



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEC 4 2003

Mr. Richard Bush
Chairman and Managing Director
American Institute in Taiwan
1700 North Moore Street, #1700
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Bush:

I am enclosing a letter from Secretary Rod Paige to the Chairman of the Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council. I would appreciate your forwarding the Secretary's letter to the Chairman at the following address:

Dr. Kun-Yen Huang
Chairman
Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council
National Health Research Institutes
3F, 109, Min-Chuan E. Road, Sec. 6
Taipei 114
Taiwan, R.O.C.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Robert LeGrand of my staff at (202) 401-3067. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Philip S. Link
Director, Executive Secretariat

Enclosure

DEC 4 2003

Dr. Kun-Yen Huang
Chairman
Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council
National Health Research Institutes
3F, 109, Min-Chuan E. Road, Sec. 6
Taipei 114
Taiwan, R.O.C.

Dear Dr. Huang:

The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met in Washington, D.C., on September 11-12, 2003, to review materials from 14 countries, including the report submitted by the Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council (TMAC) concerning its accreditation activities involving medical schools in Taiwan. That report had been requested by the NCFMEA during its March 2002 meeting, the meeting at which the Committee had determined that the standards and processes used by TMAC to accredit medical schools in Taiwan are comparable to those used to accredit medical schools in the United States.

I am pleased to inform you that the NCFMEA formally accepted TMAC's report on its accreditation activities. In addition, the Committee requested that TMAC submit a status report on its accreditation activities for review at the September 2004 NCFMEA meeting. Please see the enclosure for specific details about the report.

We would appreciate receiving the requested report by June 15, 2004, so we have sufficient time to review the information prior to the September 2004 NCFMEA meeting. Please send the information to the U.S. Department of Education at the address below.

Mr. John Barth
Director, Accreditation and State Liaison Staff
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W. – Room 7105
Washington, DC 20006-8509
U.S.A.

If you have any questions regarding the information requested, please feel free to contact Mr. Barth at (202) 219-7011 (telephone), (202) 219-7005 (fax), or john.barth@ed.gov (e-mail).

At the meeting the Committee also acknowledged that Dr. William Deal, a member of the NCFMEA, would be traveling to Taiwan in late September to observe the TMAC evaluation

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team conduct an accreditation review of China Medical College in Taichung, Taiwan. Dr. Deal will report to his fellow NCFMEA members on his site visit observation at a future NCFMEA meeting.

The Executive Director of the NCFMEA, Bonnie LeBold, will contact you in the late spring or early summer to provide information regarding the September 2004 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).

Thank you very much for providing information regarding your country's accreditation of its medical schools. The NCFMEA members and I very much appreciate your ongoing interest and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rod Paige". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name "Rod Paige".

Rod Paige

Enclosure

**Report Requested from TAIWAN by the
National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA)**

Accrediting Agency: Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council (TMAC)

Due Date: June 15, 2004

Submit to: John Barth, Director
Accreditation and State Liaison Staff
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W. – Room 7105
Washington, DC 20006-8509
U.S.A.

Phone: (202) 219-7011
Fax: (202) 219-7005
E-mail: john.barth@ed.gov

Content: The purpose of the report is to provide the NCFMEA with a summary of accreditation activities involving medical schools located in Taiwan, including the following information (and any applicable supporting documents):

- *Current status of medical schools:* A list of the medical schools currently operating in Taiwan, indicating the most recent date each school has gone through the accreditation review process and the school's current accreditation status (such as fully accredited, provisionally accredited, etc.).
- *Overview of accreditation activities:* A summary of key activities during the period covering July 2003 – June 2004, such as a list of accreditation reviews conducted, meetings held and accreditation decisions reached, and accreditation conferences or training sessions held.
- *Laws and regulations:* An indication as to whether there have been any changes since July 2003 in your country's laws or regulations that affect the accreditation of your medical schools, and if so, what those changes were.
- *Standards:* An indication as to whether there have been any changes since July 2003 in the accreditation standards that the Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council uses to evaluate and accredit medical schools in the areas listed below, and if so, what those changes were:
 - administration,
 - faculty,
 - curriculum,
 - admissions procedures,
 - student services,
 - methods for evaluating student achievement, and
 - facilities.

- *Processes and procedures:* An indication as to whether there have been any changes since July 2003 in the accreditation processes and procedures used by the Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council for the following:
 - conducting site visits,
 - selecting and training individuals who conduct site evaluations or who make accreditation decisions,
 - periodically reevaluating and regularly monitoring medical schools,
 - reviewing substantive changes reported by medical schools,
 - ensuring the Council has effective controls against conflicts of interest and the inconsistent application of accreditation standards, and
 - ensuring that accreditation decisions are based, in part, on the evaluation of student performance after graduation from medical school.

- *Schedule of upcoming accreditation activities:* A listing of upcoming accreditation meetings and on-site visits to medical schools, branch campuses, and clinical clerkship sites for the period covering July 2004 through June 2005.