

## DEAN JOHN FOGARTY'S REMARKS

### Commencement, May 15, 2010

Graduates, as you look back to June 1, 2006 – approximately four years ago – you can remember the day your class arrived on campus. Two years later you traveled to your regional campuses to begin your community-based clinical training and now you're back for this exciting day. After the ceremony, you will be traveling again – this time to hospitals and academic medical centers all over the country. And what I have to say to you as you sit excited about your future is – enjoy the journey and show them what you learned here at the FSU College of Medicine.

You have matched at superb programs throughout the country. As you start your specialty training I want you to remember that you represent a new medical school, a school founded on the principles of patient-focused care and community-based training. Your faculty's main job was to teach and mentor you, without major distractions by obligations for clinical practice and productivity. They did that very well. You have thrived in that environment and validated the vision of the founders of this innovative model. Your class has a 100-percent pass rate for both the Part II clinical knowledge and clinical skills medical licensing exams, reflecting your superb preparation for and performance in your clinical clerkships. People have heard about FSU, and some thought it would never work. You are our best ambassadors for this distributed model of education, based in the offices of community physicians. These clinical faculty have enjoyed the partnerships they've had with you in this educational experience. They've invited you into the lives of their patients and showed you what it is to care for patients in these settings.

This special training, both here at the main campus and at each regional campus, has marked you as different. Treasure that difference. Maintain your focus on the patient. Remember Sir William Osler, the father of modern medical teaching, who would hope that the trait he would wish to see endure in all physicians in the 21st century would be simply **compassion**. As he said it so well, "It is more important to know what patient has the disease than what disease the patient has."

If you simply remember that in medicine, the goal is "to cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always," you will do well.

From this point forward, you will assume a new identity but you are also carrying with you the mission, vision and values of the FSU College of Medicine. You have become the exemplary physicians that we hoped you would be. We expect that you will remember to stay involved in your communities and care for the underserved, underrepresented and the aging. Your lives will never be the same as you improve the lives of others. We know we can expect great things from you and look forward to following you on your journey. I am very proud of each and every one of you.