



UNIVERSITY  
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FACULTY  
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## *President's Letter*

December 15th, 2004

### **FFM meeting – November 15<sup>th</sup> 2004**

At the last Full Faculty Meeting of the Faculty of Medicine it was clear that the Administration of the Faculty of Medicine is continuing to push ahead with Medical School expansion while the Faculty remains skeptical and ignorant of the finances for the expansion. ***The UCFA's goal is to train the best Doctors in BC for BC and continues to hold UBC accountable for ensuring appropriate resources are available to support this mandate.***

### **Appointment letters and Contracts**

The last Appointment letter was negotiated between the UCFA and the Faculty of Medicine. This provided a mechanism for the UCFA to enforce payment for teaching. The Faculty has unilaterally changed the wording of this appointment letter. ***The UCFA recommends that Clinical Faculty do not sign a new appointment letter without seeking independent advice – please contact the UCFA.*** With the expansion of the Medical School, the Faculty of Medicine is trying to recruit more Clinical Teachers. Discussions are being held with Physicians around the province. ***The UCFA is able to provide support to physicians who would like independent advice regarding conditions of Clinical appointment to UBC - please contact the UCFA.***

### **Remuneration for Clinical Teaching**

On March 18<sup>th</sup> 2003 the Dean sent an email to Clinical Faculty committing to a new process to remunerate Clinical Faculty. The invoice method was developed through negotiation between UCFA and UBC, and was supported by an independent arbitrator. UBC has refused to enter into negotiations with UCFA, your elected representatives, regarding this new process and 9 months after the notice, the new remuneration method is still unavailable for review. While the UCFA recognizes that the invoice system is cumbersome, it is the only negotiated agreement for Clinical Faculty remuneration. Until the Faculty of Medicine negotiate a new process which is transparent and enforceable, ***the UCFA recommends that Clinical Faculty continue to submit invoices for teaching.***

### **Council of University Teachers**

Dr. Derryck Smith, Past President of the UCFA is co-author of the CAUT publication ***Defending Medicine: Clinical Faculty and Academic Freedom.*** This is an important document that highlights the difficulties Clinical Faculty face and provides recommendations, both of which are applicable to Clinical Faculty at UBC. The document can be found at:

<http://www.caut.ca/en/issues/academicfreedom/DefendingMedicine.pdf>

### **Board Retreat 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

Mr. John Barr, of Cascadia Communication Associates facilitated the board retreat and the full report is expected shortly. The aim - improve service and communication to members and potential members of the UCFA. ***We have some of the best teachers from the FoM at UBC as our members;*** we're doing our best to support them and encourage others to join us in our association and in teaching.

### **UCFA Dues for 2005**

Remember to tick the box on the BCMA dues form to indicate you wish to join the UCFA.

*Best wishes for the season,*

David Wensley, FRCPC, President