

# FLORIDA STATE

## UNIVERSITY *The College of Medicine*



On April 3 – 7, 2011, the Florida State University College of Medicine will become the first new medical school in over 28 years to undergo a reaccreditation site visit by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The LCME is the official accrediting body for all U.S. and Canadian medical schools leading to the M.D. degree. “Institutional accreditation assures that medical education takes place in a sufficiently rich environment to foster broad academic purposes.”

The institutional self-study is one of the most important activities we undertake as a College of Medicine and is central to the accreditation process. There are 125 LCME Accreditation Standards and during the self-study process, we will bring together representatives of the student body, faculty, staff, administration, and other constituencies to assess institutional compliance with each of them in the context of our educational program. The process takes approximately 15 – 18 months to accomplish. **The FSU College of Medicine officially launched the LCME self-study process in January 2010.** Subcommittees have been established, meetings have begun and our process of continuous quality improvement is active. Everyone in the college has a role to play in the process even if they have not been named officially to one of the subcommittees.

Over the next ten months, we will:

- Collect and review data about the medical school and its educational programs
- Identify institutional strengths and any concerns requiring action
- Develop strategies and processes to ensure that our strengths are maintained and any concerns are properly addressed.

2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the creation of the FSU COM. We have had a very successful nine years since our inaugural class matriculated, and while the results speak for themselves, it is our responsibility to make sure that the LCME and the rest of the world actually hear about them from us. As we celebrate our successes, we must also be mindful of areas to improve and demonstrate the innovative model upon which we were founded.

I want to thank everyone for your enthusiastic participation as we move forward. Many of you will serve on committees, attend meetings, gather data, create spreadsheets, and perform a multitude of other tasks as we go through this process. We are fortunate to be undertaking this activity at the same time we are implementing our strategic plan and each of these activities will be beneficial to the other.

As the newest medical school undergoing reaccreditation in this century, this decade and in over 28 years, let's raise the bar in educating and developing exemplary physicians who practice patient-centered health care, discover and advance knowledge, and are responsive to community needs, especially through service to elder, rural, minority and underserved populations!!

Anyone who wishes to have additional information about the LCME accreditation process can visit their website at [www.lcme.org](http://www.lcme.org).

John P. Fogarty, Dean

FSU College of Medicine