

# LIAISON COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

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July 7, 2003

Robert C. Dynes, Ph.D.  
Chancellor  
University of California, San Diego  
Dept. 0005  
9500 Gilman Drive  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0005

Dear Chancellor Dynes:

The purpose of this letter of accreditation is to inform you of the action taken by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) at its meeting of June 4-5, 2003, regarding the accreditation status of the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, and to transmit to you the final report of the LCME team that conducted a full survey of the school on January 27-30, 2003.

After reviewing the report of the survey team, the LCME voted to continue accreditation of the educational program leading to the M.D. degree at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine for a seven-year term. The program's next full survey will take place during academic year 2009-2010. Accreditation terms subsequent to your next full survey will extend for an eight-year period.

In its review of the report, the LCME identified the following items as institutional strengths:

1. Organizational streamlining of the Health Sciences Campus has proven to be an astute solution for rationalizing support between the academic and clinical enterprises of the institution.
2. The system for design, management, and evaluation of the curriculum is quite well managed, and benefits greatly from the leadership, centralized authority, and integration provided by the associate dean for curriculum and student affairs.
3. The tutoring program has been highly successful in meeting the needs of pre-matriculants, as well as first-year and second-year students, in large measure because of the dedication and talent of the full-time tutoring staff and the level of institutional support they receive.
4. The faculty of the school and its affiliated research institutes continue to exhibit remarkable productivity and extensive collaboration that enhances the academic reputation of the institution.
5. Basic Neurology is a model course that provides effective, integrated instruction across a variety of content areas and disciplinary boundaries, using appropriately varied teaching and evaluation methodologies to achieve its objectives.

6. The Independent Study Project in research and the Focused Clinical Multidisciplinary Independent Study Project provide students with unique and valuable experiences in research and the management of complex clinical problems.

The LCME identified the following area of partial or substantial noncompliance with accreditation standards:

**Standard ER-7: *A hospital or other clinical facility that serves as a major site for medical student education must have appropriate instructional facilities and information resources.*** (*Functions and Structure of a Medical School*, June 2002 edition, page 24)

Finding: On-call rooms are not provided for students taking their obstetrics & gynecology rotation at the Navy Medical Center, and the on-call facilities at the Hillcrest training site are small, cramped, and poorly designed to meet the needs of both female and male students for showering.

The LCME noted the following areas in transition whose outcome could affect the school's ongoing compliance with accreditation standards.

1. **Integration of the new School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.** It is not yet clear what impact, if any, the demands of this newly created school will have on the resources available for medical student instruction.
2. **Consolidation of pediatric programs.** The recent amalgamation of the UCSD Medical Center Pediatric Services with the Children's Hospital and Health Center, while promising, has not had sufficient time to determine how it will affect departmental missions in teaching, research, and health care.
3. **Renovation and expansion of the Biomedical Library.** It remains uncertain if upgrading of the Biomedical Library facilities, whose funding has recently been secured, will keep pace with the needs of the curriculum for information resources and small-group learning facilities.
4. **College of Integrated Life Sciences.** The distinctive and bold vision entailed by the proposal for a College of Integrated Life Sciences merits follow-up to determine its effectiveness in fostering translational research, recognizing and rewarding clinical teaching, and partnering with the biomedical research community at large.

To address the noncompliance and transition issues noted above, the dean of the medical school is requested to submit a progress report by January 1, 2005 to both LCME Secretaries. The report should include the following information:

- Noncompliance item: A description of any improvements in the on-call facilities for medical students at the Hillcrest Medical Center and the Navy Regional Medical Center.
- Transition item 1: A description and assessment of the resources available for medical student instruction in pharmacology.

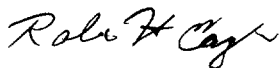
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- Transition item 2: Descriptive data regarding the number of pediatric patients available for medical student learning, levels of funding for pediatric research, trends in the inpatient census and outpatient visits at the Children's Hospital and Health Center, and the financial status of the Pediatrics Department
- Transition item 3: An update on progress in the expansion and renovation of the Biomedical Library, and an assessment of the adequacy of its information resources and small-group facilities for achieving the objectives of the educational program.
- Transition item 4: An update on the status of the proposed College of Integrated Life Sciences, and any resulting impact on the medical school's research activities, recognition and reward for clinical teaching, and linkage with the broader biomedical research community.

Accreditation is awarded to the program of medical education based on a judgment of appropriate balance between student enrollment and the total resources of the institution, including faculty, physical facilities, and the operating budget. If there are plans to significantly modify the educational program, or if there is to be a substantial change in student enrollment or in the resources of the institution so that the balance is distorted, the LCME expects to receive prior notice of the proposed change. Substantial changes may lead to re-evaluation of the program's accreditation status by the LCME.

A copy of this letter and the final report of the survey team are being sent to Edward W. Holmes, M.D., Dean, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine. The report is held confidential by the LCME. The document is for the use of the medical school and the university, and any public dissemination or distribution is at the discretion of institutional officials.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Eaglen, Ph.D.  
Assistant LCME Secretary, AAMC

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cc: Edward W. Holmes, M.D., Dean, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine  
Frank A. Simon, M.D., LCME Secretary, 2003-2004