

Medical School Accreditation

February 2, 2010

Dear colleagues,

I couldn't be more pleased to tell you that the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) has notified us that they have accepted our application and granted preliminary accreditation of the new medical school. This is tremendous news for Oakland University, Beaumont Hospital, our faculty, students and the entire state of Michigan. This means we can now move forward with the medical school.

I regard this announcement as the second most important event in Oakland University history. The first, of course, was the original charter bequeathed to us by Matilda Dodge Wilson to establish this great university.

Much work remains to be done. We are still awaiting approval from the North Central Association (NCA), which is expected to come in April. Once that happens, we can begin the process of recruiting students for the charter class of the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine, which will begin in Fall 2011.

Our success in this endeavor thus far can be attributed to the hard work of many people: The leadership and administrative and clinical staff at Beaumont Hospital; our provost, Virinder Moudgil; and the dean, Dr. Robert Folberg, who has put into place a talented and visionary staff of administrators and clinicians. Also, our faculty have played an integral role by supporting the vision for the medical school that we developed from the outset.

We are now perched on the precipice of a new era for Oakland University. The medical school vaults us into a new echelon of institutions of higher learning. Along with the great programs we have always offered, the medical school brings to the region a professional school that will provide students with the opportunity to make their mark on society through the modern science of medicine. In the years ahead, we will graduate physicians who truly make a difference in the lives of countless Michigan citizens.

Not only will the school provide new medical education opportunities for students, it will also help to create jobs and infuse the region's economy with millions of dollars. The School of Medicine will complement the existing strengths of our academic programs in the College and professional schools. It will enhance medical care throughout the region by ensuring a future supply of physicians, advancing medical research and attracting top-level medical leaders and students from around the country.

Thank you all for your hard work and perseverance. The Oakland University William Beaumont Hospital School of Medicine is one important step closer to becoming a reality because of your support, dedication and commitment.

Gary