



**UNIVERSITY  
CLINICAL  
FACULTY  
ASSOCIATION**

*Teaching Tomorrow's Doctors*

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**President's Letter**

**28 February 2005**

**BOARD ACCEPTS  
CLEARER ROLE AND  
POSITIONING FOR  
UCFA**

The UCFA Board has received a report from Cascadia Communication Associates highlighting the need to clearly define the position of the UCFA as *the only organization representing and supporting clinical teachers, to provide the best care to their patients and the best training to students and residents.* The new tag line below the logo at the top of this letter and the website update below are two of these recommendations. Others will be implemented over the coming months.

**CLINICAL FACULTY:  
Please continue  
submitting invoices!**

During 2004, following the successful arbitration process undertaken by UCFA on behalf of its member, UBC paid out over \$400,000 to groups who invoiced UBC for teaching. We would like to thank the groups who recognized the work of the UCFA and provided donations to our legal fund. While UBC through the Office of Clinical Affairs has requested that UCFA be involved in discussions regarding the payment process for teaching, no dates have been set for these discussions. Until the Faculty of Medicine negotiates a new process which is transparent and enforceable, *the UCFA recommends that Clinical Faculty continue to submit invoices for teaching.*

**NEW FACULTY  
APPOINTMENT  
LETTERS:  
Don't sign without  
independent advice**

Your board has sought independent legal advice and suggests that the only appointment letter that you should sign is the one negotiated by UBC and the UCFA, approved by the Faculty of Medicine in August 2001. See the comments from legal council and wording changes of the letters on the UCFA website: <http://www.ucfa.ca/>. All recent changes have been made unilaterally by UBC in order to limit their liability for teaching. The UCFA board has requested that UBC reopen negotiations with UCFA to review the Appointment/Offer letter. *The UCFA Board recommends that Clinical Faculty do not sign appointment letters which include teaching of UBC students or residents without seeking independent advice.*

**More communities  
approached by UBC to  
provide teaching**

Physicians from many communities have been approached by UBC to provide clinical teaching. We have been invited to give presentations at a medical societies and associations in Surrey, North Vancouver, Nanaimo, Kelowna and Vancouver. We have developed an information package to take to these groups. We hope to work with them to develop contracts for conditions of work with UBC. *Please ask colleagues to contact us if they need help in their negotiations with UBC.*

**Should we join  
the UBC Faculty  
Association?**

The UCFA Board have sought legal advice and approached the Faculty Association of UBC to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of applying for membership of this bargaining unit, which is the only one which UBC has so far agreed to recognize in negotiations. *Before any steps are taken to commit the UCFA to join the Faculty Association, the Membership will be asked to vote on this matter.*

**UCFA website updated:  
we need your help &  
suggestions**

Your board has been working on updating the UCFA web-site to provide more information to members and help recruit new members. *Please visit the web-site and provide us with comments regarding this and suggestions for how we could make this work for you.*

*David Wensley*