

2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AT ROCKFORD

The 2009-2010 year has been one of great significance to the College of Medicine at Rockford, highlighted by the campus's new building and renovation project. This new building will house our National Center for Rural Health Professions, our Academic Affairs offices and the College of Pharmacy Rockford Regional Program which officially welcomes its first class of Pharmacy students this August.

Budget

During the past year, 12 positions were eliminated either through attrition or retirement. Managing furloughs created significant tension and led to several faculty members taking positions elsewhere or retiring. The remaining faculty and staff have picked up extra work and we are grateful for the commitment to our mission during this difficult period of time and to our departments who explored and developed more cost effective way of meeting our educational mission and operating our clinics. Faculty and staff have extended clinics hours and sought both revenue enhancement and cost reduction strategies. Despite the fiscal challenges of 2009-2010, our MSP finished in the black and our overall campus financial position remains in the black. Critical to our MSP financial position are "Patla dollars" and a future challenge will be to develop strategies to remain viable as this source of revenue is lost.

Electronic Health Record (EHR)

The College completed Phase I of the EHR implementation process which focused on patient scheduling and billing and is in the final stages of Phase 2, going live with the Cerner Power Chart. The rollout begins in fall 2010, followed by the Family Health Center and Psychiatry in December 2010, and Women's and Children's in February 2011, completing Phase 2. The end result will give physicians and staff complete access to clinical information, which will create an environment that improves patient care, enhances practice performance, increases physician efficiency and supports research.

Masters in Biotechnology (MBT)

The College of Medicine at Rockford graduated its first class of 7 MBT students on May 1st. Twenty-two students have registered for fall 2010.

National Center for Rural Health Professions

The National Center and RMED Program moved into their new quarters. An article in Academic Medicine recognized the RMED Program as the most successful program of its type for placing physicians in rural communities.. This year, the "No Harm on the Farm Tour" offered simulated farm accidents and rescues as well as practical education

in agri-medicine and a better understanding of their future rural patients. The National Center for Rural Health Professions in collaboration with KSB Hospital in Dixon, Illinois, through a grant from Archer Daniels Midland Company, sponsored a two-day camp for 93 fourth through sixth graders from rural schools to learn about health lifestyles and health-related careers.

This May, fifteen students from the RMED program graduated and the 2014 class has 16 students enrolled. Dr. Glasser, Associate Dean, and his colleagues made presentations in Argentina at a PAHO meeting, in Jordan at a WHO meeting and participated in a World Bank meeting in Ethiopia

Health Policy and Social Science Research (HPSSR)

This new unit was formed under the Department of Family and Community Medicine (DCFM) with the combination of the social science researchers in the DCFM and Health Systems Research. This unit collaborates with community organizations or researchers and conducts studies for social service organizations throughout northern Illinois. This year, studies include an epidemiological study that identified individuals with MS across northwest Illinois, Rock Valley College District Survey, Oak Park Mental Health Board and River Forest mental health assessment, NICTI Commuter Rail Survey, and several surveys for the Winnebago County Health Department.

Items of Interest in 2009-2010

- The 1st Annual Primary Conference for Rural Physicians took place on, October 3, 2009 with over 50 attendees. It was followed by an alumni dinner.
- The Department of Family and Community Medicine recruited a new Research Director, Dr. Alesia Hawkins a tenure track faculty member with researcher with an interest in post traumatic stress
- The Family Practice Residency was reaccruited for a five-year period, the maximum number of years a residency can be accredited.
- Dr. Tim Koritz, a faculty member in the Department of Medicine here in Rockford, was named to the UI Board of Trustees.
- Dr. William Starks, completed the family medicine academic fellowship and joined the faculty in the Department of Family and Community Medicine

In summary, this past year has been very exciting as we have watched the new building go up and be completed. We are grateful to our faculty, staff, and community, for their support and service to the College of Medicine at Rockford this past year.