

Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee  
University of Tennessee, College of Medicine

October 2, 2017

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Jerome Thompson, at 12:00 PM on October 2, 2017, in the Coleman building, Room A101.

### **Attendance**

The following members were present:

Julio F. Cordero-Morales, PhD, Terry Cooper, PhD, Denis DiAngelo, PhD, Ian Gray, MD, Mary Peyton Gupta, MD, Rebecca Anne Krukowski, PhD, Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD, Linda Myers, MD, Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD, Fruz Pourmotabbed, PhD, Larry Reiter, PhD, Claudette Shephard, MD, Laura Sprabery, MD, Ryan Sullivan, DVM, Jerome Thompson, MD, MBA, Martin Donaldson, DDS

The following guest(s) was (were) present:

Steve Schwab, MD, Jan J. van der Aa, PhD, Susan Senogles, PhD, Deputy Chief Arley Knight (UTHSC Police)

### **Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Minutes had previously been distributed by electronic means.

### **Business**

Pres. Thompson began the meeting by requesting an update on IT from Dr. Jan van der Aa, Chief Information Officer. He informed the DFAC that a key issue at this time is phishing. This past weekend alone, a significant number of accounts were known to be compromised, 5 of them here at UTHSC in Memphis. Thus far, no one's data have actually been compromised, to our knowledge. Several companies are now being evaluated, ProofPoint being the current one, for potential assistance in UTHSC's security efforts. Phishing is a significant problem because, in essence, it hands the keys to the system to the phisher. It is not just one's email, but also one's SharePoint, potentially one's automatic payment deposits, and a wide variety of other confidential information may become accessible. Once an account is compromised, UTHSC's policy is to lock the account and require the user to change all passwords and security questions. Given that email may also be forwarded to the perpetrator's email address, additional measures must also be taken.

Two presentations regarding cybersecurity are upcoming, including one this week from the FBI. Dr. van der Aa noted that the University of Memphis and other schools have similar problems. Here at UTHSC, students are a key source of compromise - - of the current known compromised accounts, 39% of them are students. About half that proportion or 20%, faculty are sources of compromise. On average, 20% of

people click on the phishing email, and 10% actually give away a password - - at which point UTHSC's system locks the person's account.

Approximately 8% of our IT budget is devoted to security. To date, the financial impact of system compromises has been minimal. We have not seen breaches, eg, of the type seen with Equifax or Whole Foods. Faculty, staff and students are regularly required to take training, via "KnowB4," newsletters, tips of the week, etc. The "KnowB4" company periodically sends out its own "phishings," to test whether UTHSC personnel are succumbing to actual phishing and hacking attempts.

Pres. Thompson then focused on the CRC/Clinical Research Center. Dr. Myers indicated that our earlier efforts to obtain a CTSA grant were not successful, partly because of infrastructure problems at UTHSC. Subsequent applications were deemed better but were still not successful. Dr. Myers expressed the hope that perhaps, with a new dean coming in at some point, an elevated effort might be made.

Dr. Schwab responded that there is still a CRC at Methodist University Hospital, headed by Dr. Dagogo-Jack. It focuses on adult research. As a government grant program, early CTSA offerings were financially well-funded, but currently are a matching program, hence not financially as attractive. CSAAs are still desirable, but institutions must match the award. The last two applications, led by Dr. McCullars, missed being funded by just 1 point. The next application received a worse score.

Some institutions seem to be well-embedded in the CTSA, Dr. Schwab explained. Others are, in essence, "bubble" institutions who go in and out, funded one year and not in a subsequent year or two. Because there are high costs associated with attempting to land a CTSA grant, and because of the costs of not being funded, it is at least possible that the effort is not financially worthwhile, as a single institution. Not so much being awarded a single grant, but rather "getting into the club" of institutions who are in, and stay in, the CTSA, is the goal.

Going forward, some of the factors to be considered include whether we can provide a particularly desirable population base, from a research perspective. A fruitful approach may be to identify potential partner institution(s). Ideally, a good peer would be an under-represented institution. Dr. Schwab indicated that we do plan to apply for CTSA again, but suggested that we would be best-positioned by teaming up with another Delta institution - - a Delta "consortium" of institutions that have our unique Delta population. UTHSC, UAMS, Univ of MS, LSU, Tulane, may be suitable partners as institutions with similar populations, similar disease burdens etc. Our argument is that CSAAs without a suitable Delta population will be inadequate to what the government research programs need, to accomplish their mission.

Pres. Thompson turned then to Deputy Chief Arley Knight, who presented information about campus security. He reported that no major events have occurred on campus during the past 6 months. During September only three events occurred, including a theft from a building and a burglary at the Phi Chi house on Jefferson, which at this point is not a highly active facility. He pointed out that UTHSC Security undertake a wide array of safety efforts, including DUI, speeding and seat belt enforcement, in conjunction with the TN Highway Safety Office. UTHSC Security are commissioned police officers, just like Memphis Police and the County Sheriff's office. UTHSC officers can issue traffic tickets, just as do Memphis Police. For instance, squad cars are often positioned on Union Avenue because traffic tend to run lights there, potentially jeopardizing pedestrians and others trying to cross with a green light. UTHSC also helps to protect Health Sciences Park, in conjunction with Memphis Police.

One of the major issues for UT concerns transients who may, e.g., break into a car or enter even a secured building if someone has propped a door open. Last year, 38163 (UTHSC's zip code) was the safest zip

code in the city. And we have been for 5 years in a row. Additionally, on student surveys, our police are seen as an asset, and as a source of help.

Another question concerned how UTHSC police partner with other campuses, eg the hospitals and SouthWest Community College. Deputy Chief Knight said that police from these various institutions meet regularly to exchange information and plan for enhanced security, as well as engage in joint trainings. There is also a collaborative arrangement with ROH, Methodist and LeBonheur to police their external sites. This does not include the VA, because only federal officers can police their property. DFAC members identified a few areas where they have had concerns and would be interested in periodic augmentation of a security presence.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the committee will be held on November 6, 2017, at 12:00 Noon in the Coleman building, Room A101.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Haavi Morreim, JD, PhD  
Secretary