Dr. Deborah C. German

Dr. Deborah German, a scholar in residence at the Association of American Medical Colleges and former senior associate dean at the Vanderbilt School of Medicine, was selected as the founding dean of the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. She received her bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Boston University and her medical degree from Harvard Medical School. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Rochester.

Since 2005, Dr. German has been a Petersdorf Scholar in Residence at the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, D.C., where she has studied organizational structure and leadership of complex academic health care delivery systems.

From 2002 to 2004, Dr. German served as president and chief executive officer at Saint Thomas Hospital in Nashville and as senior vice president and chief academic officer for Saint Thomas Health Services. She was responsible for recruiting the chiefs of medicine and surgery and the chief medical and development officers. She led a successful hospital turn around from losses of $1 million to $2 million monthly to gains of $2 million to $4 million monthly. She was also successful in securing academic affiliations with Johns Hopkins and Meharry Medical College.

From 1999 to 2002, Dr. German was the senior associate dean of Medical Education at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, where she was responsible for undergraduate and graduate medical education, admissions, curriculum, financial aid, student affairs and accreditation. She also was the school’s associate dean of students from 1988 to 1998. During that time, she created 13 joint degree programs for medical students through collaboration with other colleges of the university.

Dr. German held various positions from 1982 to 1988 at Duke University Medical Center. She served as assistant and associate dean of medical education, director of internal medicine residency and a research associate at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

In March, the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida approved the establishment of a medical degree at UCF. The medical college plans to enroll 40 students in its initial class in 2009 and eventually produce about 120 graduates each year.
The college will be located at the UCF Health Sciences Campus at Lake Nona. The campus will include the Burnett College of Biomedical Sciences, a medical library and other UCF health sciences programs.