



President's Letter

20 June 2006

**BCMA to open
discussions with
UBC**

In May the UCFA board had further discussions with the BCMA executive requesting that they support UCFA in the struggle to obtain independent representation for clinical faculty with UBC. A communication was sent to all members in the [May BCMA e-news](#) announcing their support for UCFA. Following the BCMA board meetings in June, the President of the BCMA sent a letter to BCMA members raising major concerns about the unilateral contract offered by UBC to clinical faculty. (This letter can be found on the [BCMA website](#) in the Members area (requiring login) under BCMA information > Member News > President's Messages > Letters.) The BCMA executive has requested a meeting with UBC to initiate a dialog, but a meeting date has not yet been set.

**New Contract for
Clinical Faculty
offered by UBC**

On June 6th 2006, the UBC circulated an email to clinical faculty announcing a [new contract](#) and requiring UBC teaching physicians to have a Faculty Appointment, effective July 1, 2006 to meet accreditation requirements. The UCFA were given a week to provide comment on this contract which was developed through the Clinical Faculty Affairs Committee, despite many requests by the UCFA to meet with UBC to negotiate a new contract over the past 3 years. While there have been changes to the compensation process from previous contracts offered by UBC in recent years, it is not equivalent to the [contract negotiated between UBC and UCFA in 2001](#). Specifically the new contract letter does not adequately address the following:

- the amount of teaching expected as a condition of the appointment;
- adequate consultation with the Clinical Faculty member regarding teaching assignments;
- compensation for Clinical Faculty members who are in non fee for service payment arrangements;
- compensation for the Clinical Faculty member if he/she teaches when on call;
- compensation for teaching residents;
- re-imbursement of the members' costs for teaching in private facilities;
- the right of doctors to have representation during the initial phases of the dispute resolution process.

The UCFA recommends that current and prospective clinical faculty do not sign the new contract recently offered by UBC, ensure they have a written request for teaching and record the teaching done. We are working with the BCMA to ensure that physicians in BC are aware of the pitfalls of such a one-sided contract and process, and to develop an alternative. Please [contact the UCFA](#) if you have concerns about this or encounter resistance so that we may assist you.

**Accreditation for
the expansion of the
Medical School**

As mentioned in the previous President's letter, a delegation from the UCFA met with the accreditation team in March. UCFA have not been able to obtain a copy of the accreditation team's report. The only information made public regarding is a letter from the Dean suggesting there were no problems.

**Clinical Faculty
Appointment**

In the past physicians have taught without being appointed clinical faculty and this has resulted in difficulties obtaining payment for teaching. *The UCFA recommends that prospective teachers do not begin teaching until they have received a Clinical Faculty Appointment from UBC as well as a satisfactory contract.* Details on [how to obtain a Clinical Faculty Appointment](#) can be found on the UCFA website, www.ucfa.ca.