



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

MAY 6 2002

SENT BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Professor Ian Simpson
Chairman, Accreditation Committee
Australian Medical Council
Unit 3, 40 Macquarie Street
Barton ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Professor Simpson:

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met in Washington, D.C., on March 1, 2002, to review, among other things, the annual report submitted by the Australian Medical Council (Council) that described its accreditation activities involving the medical schools in Australia and New Zealand.

At the meeting, the NCFMEA formally accepted the Council's report. To keep informed regarding your country's accreditation activities, the NCFMEA also requested the following:

- That the Council provide a copy of the Council's new accreditation guidelines (scheduled for publication in July 2002) and a status report on the development of the nine new rural clinical schools in Australia. Please provide the guidelines and status report by January 7, 2003, to the Executive Director of the NCFMEA at the address below:

Bonnie L. LeBold
Executive Director, NCFMEA
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, NW – Room 7007
Washington, D.C. 20006-7563
U.S.A.

- That the Council submit another report on its accreditation activities with respect to schools in Australia and New Zealand for review at the March 2004 NCFMEA meeting. The purpose of that report, which is requested by January 5, 2004, is to provide the NCFMEA with the following information:
 - *Overview of accreditation activities:* A summary of key activities by the AMC, such as accreditation reviews conducted, accreditation decisions reached, and accreditation conferences or training sessions held.

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- *Laws and Regulations:* An indication as to whether there have been any changes in your country's laws or regulations that affect the accreditation of your medical schools, and if so, what those changes were.
- *Standards, Processes and Procedures:* An indication as to whether there have been any changes in the accreditation standards, processes or procedures that the AMC uses to evaluate and accredit medical schools, and if so, what those changes were.
- *Schedule of upcoming accreditation activities:* A listing of upcoming accreditation meetings and on-site visits to medical schools and clinical clerkship sites.

The Executive Director will contact you in the fall of this year to provide information regarding the March 2003 NCFMEA meeting. In the interim, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. LeBold at (202) 219-7009 (telephone), (202) 219-7008 (fax), or Bonnie.LeBold@ed.gov (e-mail).

I want to thank you for taking the time to respond to our requests for information about your standards and processes for accreditation of medical schools. The NCFMEA members and I very much appreciate your ongoing interest and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rod Paige

cc: William Taylor
Information Systems Coordinator
Medical Council of New Zealand