



Office of the Provost and Vice President

March 6, 2006

Krista M. Mooney, J.D., Ph.D.
Associate Director, Academic and Student Affairs
Board of Governors
State University System of Florida
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1601-A
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1950

Dear Dr. Mooney:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit additional information updating our proposal to establish a doctor of medicine program at the University of Central Florida. My comments will focus on 1) additional gifts received to support the establishment of a college of medicine at UCF, 2) the economic impacts of a medical college and associated biomedical "cluster" in Central Florida, and 3) our agreement with, and support of, the report provided by the BOG consultant, Dr. Michael E. Whitcomb.

To date, we have received gifts and pledges totaling \$44.4 million. In addition we have received a gift of 50 acres of land, conservatively valued at \$8 million. Our intent is to locate the college of medicine and other health-related educational and research programs on that land. These gifts, coupled with matching funds made available through the Alec P. Courtelis Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program and Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) funds already allocated for the Burnett College of Biomedical Sciences, would allow us to cover all capital costs required to build the needed facilities. No additional PECO funds would be sought for the three buildings required to house the medical college.

In order to provide information requested by Governor Bush, UCF undertook an economic impact analysis of the proposed medical college and the biomedical cluster anticipated to form in Central Florida. The analysis, a copy of which was provided to BOG members earlier, was the cooperative effort of Arduin, Laffer and Moore Econometrics and the Milken Institute. The analysis indicates that, ten years after the establishment of the medical college, the annual economic impact of the medical college and anticipated biomedical cluster is predicted to be \$6.4 billion. The medical college and biomedical cluster could return more than \$32 for every dollar invested by the state.

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Finally, we would like to express our appreciation and support for the information provided to the Board by Dr. Michael E. Whitcomb. His expert testimony validated many of the points we have been making during the last two years, including:

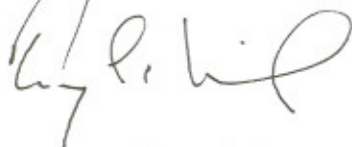
- confirming the current and increasing shortage of physicians in Florida and across the nation, and acknowledging the problems associated with Florida's importing most of its physicians from other states and countries
- clarifying that Medicare policy does not prohibit increasing the size of existing graduate medical education programs or developing new residency programs, so long as federal funds are not involved
- stressing the strong preference of U.S. allopathic medical school graduates to do residency training in an environment that is part of, and closely affiliated with, an academic medical center in an urban area
- stressing the importance of partnerships between medical schools and the health care providers in the region

Our medical college proposal builds on the partnership approach that has characterized UCF for many years. Specifically, we have developed strong partnerships with large hospital systems in Orlando and beyond, including partnerships that have resulted in financial support for clinical faculty, cost-free facilities for training medical students, and almost 100 residency positions funded by the participating hospitals themselves.

In conclusion, we believe that a very strong argument has been made for the creation of additional medical colleges in Florida. Our partnership model for a UCF research-based medical college in Central Florida provides a cost-effective mechanism for increasing the number of physicians practicing in Florida while it positively and dramatically impacts the state's economy at the same time.

Again, we thank the Board of Governors for providing this opportunity to update the information to be considered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry L. Hickey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Terry" being the most prominent.

Terry L. Hickey, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President

c: President John C. Hitt