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Former Sen. Durell Peadar Jr., left, listens as Dean John Fogarty speaks during a Medicaid reform roundtable discussion at the College of Medicine.

Medical schools work together

There's healthy competition among Florida's medical schools, but ultimately they're all looking out for the present and future health of our state. In fact, you might not know that they collaborate and cooperate extensively through the Council of Florida Medical School Deans.

Earlier this year, Dean John Fogarty was elected council chair.

The deans speak with one voice when, for example, they wish to remind state leaders of their medical schools' collective \$23 billion economic impact on Florida. Another thing they point out is how their schools work to recruit and retain badly needed physicians in the state.

Besides Fogarty, other council members are deans of the medical schools at Florida International University, Nova Southeastern University, University of Central Florida, University of Florida, University of Miami and University of South Florida. The two ex officio members are the deans at Florida Atlantic University and the Bradenton campus of Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.