I. Dean Hromas’ Introduction and Vision

Dr. Robert Hromas, Incoming Long School of Medicine Dean, was introduced to the executive committee and asked to provide his vision.

Dr. Hromas Bio:

Dr. Hromas is the Dean at the Long School of Medicine and the Vice President for Medical Affairs at the University of Texas Health Center in San Antonio.

Previously, he was Chair of the Department of Medicine at University of Florida Health, where he was also Vice President of the University of Florida Physicians Clinical Practice Association, and a member of the UF Health Shands Hospital Executive Board.

He previously served as Chief of Hematology-Oncology and Deputy Director of the Cancer Center at the University of New Mexico, assisting them to designation as a National Cancer Institute Cancer Center. Prior to that, he was Deputy Director of the Indiana University Cancer Center.

He has served on editorial boards of Blood and Stem Cells. He has won numerous teaching and patient care awards, including the Indiana University Humanism in Medical Education Award, the Indiana University Board of Trustees Outstanding Teacher Award, and the People Living Through Cancer Caring Award.

He has served as Chair of Scientific Affairs for the American Society of Hematology, and as their congressional and media representative.

He has published over 165 research papers, been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health for over two decades and has chaired several NIH and American Cancer Society study sections.
He maintains an active laboratory that has isolated and characterized multiple novel cytokines and mutations leading to leukemia. He isolated the first functional human transposase and demonstrated that it was critical for DNA replication and repair.

He has identified a novel component of homologous recombination DNA repair that is the key decision point for DNA repair pathway choice. He created and currently leads a drug development consortium that targets the addiction of cancer cells to DNA repair in order to replicate.

He is the author of the business leadership book, Einstein’s Boss- 10 Rules for Leading Genius.

For these and other accomplishments he has been elected to the American Society of Clinical Investigation, Association of Professors of Medicine, the American Clinical and Climatologic Association, and the Association of American Physicians.

Dr. Hromas’ Comments:

Dr. Hromas states the UT Health San Antonio Long School of Medicine has enormous potential and is fundamentally strong. He believes that students love their school, he feels at home here, and that the people are happy and truly care.

Dr. Hromas feels it is important to meet with faculty and chairs to determine a set of shared values. These values will be the basis of discourse. If anyone comes to his office with problem, using these shared values will be the most effective argument. When we say “equity” or a certain value that we all mean the same thing.

His leadership style is the inverted pyramid. The deans work for the chairs, the chairs work for the faculty, and the faculty work for the patients/students/tax payers. He supports teams vs individuals. Dr. Hromas is more interested in impact – because we work here, people come out alive. The goal is not just to educate the future doctors, but to invent new ways to care for patients.

Dr. Hromas indicates the need for inclusion & diversity and non-traditional approaches. His job is to listen more. Dr. Hromas says his most important immediate tasks are the following:

1. LCME
2. Creating a seamless EPIC between UHS and UTH
3. Create more UHS in-patient capacity
4. Fill open Chair positions
5. Start recruitment for OBGYN and Pediatrics Chairs
6. Start the Accountable Care Organization for UTH
7. Build primary care teamlets around the city
8. Rebuild early phase clinical trials here
9. Rebuild NIH funding and renovate older labs

II. February 17th Retreat

Dr. Hromas is hosting a Long School of Medicine Leadership Retreat on February 17th and would like the executive committee members to attend.

III. Stop the Bleed Initiative

Dr. Mark Muir discussed the campus-wide Stop the Bleed initiative. The following is a letter presenting the rationale for the initiative:

We are embarking on a UT Health campus-wide effort to teach the Stop the Bleed Training program which is designed to teach everyone the basics of bleeding control.

When in the presence of a person who suffers from severe bleeding, the only way to save their life is to use your hands, your shirt or a bleeding control kit. The largest mass shooting tragedy in modern American history occurred in Las Vegas on October 1st and the largest mass shooting in modern Texas history occurred in our region. At those events many heroic bystanders were immediately transformed into immediate responders as they worked to stop severe bleeding for the numerous gunshot wound victims.

For serious bleeding, time matters. It only takes 5 minutes to die unless severe bleeding can be stopped. Everyone should feel empowered know how to stop external bleeding. We are making bleeding control kits available across our campus, and we believe it is our duty to ensure our community is equipped with the knowledge and resources to stop external bleeding.

Turning bystanders into lifesavers is at the core of Stop the Bleed® program, launched in October 2015, by the White House National Security Council staff and its Office of Medical Preparedness. The public as a whole must be able to stop bleeding at the scene of an injury. The recent events in Las Vegas showed us that first hand, but bleeding control techniques can be used in many other situations as well. There are many common situations we may encounter in our lifetimes: saving your injured child who has tumbled through a glass door, a grandparent who has just taken a serious fall, or tending to an injured motorist on the side of the road.

The techniques are easy to learn. The course uses a simple ABC step approach: A-Alert and call 911, B-Bleeding-identify serious bleeding, and C-Compress and Control the bleeding. These components provide the basis of the Stop the Bleed program. Early bleeding control saves lives. Stop the Bleed empowers you and anyone who takes it—friends, colleagues, neighbors—to do something that makes a difference. We have already taught many UT Health San Antonio employees these basic principles and this material has been well received.
San Antonio is military medical city USA. The tools for the Stop the Bleed program were developed right here in San Antonio at the US Army’s Institute for Surgical Research. Honed and perfected by U.S. uniformed service personnel in battle, we believe the civilian lives saved as a result of the Stop the Bleed program comprise a fitting testament to their service.

We will be working to train every student, staff and faculty member in these techniques and to make bleeding control kits widely available. Once trained, any health care provider may become an instructor to disseminate the educational program to our region. It is very important that we reach as much of our community as is possible to learn these techniques. More information can be found at bleedingcontrol.org. We look forward to joining with you and your colleagues to make this training and the equipment universally available in San Antonio!

IV. Shared Governance – Dr. Lori Pounds

Dr. Lori Pounds joined the meeting to discuss shared governance and the white paper prepared by the UT System Faculty Advisory Council. Dr. Pounds is the Past Chair of the UT Health San Antonio Faculty Senate.

The white paper on shared governance can be found at: http://uthscsa.edu/facultygovt/docs/latest-draft-of%20-UTS-FAC-White-Paper-on-SharedGovernance.pdf

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.
Minutes taken and transcribed by April Ainsworth.