

MINUTES- MEETING OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THIRD SESSION

HELD ON FRIDAY, 10/1/2013 AT 10:00 AM

The committee's meeting has been chaired by the Faculty's Dean Prof. Dr. **Mohamed Khedr** and has been attended by the followings:

Prof. **Sharaf Abu Sharaf**President of Order of Physicians of Lebanon

Prof. **Faouzi Adaimi** Saeidat Lebanon Hospital's Chief Executive Officer

Associate Prof. **Merriam Ragab** Head of the committees of education and training, and scientific research at Al Makased Hospital

Dr. **Waleed Allameh** Al Sahel Hospital's Chief of Medical Staff

Associate Prof. **Zeineh Hammoud** Chairman of the Internal Medicine Department at Hammoud Hospital

Mr. **Azzam Houry** Dar Al Aagaza Hospital's Director General

Dr. **Eiad Ayoub** Scholar at Helix Foundation for Research

Dr. **Mohamed Houry** Beirut Faculty of Medicine's Dean assistant

Prof. Dr. **Naglaa Machaal** Chairman of the Internal Medicine Department at Beirut Faculty of Medicine

Prof. Dr. **Azza Fathi Tawfik Abu Alnaga** Prof. of Community Medicine

Prof. Dr. **Hala Assem** Prof. of Pediatrics

Prof. Dr. **Essam Mohamed Salah Hammad** Prof. of Surgery

Prof. Dr. **Ramadan El Gharbawy** Committee's Coordinator

Prof. Dr. **Ragae Ramzy Fahmi** Prof. of Pathology

Dr. **Mohamed Yehia Shoheib** Assistant Prof. of Pharmacology

Dr. **Mohamed Khaled** Assistant Prof. of Biochemistry

Apologists

Dr. **Ali Abed Allah**, Al Reiak Hospital's Deputy of Chief Executive Officer, has forborne due to closure of El Bekaa's Road by snow.

Prof. Dr. **Mohamed Khedr** has opened the session by introducing and welcoming the new committee's members, following by clarification of the committee's mission and wishing success for it, then he discussed the agenda:

First- Credence of the previous session's minutes- meeting:

Dr. **Eiad Ayoub** insisted that research should not be arbitrary, and there should be a Research Office responsible for planning the research strategy based on the identified gaps exactly as in the case of the American University.

Dr. **Merriam Ragab** commented confirming what **Dr. Ayoub** has said. However, she mentioned that this needs more time and the research topics are specified by the ministry. Therefore she proposed that a research organizing core should be established including the ministry, the Order of Physicians, the universities, and the hospitals.

Dr. **Zeineh Hammoud** said that in Hammoud Hospital residents are taught the concept of research through different activities like journal club and others and according to their capability. However, she suggested that the university teaches the undergraduate students and the residents the research methodology.

Mr. **Azzam Hour**i mentioned that the most important is that the graduates should be research minded. Selection of research topics mostly conforms to the calls of the national and international funding organizations.

Dr. **Azza Abu Al Naga** pointed out that research methodology is being taught to the undergraduate students but they don't apply what they have learned.

At that point the dean decided to ask Dr. El Gharbawy to plan for meetings with the different partners aiming at establishing collaboration in this regard.

Second- Partaking the committee in evaluation of the vision, mission, and objectives of Beirut Faculty of Medicine and reviewing the adopted implementation mechanisms for their achievement.

Dr. **Machaal**, through a powerpoint presentation, has made a brief of the faculty's vision, mission, objectives, the integrated educational program and how it is implemented. Then discussion was opened and it was as following:

Dr. **Faouzi Adaimi** mentioned that modernization is necessary and it should be on scientific basis. Continuous medical education is a requisite for medical practice. Residents and fellows should learn to do research and how to apply their research outcome.

Dr. **Merriam Ragab** has witnessed that the adopted educational program has made a substantive difference. The students are no longer passive. They have become active, participating learning activities, and don't leave the hospital as early as before. She thinks that the improvement is sustainable and there should be continuous evaluation and adjustment.

Mr. **Azzam** has clarified four points. First objectives are part of the mission therefore they should be added to it and values are missed, so instead of vision, mission, and objectives we should have vision, mission, and values. Second values should be taught to all who join the university. Third vision must be positive, in present tense, short, challenging, and relating. Fourth adding the values is for maintaining the dignity of those who work with us, and one of the values that should be taught to the students is research's culture.

Dr. **Essam Hammad** mentioned that in a conference for ethics at the AUB, a question about how patients see the Lebanese doctor was asked and the answer was that doctors are seen as inefficient and money maker. He also said that not all of us are angels but we should work to improve our picture.

Dr. **Eiad Ayoub** mentioned that the integration of the basic and clinical sciences is very important because it makes the graduate competent and it also fosters scientific research.

Dr. **Waleed Allameh** thanked Al Makased and Hamoud Hospitals for their educational efforts, and stated that they are no longer suffering from the gap between the basic and clinical sciences. He also wished that the Arab University decreases the number of other universities' graduates that are enrolled into the University's Residency Program. He also emphasized on teaching ethics for the residents because the number of doctors charged in front of the Order of Physicians's committee of Ethics is ever increasing.

The **dean** remarked that residents who are graduates of other universities constitute a problem for him and he will submit this recommendation to the University Council.

Dr. **Zeineh Hammoud** stressed two points: first the integrated educational program is an excellent one. Second the faculty and hammoud Hospital should collaborate to establish a system for undergraduate students- educators' mutual assessment.

Dr. **Naglaa** suggested to refer Dr. Zeineh's suggestion to the Faculty's Assessment Committee.

Prof. **Abu Sharaf** expressed his happiness for being among the attendants justifying that the meeting was very rich of information for him. He said unless there will be cooperation there will be no progress. Then he said, to Dr. Mashaal, the comments that he heard indicated the importance of what she have introduced but the follow up of performance , ethical issues and accountability are highly required. “For us Abu Hamad’s story (Physician who is condemned with major misconduct) is enough” he said. He stated that the Order of Physicians has submitted a “Decree of Medical Ethics” to the parliament that among its clause article terms are the continuous medical education and accreditation. He also stated that the Order of Physicians is working at establishing “Lebanese Medical Board” similar to the American Board or the Arab Board. He is seeing the levels of the seven faculties of medicine that are present in Lebanon nearly equivalents, however, the presence of the Lebanese Medical Board lessens the differences. The Board will be compiled from the universities, ministries of health and higher education and the Order of Physicians and its decree is now in the parliament. “By this project we go out of the individual or sectarian initiative move actions to a law that make overseeing based on science” he said. As regard the license of medical practice in Lebanon, he mentioned that the Order of Physicians is no longer satisfied by examining the credentials of the applicant or by being subjected to an oral or written exam. The applicant should demonstrate what he can do. “How this can be accomplished, is it through the Lebanese Medical Board? This is what we study now in the parliament” he said.

Third- exploring the committee’s opinions as regard the domains of stem cells research and therapy needed for the Lebanese community

It was near 12:00 O’clock, therefore the dean took a vote to postpone the discussion of this third item to the next session. All the members agreed. Prof. Abu Sharaf liked to add that for the moment the Order of Physicians is on its way to issue the regulations for stem cells therapy and research in Lebanon.

The dean thanked all who have attended and the session was raised.

Committee’ coordinator

Prof. Dr. Ramadan El Gharbawy

Faculty’s dean

Prof. Dr. Mohamed Khedr