
The meeting opened with introductions around the table. Dr. McGuire thanked Judy Troutman from the Dean’s office for her help preparing for the meeting. He noted that he was pleased with the improvement and adjustments to the billing operations for Creighton Medical Associations. He acknowledged Ray Stoupa (CFO for Creighton Medical Associates) for his work on this. Dr. McGuire turned the meeting over to Dr. Robert Troia and excused himself to attend the graduation ceremony for one of his children.

**Campaign Update and School of Medicine Update** -- Lisa Calvert, Vice President for University Relations and Laura Simic, Sr. Associate Vice President of Development and Campaign Director.

The Willing to Lead campaign passed the $400 million mark in gifts from loyal friends and alumni. Fifty-two percent of the contributions funded people and programs and forty-eight percent funded buildings, equipment and land acquisition. The School of Medicine received just over $67 million from the campaign to date, plus an additional $8 million from an estate gift yet to be distributed. Creighton fundraising is trending up despite the current economic downturn. Today’s current philanthropic success at Creighton is a result of the relationships that have been building over the past several decades. The future fundraising focus is to continue to position the University for long-term success by offering donors more flexible and responsive giving options during these challenging economic times. Given the current momentum and willingness of key stakeholders to continue to give, the campaign will continue with a focus on building endowment for people and programs and the needs of the health sciences. There exists the capacity to raise an additional $600 million in phase II of the campaign, if properly resourced; it is likely that half of the new funds may be designated to the health sciences.
**President’s Report** - John Schlegel S.J.

More than 1,440 students will receive degrees at commencement ceremonies on May 16 – the largest number ever in Creighton’s history. Creighton’s student population continues to grow. The incoming freshman enrollment is at an all-time high with more than 1,000 students deposited. The freshman retention rate is the highest ever - 97%. New programs contributing to enrollment growth include the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, an online master degree in finance, and an online Master of Science in Health Care Ethics.

The search for the VP of Health Sciences is ongoing. Dr. Robert Heaney remains the interim vice president and has provided strong leadership for the health sciences. The role for this position is being redefined as recent challenges are addressed and the hospital negotiation process with Tenet continues.

It is no secret that university endowment budgets are down 30%. The university has taken a proactive approach to the current economic downturn including enacting a freeze on new-hires except in essential positions and budget cuts within departments. A voluntary separation program (early retirements) has contributed to helping the university realize more $8 million in savings. No pink slips have been issued and benefits and pensions remain intact. And in a symbolic effort of support and appreciation for the extra sacrifice our families are making to provide a Catholic college education for their children, the university’s executive team has donated 4.5% of their salaries to a special fund. This fund is assisting some students who might otherwise have had to leave due to changes in their families’ economic situation.

Father Schlegel confirmed the importance of the Medical Alumni Advisory Board as essential to glean information from those in the field and to keep as many avenues open to CU alumni.

**Dean’s Report** -- Rowen Zetterman, M.D.

Dr. Zetterman’s first day as dean was on January 5th. He was a volunteer faculty member for 32 years noting that Dr. Harry Jenkins was his mentor. In addition, his son is a Creighton SOM graduate. He reflected on the extraordinary service code the students have at all levels within their SOM education. However it is problematic that 93% of graduating seniors have incurred significant medical school debt. This needs to be addressed and will be an issue in two years when the SOM’s accrediting agency visits.

Dr. Zetterman noted the following:

- John (Jack) Yee, PhD. was recently appointed the chair of the Biomedical Sciences Department upon the retirement of Dr. Barry Murphy.
- 20 new faculty will be coming on board by September
• The Pathology department is a full-fledged reference laboratory that runs over 10,000 tests per week.
• Creighton has the only endovascular operating room in Omaha.
• Creighton Medical Associates are concentrating on building proper operations within the clinics. The goal is to have new clinic bylaws established by July involving a changed approach to the practice plan.
• Although still confidential, the hope is that by the end of June, an announcement will be made that Creighton University SOM will establish a Regional Medical Campus at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ. Starting with the 2010 M1 class, the class size will increase by 24 students. The extra students will know that they will finish their last two years at the St Joseph campus in Phoenix. A separate handout describing the program is attached.
• Dr. Zetterman spoke about his $380 million list of needs including a new SOM education building, research building and an endowment for scholarships and faculty and research. It is clear that the school cannot rely on tuition anymore for funding these types of projects.
• Through a recent SOM strategic planning process, three points came to the forefront:
  1. Need to ensure our identity as a Jesuit SOM remains part of our teachings.
  2. Need a Public Relations focus – one that ensures our name is out there and that the talk is positive.
  3. SOM needs to set its own agenda for operations and continually plan.
• With regard to Creighton University Medical Center – the agreement with Tenet has been extended twice. It is not yet clear if Tenet remains a viable partner – if they are willing to do what is necessary to attract patients. The decision is very sensitive and one made at the university board level. The earliest that can happen is October.
• Dr. Zetterman will increase the number and role of supporting faculty on the SOM staff. Contributing faculty provide insights and experiences that might not be gained otherwise.

**Vice President Health Science Report** - Robert Heaney, M.D.

Dr. Heaney provided some history for this position beginning with its inception in 1971. Approximately ten years ago, the position was combined with the SOM Dean position. It's proven best to be a separate position. The past year has been a year of stabilization. During this time, strategies for the health sciences were reconfigured and key positions, including that of the SOM dean, were filled. Another position filled was a practice plan Manager and CEO to sustain and grow our clinic programs.
Phase II is now in process and will take approximately the next 2-3 years. It will involve rethinking critical relationships including the hospital and determining the best way to manage the health sciences and clearly defining the role of the VP of Health Sciences.

The Health Sciences makes up 70% of the faculty and comprises 70% of the university budget. This means volatility and vulnerability to University needs. The Pharmacy and Allied Health is the largest with just over 1000 students (only program to offer a highly rated accredited on-line learning program). The occupational therapy program also has an on-line component in conjunction with the University of Alaska in Anchorage. And as was previously reported, the SOM is gearing up for collaboration with St. Joseph’s in Phoenix. The SON has had a branch in Hastings for 30+ years.

**Magis Clinic Update** - Betsy Hassebroek, SOM-3

The Magis Clinic, is the only free medical clinic in Omaha open on Saturdays that treats homeless men, women, children, and the medically uninsured. The clinic, with assistance from various partners, provides free healthcare and referrals to existing community services. It relies on grants and donations as well as the donated services of physicians and students. Creighton SOM students clock more than 5,000 volunteer hours each year at the clinic in addition to their studies. Funding is also acquired from the annual Magis Golf Tournament scheduled this year on September 11 at Ironwood Golf Course. Dr. Timothy Fitzgibbons was recognized for his volunteer assistance and leadership with the “OUR HEARTS TO YOUR SOLES” program that provided foot exams and handed out shoes to the homeless in the Omaha community.

**Pre-Medical Education (PMED)** - Tricia Brundo Sharrar, J.D. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Starting in the fall of 2009, Creighton will offer a non-credit, Pre-Med Educational Seminar (PMED) series to students planning to attend medical school after their undergraduate careers. The co-curricular program and its activities are designed to complement the student’s academic and scholarly achievements.

- A five-semester series of weekly seminars and other activities designed to strengthen the candidacy of Creighton students as they prepare for the medical school application process.
- The series begins in the second semester of the freshman year and ends in the second semester of the junior year.
  - Seminar activities will include workshops on interviewing, preparing an AMCAS application, writing personal statements and developing solid shadowing experiences among other important topics.
- PMED will allow students to develop and maintain quality relationships with advisors and those providing input to the committee letter (see below). The impact will be visible across the University.

Creighton will be joining many other top-ranked universities in offering students university-level committee letters to include in their applications to medical school.
• Medical schools are looking for these letters as an important part of an applicant’s dossier.
• The letter is not required, but does help to give the student an edge in the admissions process.
• Students who register for and successfully complete all 5 semesters of the seminar offered during their 4-year undergraduate program will be eligible to have a committee letter sent on their behalf.
• For the 2009-10 academic year, rising sophomores will need to complete 4 semesters of the seminar and rising juniors will need to complete 2 semesters of the seminar in order to apply for the campus letter.

Medical Admissions Report - Fall 2009 - Henry Nipper, PhD, Assistant Dean, Admissions

The School of Medicine received 5455 applications compared to 5718 in 2008. Completed applications for fall 2009 were slightly ahead of 2008. Of those, 666 applicants were interviewed for the fall 2009 SOM class. Acceptance letters were sent to 301 of those interviewed. As vacancies occur, additional acceptances will be made, starting with Creighton students who are alternates. There are 319 names on the alternate list. Common reasons for placement on the alternate list are one or more of the following factors: late application, low MCAT score, low science scores, lack of medical experience or physician shadowing, no service record or interview shortcomings. In the past, we have lost accepted applicants due to tuition cost, geographic location and other reasons. A survey will be completed for this class as well. A full admission report will be provided at the September MAAB meeting.

Residency Match Report - Michael G. Kavan, PhD, Associate Dean, Student Affairs

Dr. Kavan reported on the SOM success on matching 100% of its graduates. This is significant in a time when there are an increasingly greater number of students participating in the Match. Of the 129 students, three students were offered early matches, 11 matched into military residency positions, and 126 (98% of all CUSOM medical students) were matched in their specialty of choice. Internal medicine programs proved most popular with 34 of the students placing followed by 17 in pediatrics and 13 in general surgery programs.