



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

State Board for Medicine
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June 6, 2005

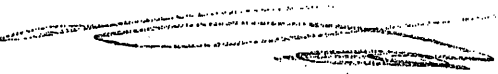
Reynaldo A. Olazo, M.D.
Dean
Fatima College of Medicine
120 MacArthur Highway
Valenzuela, Metro Manila
PHILIPPINES

Dear Dr. Olazo:

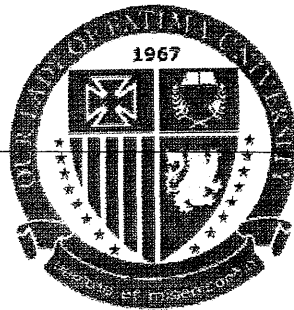
I write concerning the New York State Education Department's approval of the program of medical education at Fatima College of Medicine for the purpose of placing students in clinical clerkships in affiliated hospitals in New York. Pending the improvement of the political situation in the Philippines and our ability to obtain approval for appropriate travel, I am extending the current approval to December 31, 2011. I will contact you when feasible to arrange a mutually convenient time for the rescheduling of the site-visit.

I do request, however, that you submit an interim report concerning the program of medical education by January 1 of each year beginning with January 1, 2006. Approval beyond December 31, 2011 will be dependent upon the Department's next formal review of the program of medical education at Fatima College of Medicine.

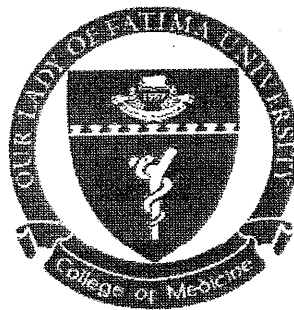
Sincerely yours,


Thomas J. Monahan
Executive Secretary

cc: Vladimir Oliveras



OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY
FATIMA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



PROGRESS REPORT

Submitted as Required
to

Mr. Thomas J. Monahan
New York State Education Department

April 2006

INTRODUCTION

The Our Lady of Fatima University –College of Medicine, in the past two years since its last Progress Report in 2004, has attained significant achievements as one of the leading medical schools in the Philippines, despite adverse political, economic, peace and order conditions confronting the country. On top of this all, Physician, as a profession, has lost much of its appeal mainly because of the expensive long years of studies in the medical school before one can be a Doctor of Medicine. Return of investment has been a crucial issue for many families contemplating to send their children to medical schools. Given this scenario the Fatima College of Medicine has withstood the odds and have strengthened its hold as one of the major medical schools in the country.

Fatima College of Medicine has accomplished respectable and significant achievements in the following areas:

- = student population vis-à-vis current conditions in all medical schools in the Philippines.
- = academic as shown by the performance of its graduates in the licensure examinations.
- = faculty achievements and research outputs recognized by specialty societies.
- = over-all school standing

The school has constantly viewed the New York State Board's recognition allowing its fourth year students to spend part of their clerkship training in New York hospitals as a great incentive to provide world class medical education to its students. Maintenance of this recognition keeps the school continuously developing towards excellence in medical education.

AREAS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

STUDENTS

All the medical schools in the country have experienced a significant reduction in their enrollment. A big number of schools barely have fifty students in its first year, with some even less than thirty. While Fatima College of Medicine experienced a big reduction from 250 freshmen, it has maintained its enrollment at 150 for school years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, from all indications the school will have at least the same number of freshmen for this coming school year commencing June.

The school has maintained 10 full scholarship grants for each year level and the same number of partial scholarship grants. The quality and quantity of applications for scholarship grants have not diminished, over the past two years the number of bright students seeking scholarship have increased forcing the school to increase the slot available depending on the number of qualified and promising applicants.

Very encouraging is the school's maintenance of a fairly constant number of foreign students specifically the Filipino-Americans and American students. This can be viewed as good gauge of the school's international acceptance.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION

The school has traditionally topped the February Licensure Examinations given by the Philippine Board of Examiners. In the February 2005 Board Examinations, the following were the school's topnotchers:

First	Christopher A. Chang
Second	Remuel B. Briones
Fourth	Carina V. Chavente
Eighth	Stephanie L. Alandy-dy
Eleventh	Roel V. Evangelista
Twelfth	Nelson C. Agapay, Jr.
Fourteenth	Alex L. Cruz
Sixteenth	Randolph D. Moselina
Twentieth (2)	Michelle F. Chungait Jomar E. Marcelo

The February 2006 Board Examinations were topped by:

First	Mary Joy P. Coner
Second	Sergio T. Apdo Jr.
Fourth	Joy Lourdes A. Dacumos
Fifth	Ferdinand E. Lunaria
Tenth	Eirene G. Mapile

In the February 2006 Examinations the Board of Examiners did not publish the top twenty and limited the list to top ten, the school is confident its graduates garnered places up to the 20th had they only published their names.

The schools' over-all passing average is much higher than the national average in these mentioned Licensure Examinations. This impressive performance of the school's graduates is the Fatima College of Medicines' crowning glory!

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

The school's faculty members were given recognition in the national specialty societies governing their areas of discipline. These recognition includes:

- **The Dean and Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health has just ended his 3 years Presidency of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians, the biggest specialty society in the country. His term ended February 2006.**
- **The Vice Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, Dr. Imelda Garcia was the Executive Secretary of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians, with term ending February, 2006.**
- **Dr. Lourdes C. Medalla was recognized for her expertise and is now an Examiner of the Specialty Board of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians.**
- **Dr. Vicente Santos, Jr. Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology is an examiner of the Philippine Ophthalmology Society Specialty Board, this is in recognition of his expertise**
- **Dr. Jimmy Santos, Chair of the Department of Microbiology and Parasitology is the President of the Pediatric Infectious Disease of the Philippines.**
- **Dr. Natividad Aguilar, Assistant Professor of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology, is the President of Philippine Society of Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery, the first female president of the society.**

Many other faculty members of the school in both basic and clinical sciences are holding key positions in their respective academic and specialty societies.

Two faculty members of the school's basic departments, Biochemistry and Pathology are doing their Ph. D. at the country's State University, they are on scholarship grant given by the Fatima College of Medicine. Another Biochemistry faculty member is on study leave finishing his dissertation at Georgetown University as required in his Ph. D. programme, he is subsidized by Fatima.

RESEARCH

The Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition has been consistently producing relevant and prize-winning research output. In the last convention of the Philippine Society of Oncology, October 5, 2005 at the Shangrila Hotel it awarded the department's research "Vitamin D Receptor Gene Bsm1 Polymorphism Positively Correlates With Prostatic Cancer," first place in its Research Contests. The investigators are Drs. Remedios Santos, Ricardo Santos, Nico Calingacion, Rebecca Villanueva and Lourdes Ombac. Another paper made by the Department entitled, "Frequent Tp53 Hotspot, Mutations in Cervical Carcinoma Tissues from Filipino Women" authored by Drs. Marilou Daguplo, Anthony Villar, Remedios Santos, was also selected and was read in the same forum. All the mentioned investigators are faculty members of the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition.

Researches made by other faculty members in other departments were also published in the journals of their respective specialty societies.

OVER ALL NATIONAL SCHOOL STANDING

Our Lady of Fatima University – College of Medicine, is a member of the Association of Philippine Medical Colleges, the society is made up of all the medical schools in the country. The authority to open and monitor the operation of medical schools in the country is under the governmental body, Commission on Higher Education, but the maintenance of high standards and setting directions on medical education in the country is under the Association of Philippine Medical Colleges (APMC). Traditionally, Board of Trustees membership and elected officers have been limited to the older more established medical schools. In 2005, the Dean of Fatima College of Medicine was elected member of the Board of Trustees of the APMC and commencing June 2006, the dean will assume (as elected) the position of Vice President. While it is true that it is the dean as a person who was elected to the positions, it is the school's achievements and stature that carried him to be recognized as an individual. In conclusion, therefore, Fatima College of Medicine has already established itself among the medical schools of excellence in the Philippines.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY

Valenzuela City, Philippines

PROGRESS REPORT

March 2004

PROGRESS REPORT
OF
OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



UNIVERSITY STATUS CONFERMENT:

On December 2, 2002, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) conferred the University Status to Fatima College. The conferment is in recognition of our institution's achieving high standards required for the status of a university. We are now the Our Lady of Fatima University, College of Medicine.

CONFERMENT OF DEREGULATED STATUS:

On Oct. 27, 2003, the Commission on Higher Education granted

Deregulated Status to the Our Lady of Fatima University.

The basis of the Deregulated Status are:

- 1) The institution having been established and recognized as Center of Excellence or Center of Development or private higher education institution with high level of accredited programs.
- 2) Outstanding overall performance of graduates in licensure examination.
- 3) Long tradition of integrity & untarnished reputation.

THE BENEFITS OF DEREGULATED STATUS ARE:

- 1) Exemption from the issuance of Special Order (SO).
- 2) Free from monitoring and evaluation activities of the CHED.
- 3) Entitlement to grant of subsidies and other financial incentives assistance from the CHED, whenever funds are available.
- 4) Privilege to determine and prescribe their curricular program to achieve global competence.
- 5) Authority to grant Honoris Causa to those deserving, per pertinent provisions of existing CHED issuance on conferment of honorary degrees.

Roles or contributions of the then Fatima College of Medicine to all these achievements.

1. The College of Medicine is the Our Lady of Fatima University's flagship college. In the long and tedious process of university status evaluation and accreditation, the College of Medicine was frontlined. It was our college physical structure and facilities which were inspected, the classrooms and laboratories. Our curriculum, faculty members and strategies of teaching were presented to the country's Commissioners en Banc, our college was the one thoroughly scrutinized. At the end, they were all impressed with the College of Medicine, the consensus was that we are globally competitive.
2. Fatima College of Medicine's impressive performance in the Professional Licensure examinations was a big factor in the decision of granting us the university and deregulated status. For the year 2003 alone, College of Medicine has garnered first, second, sixth, seventh and 2 eighth places in the February Physicians' Licensure Exam and for the August exam, we got the first place. The 2004 started with the College of Medicine getting the following places in the February Licensure Exam, first, third, fourth, seventh and thirteenth.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

DEVELOPMENTAL UPDATES

CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENT:

The curriculum of the College of Medicine is “Competency Based with Problem Learning Approach”.

Beginning school year 2001-2002, the College has introduced an innovative curriculum, 2/3 of the time is devoted to didactic, old traditional method of teaching and 1/3 of the time is given to small group self directed learning with the teachers acting as facilitator. Evaluation is still retained as examinations, group work, research, etc. As early as the first year, the students are exposed to clinical correlations, subjects like Biochemistry, Physiology and Anatomy are made more applied in the small group discussions where clinical problems or situations are tackled. We are now in our third year of implementation of the innovative curriculum.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT:

Our term as dean has seen the hiring of faculty members with clinical trainings and diplomates of specialty societies. Even in basic subjects like Anatomy and Physiology we are slowly saturating the faculty staff with diplomates. In Anatomy, we started getting Diplomates in Surgery, in Physiology, Diplomates in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine, the reason behind this is for them to facilitate the discussions of clinical correlations easily and make the learning more practical. We supplement the preparations for teaching of these diplomates with pedagogical training. We have also slowly hired our own graduates who have trained in other institutions as our school's faculty members. In fact, the chair of Physiology, Pediatrics and Clinical Laboratory are our graduates, at present about 40% of our faculty members are Fatima graduates.

STUDENT ASPECT:

The Philippines is experiencing an overall change in its scenario brought about by the sociopolitical and economic factors. Medicine, as a profession and a course, has been less attractive and replaced by nursing, especially as an easy way to migrate to the United States. As a consequence, our school, just like all the other medical schools in the country, is not getting as many applicants and as bright students it had in the past years. This withstanding, our graduates have accomplished the following in the licensure examination:

FEBRUARY 2001

DENNIS IVAN U. BRAVO, MD	- 2 ND PLACE
WILLIAM D. CHUASUAN, JR. MD	- 4 TH PLACE
ARLENE T. FAJARDO, MD	- 9 TH PLACE
LAWRENCE S. MIRAVITE, MD	- 10 TH PLACE

FEBRUARY 2002

AMAPOLA DUMLAO, MD	- 1 ST PLACE
CARLO RODRIGO CA RREON, MD	- 2 ND PLACE
JOCEL LACSAMANA, MD	- 5 TH PLACE

FEBRUARY 2003

LOUBOMIR CYRUS E. ANTONIO, MD	- 1 ST PLACE
VICTORIA M. AMIGO, MD	- 2 ND PLACE
SARAH L. LONTAC, MD	- 6 TH PLACE
NELSON U. LOGRONIO, MD	- 7 TH PLACE
ALVIN REY B. TAN, MD	- 8 TH PLACE
NESTOR A. CAILO, MD	- 8 TH PLACE

AUGUST 2003

JOSELITO C. JAVIER, MD	- 1 ST PLACE
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FEBRUARY 2004

ELMER R. JACINTO, MD	- 1 ST PLACE
RICO J. CARAOS, MD	- 3 RD PLACE
MARILYN A. BERMUDEZ, MD	- 4 TH PLACE
JESSIE V. DE LEON, MD	- 7 TH PLACE
VERNON A. CEBALLOS, MD	- 13 TH PLACE

PHYSICAL PLANT/STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

The Our Lady of Fatima University, College of Medicine is now housed in an 11-storey building. The showcase facilities include the Department of Anatomy Dissection Laboratory located in the airy, well-ventilated eleventh floor. Biochemistry Laboratory with a Faculty Research Section containing the PCR equipment, all microscopes are new and the school's laboratories are considered the best in the local setting. All our classrooms are air-conditioned and with appropriate sound system. We take pride in saying that our school is now one of the best if not the best in physical structure in our country.