

**Commission on the Future of Health Care Education
and Physician Retention in Northwest Ohio**

Monday, January 14, 2008
Owens Community College
AV Room 125

Meeting Minutes

I. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Rep. Randy Gardner opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. He thanked Owens Community College for hosting the meeting and the Toledo Community Foundation, especially Keith Burwell, for facilitating the meeting.

II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

All members present introduced themselves: Anthony Armstrong; Jack Bartell; Jimmy Carter; Vicki English; Dale Fallat; Teresa Fedor; Scott Fry; Randy Gardner; Deborah Gavlik (ad-hoc member); Pete Gerken; Jeffrey Gold; Tom Joseph; Linda Julian; Stan Korducki; Richard Markwood; John McGreevey; Steve Mickus; Francis Rogalski; Barbara Sears; Mark V'Soske; Mark Wagoner; and Peter Ujvagi was not yet present, he arrived later due to weather conditions.

Doni Miller and Craig LaHote were absent. A roster of members is attached to these minutes (Attachment A).

Also present were Keith Burwell, president of Toledo Community Foundation and Laura Sams, Administrative Assistant of the Toledo Community Foundation. Ms. Sams served as the recorder for the meeting.

III. REMARKS BY STATE LEGISLATOR

Representative Randy Gardner welcomed members of the Commission and thanked them for their willingness to serve. He announced that Alan Brass had submitted his resignation, and that Mr. Steve Mooney had accepted the appointment on behalf of ProMedica.

Rep. Gardner stated that we had four presentations today and that each presenter was allotted 30 minutes for their presentations. He also stated that he would hold any question for the presenters until the end of all presentations, when there would be a question and answer period.

IV. PRESENTATION OF JEFFERY GOLD, M.D., University of Toledo

Graduate Medical Education in Ohio: The "Poster Child" of America. Dr. Gold stated that health care is an industry. The Graduate Medical Education is funded by the federal government.

There are 5 Regional Training Sites: ProMedica Health System, University of Toledo, Mercy, St.Luke's and Firelands.

He also stated that only 8% of graduating students remain in NW Ohio for their residency.

Dr. Gold's strategy was to improve human condition and to:

- Benchmark & educate the community
- Enhance quality, quantity and diversity of all UT, UME, and GME.
- Develop communitywide use of all clinical teaching resources.

V. PRESENTATION OF STEPHEN MOONEY, President of Health, Education and Research Corporation (HERC), ProMedica

Since 2002, MCO, MUO and UT have asked HERC to assist with urgencies including these accreditations:

- Medical School / LCME
- Pediatric residency program
- OB/GYN residency program

ProMedica/HERC responded positively and provided the requested assistance on each of these occasions:

Focused Learning Needs Include:

- Neurosurgical anesthesiology
- Inpatient and geriatric psychiatry
- Anatomic pathology

Mr. Mooney stated that ProMedica retains about 40% of physician's graduation from its residency programs and that the media is stating that "all is wrong with medical education, and if that persists it could put medical education in jeopardy". "Let's not forget about the success." Mr. Mooney also stated that "competition" is occasionally referenced as a "dirty" word, but competition is good for efficiency and quality, so let's not think of it as a "dirty" word.

He also stated that the State of Ohio malpractice is troubling and dramatic, and trying to recruit outside physicians is very difficult.

Rep. Randy Gardner stated, according to the Department of Insurance, there is an 11% reduction in malpractice. Members took a 10 min. break, and the meeting reconvened at approximately 9:40 a.m.

VI. PRESENTATION OF STEVE MICKUS, President and CEO, Mercy Health Partners

Steve Mickus stated that currently 60% of Osteopathic Residents stay in the NW Ohio area. Also, there is a 30% increase in the number of applicants for residencies, and the emergency room is number one for applicants.

Future physicians mean future residents for NW Ohio. He also stated that education is good for the community because it attracts students to our community. He stated that about 50% of new physicians stay in NW Ohio.

The Graduate Medical Education at Mercy currently has 190 residents, 148 Allopathic, and 42 Osteopathic. Of those 190 residents, 46 are UT-COM residents and 144 are from Mercy Health Partners' programs.

VII. PRESENTATION OF DR. ANTHONY ARMSTONG, M.D., President, Toledo Academy of Medicine

Dr. Armstrong stated that he had 19 years of private practice.

Medical Students at UT

- Recruitment
- Available Clinical Material
- Resident/Attending Influence
- Debt
- Match

Residents

- Available Clinical Material
- Resident Workforce
- Faculty Recruitment/Retention
- Attending Influence
- Fellowship Availability

Dr. Armstrong also stated that we need more students to increase our residency spots. In conclusion, Dr. Armstrong stated that everyone has a mission statement; if they talk the talk then they need to walk the walk, and not everyone is doing that.

VIII. QUESTION AND ANSWER DISCUSSION

Rep. Randy Gardner moved to the 4th order for discussion and first turned to Rep. Peter Ujvagi who thanked all the presenters and stated that their presentations were very useful. He had several questions that he would like to share with everyone present but was holding off until the end to give others an opportunity.

Rep. Mark Wagoner asked how many GME slots there are, and if the National Dynamic increases our slots does that mean another part of the country has to decrease theirs.

Dr. Gold responded that with new primary care physicians they are fixed. He also stated that with no fellowship to retain physicians, we suffer.

Mr. Steve Mickus then remarked that he has learned in this enterprise that you need to covet slots. Slots are very difficult to obtain.

Tom Joseph commented that with no fellowship available, physicians do not have the opportunity to stay, so how do we make that argument?

Dr. Gold remarked that we need cooperation.

Rep. Randy Gardner assessed that we do have the power for perspective position.

Steve Mooney added that issues could be addressed, 280 physicians “volunteer for teaching.”

Dr. Armstrong stated that we should look at our centers of excellence and then generate new ones. Education is getting caught in the middle of this fight.

Additionally Rep. Ujvagi appreciated everyone's comments but stated that this is a building block to help us strengthen and find the real core issue. Our ability to retain physicians is critical.

Dr. McGreevy stated that if you are going to invite a residence, it is going to slow you down. How do we build rewards and not penalize when it might cause them inefficiency? Model of creating slots cannot be the only prong of the solution.

Rep. Ujvagi stated that we needed several meetings; it is too early right now to address that. We have all learned a little about this issue today.

Dale Fallat asked if all of our slots are in use today. Dr. Gold responded with a yes. Mr. Fallat also asked if the slots were transferable and Dr. Gold responded with a yes.

Dr. Gold stated that the two doctors mentioned in his presentation would be happy to come and speak at a GME meeting and asked about travel expenses. Steve Mickus stated that he would like to see any presentation for the future to be fair and balanced. Steve Mooney stated that he felt there would be a conflict of interest if we paid for two doctor's expenses.

Senator Fedor stated that we need to move together and suggested that we invite them.

Barbara Sears suggested that we look at what other states are doing that we might need to look at.

Mr. Mickus stated that the answer is right here. The issue is we don't get enough play that they need to cooperate, together. We don't need to go outside, locally and homegrown is the answer. We need to work together.

Vicki English acknowledged everyone's presence and commented that the community needs to be represented, the community would like to see this resolved, and thinks that leaders around this table can resolve this if they come together.

Rep. Mark Wagoner suggested that the PowerPoint presentations along with the minutes should be posted on the website, that this might be helpful.

Rep. Gardner did not have a set date for a future meeting, but polled members on three dates he had tentatively selected and decided that he would do his best at rescheduling.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Laura L. Sams
Toledo Community Foundation
Recorder