To: Vice Provost Randy W. Smith, Council of Academic Affairs

From: Bob Bornstein

Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2009

Re: Proposal to Change Name of Department of Radiation Medicine to Department of Radiation Oncology

Randy,

Please find attached the proposal for the Department of Radiation Medicine to change its name to the Department of Radiation Oncology. This proposal has the full support of the College as evidenced by this letter and the unanimous approval of the Council of Chairs and Faculty Council. The meeting minutes indicating this vote are also attached. Please present this to the Council on Academic Affairs at its October 21 meeting. If approved, please forward to the University Senate and Board of Trustees for final approval. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob
College of Medicine  
Department of Radiation Medicine  
Proposal to Request Department Name Change to  
Radiation Oncology  
October 6, 2009

Arnab Chakravarti, MD, Chair of the Department of Radiation Medicine, would respectfully like to request a change in nomenclature to the Department of Radiation Oncology. This decision has been unanimously approved by the Department’s faculty, both tenured and untenured. This decision was also approved unanimously by the College of Medicine’s governance at the joint Council of Chairs and Faculty Council Meeting on March 18, 2009.

The rationale for this name change is manifold. First of all, the nomenclature of Radiation Oncology is the industry standard versus Radiation Medicine. One of the prime objectives at OSU is to become a Top 10 cancer center. Accordingly, the nomenclature of these Top 10 institutions represents a prime benchmark for us. All of the departments in the Top 10 Cancer Centers are named Department of Radiation Oncology, as opposed to Radiation Medicine, including: Massachusetts General Hospital, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania, Yale University, Duke University Medical Center, University of Michigan, Stanford University, and University of California-San Francisco.

The second major reason for a change in nomenclature to Radiation Oncology is that there is no board-certified field called Radiation Medicine. The American Board of Radiology only offers board certification in Radiation Oncology. Often, there is confusion with Nuclear Medicine specialists when the term Radiation Medicine is used. Of course, Nuclear Medicine is a separate field altogether with minimal involvement in the treatment of cancer patients.

The third major reason is that the vast majority of our patients are cancer patients. Approximately, 95% of patients seen at most major Radiation Oncology centers are treated for malignancies/neoplastic conditions of some sort. Only 5% or fewer patients are treated for non-neoplastic conditions. Given that we are an integral member of the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital, the term Radiation Oncology better represents such integral connections and better delineates the patients that we dutifully serve.

The sincere hope is that we can expeditiously move to change the nomenclature in our department to Radiation Oncology for the reason outlined above. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask at any time.
Council of Chairs

Faculty Council

(Joint Meeting – March 18, 2009)

Dr. Gabbe reported that 98% of our resident positions matched which is the highest match in our history. Both the Otolaryngology and Obstetrics/Gynecology residencies were re-accredited for the full five years. Dr. Izzo, an investigator at the Nisonger Center, received a $2.7 million grant. Dr. Gabbe encouraged the Chairs to respond to the OneVoice survey. Dr. Gabbe reported that there will be a budget kickoff meeting for all the Chairs. Dr. Bornstein introduced the Faculty Forward initiative and encouraged the Chairs to encourage the faculty to participate in this program.

Dr. Richard Hart, Chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering presented information about the department. One of the questions arising is whether this department should be a joint department housed in College of Engineering and Medicine.

Dr. Lucey reported on the development of a task force to examine the funds flow model for the support of education. She requested the participation of the faculty in the task force.

John Stone presented an update on the financial status of the Health System for the first 8 months of the fiscal year. Thus far, the Health System has invested $80 million in the College of Medicine and new equipment.

A request from the Department of Radiation Medicine to change its’ name to Radiation Oncology, which is consistent with national trends. The department faculty unanimously supported the name change. A motion to support this request by the Council of Chairs was supported unanimously. A similar motion by the Faculty Council was also supported unanimously.

Meg Buzzi presented an update on the status of OSUpro.