

**OPTN Patient Affairs Committee  
Meeting Summary  
January 19, 2021 3:00 – 4:00 PM, EST  
Teleconference Meeting**

**Darnell Waun, Chair  
Garrett Erdle, Vice Chair**

## **Introduction**

The Patient Affairs Committee met via Citrix GoTo 584-008-213 teleconference 1/19/2021 to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Staffing Update
2. OPTN Governance
3. OPTN Public Comment Primer
4. Cross Committee Workgroup Update

The following is a summary of the Patient Affairs Committee's discussions.

### **1. Staffing Update**

Introduced a new Policy Analyst and Policy Associate that will be working on the Patient Affairs Committee. Provided an update on Committee Appointments and breakdown of membership as of 7/1/21.

### **2. OPTN Governance Training**

UNOS staff presented on policy governance and compliance with NOTA, Final Rule, OPTN Contract, and OPTN Policies and Bylaws. All Committee work must be authorized by and comply with these governing structures.

### **3. OPTN Public Comment Primer**

#### Summary:

UNOS staff reviewed the policy development process and how public comment plays into the policy development process. UNOS staff introduce the upcoming public comment period and emphasized the importance for PAC's feedback to provide feedback outside of the OPTN volunteer system.

An overview of the types of items that are eligible for public comment was provided with emphasis placed on the Ethics Committee and Executive Committee's public comment item for relevance to PAC. Instructions for how to access public comment was discussed.

#### Discussion:

Committee Members inquired regarding presentations by the Ethics and Executive Committees and requested the slides be shared prior to the meeting to allow Members to prepare questions.

### **4. Cross Committee Workgroup Update**

UNOS Staff shared that the Ethics CAT Rewrite Workgroup is not meeting until March, at which time they will review feedback from the public comment period.

A Member shared the Technology Tools Workgroup has met but there was little to update on at the moment.

A Member shared the Match Run Rules Workgroup has planned IT updates to transition the group and has an upcoming working meeting.

A Member shared the Medical Urgency Workgroup has identified definitions and necessary data to determine the criteria for an urgent pancreas transplant.

## **5. Closing Remarks**

UNOS Staff shared the Regional Meeting schedule and the assigned Member Representative.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- February 18, 2021 – virtual ‘in person’
- March 16, 2021
- April 20, 2021
- May 18, 2021
- June 15, 2021

## Attendance

- **Ethics Committee Members**
  - Darnell Waun, Chair
  - Garrett Erdle, Vice Chair
  - Anita Patel
  - Christopher Yanakos
  - David Skinner
  - Diego Acero
  - Eark Kivekk
  - Eric Tais
  - Jim Sharrock
  - Kenny Laferriere
  - Lauren Darensbourg
  - Mervin Lim
  - Molly McCarthy
  - Philip Williams
  - Sarah Koohmaraie
  - Stephanie Little
- **HRSA Representatives**
  - Adriana Martinez
  - Jim Bowman
- **SRTR Staff**
  - Katie Audette
- **UNOS Staff**
  - Abby Fox
  - Chelsea Haynes
  - Laura Schmitt
  - Meghan McDermott
  - Rebecca Murdock
  - Sara Rose Wells
  - Susan Tlusty