved back into open session at 4:17 pm

**Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.**



## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item: II. Review of Operational Metrics

Responsible Person: Mark Stacy  
Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes:







## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item: III. A. Health Sciences Division Update

Responsible Person: Mark Stacy  
Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes:



## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item: III. B. COVID Response

Responsible Person: Peter Schmidt

Action Requested: Information

Notes:



## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item: III. C. Medical Student Experience

Responsible Person: Michael Denning, MBA, MPH

Action Requested: Information

Notes:



## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item: III. D. Vidant Health / BSOM COVID Update

Responsible Person: Mike Waldrum  
CEO, Vidant Health

Mark Stacy  
Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes:



## Health Sciences Committee

November 5, 2020

Agenda Item:

IV. Closed Session

Responsible Person:

Tom Furr  
Committee Chair

Action Requested:

Notes: