



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

Dean's Corner

Medical School Funding: Good News! The money is in the base budget for \$48 million! It has finally been approved by both the House and the Senate. We now have full support of the Governor, the Lt. Governor, the Speaker of the House, and our entire delegation. The final vote is May 28, 2007.

Liaison Committee for Medical Education: The data base, which has been led by Dr. Daryl Williams, was already sent to the LCME. This data base has been developed by the faculty over the course of the last several years and will be reviewed by the LCME prior to their June meeting. On May 29, one day after the legislative vote on the medical school funding, the LCME will be officially notified of the vote and the need to evaluate the application by the first week of June. The LCME will then decide whether the medical school is at a point for a site visit from Nov. 11 – 13, 2007. Our medical school will be one of three new schools which will be considered by the LCME. The other two are Florida Central in Orlando and Florida International in Miami.

From June to November: The School of Medicine will be actively updating the data base by expanding the materials for the curriculum as well as recruiting additional basic sciences and clinical faculty.

After the LCME Visit in November: The LCME will determine whether we are prepared to be provisionally accredited at their February meeting, which would allow us to accept our first class in 2009.

In Preparation for Accreditation: The faculty, in conjunction with Dr. Henry Mandin, a visiting scholar from Calgary, Canada, has been hard at work in putting together a cutting-edge curriculum. The El Paso Curriculum is scheduled to be a fully-integrated, system-based science curriculum that is integrated into a clinical presentation format. In this type of curriculum, students, while they are studying basic sciences, will be learning how to evaluate patients who present with one of 120 different clinical presentations. The 120 ways in which the body responds to disease have been fully integrated into the Basic Sciences.

Faculty Recruitment: In addition, faculty members have been instrumental in the recruitment of faculty. We anticipate hiring 60 to 80 new faculty members by August of 2009. We are actively recruiting Chairs for Emergency Medicine, Anesthesiology, Neurology, Psychiatry and Pathology, and Associate Deans of Clinical Affairs, Medical Education and Research. Thus far, all of the candidates who have come to visit have been very interested.

If anyone has any questions about building our programs into the full, four-year medical school, please email your questions to Miriam Gardea, miriamc.gardea@ttuhsc.edu, and I will answer them in my next Dean's Corner.

Robert M. Suskind, M.D.