



**UNIVERSITY
CLINICAL
FACULTY
ASSOCIATION**

Teaching Tomorrow's Doctors

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UCFA Newsletter

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**Update on talks with
UBC: some
progress, some
work still ahead**

The BCMA, acting at the request of the UCFA met with UBC represented by the Dean, University Counsel, and the Special Advisor to the Dean for Clinical Faculty Affairs on October 24th. Most of the previously identified issues were discussed. Progress has been made in that some issues were resolved, but others require further discussion. We are optimistic that these discussions will permit an ongoing cooperative relationship between UBC and clinical faculty members as represented by UCFA and the BCMA. While we are supportive of physicians continuing to teach during these discussions, *the UCFA recommends that current and prospective clinical faculty DO NOT SIGN a contract with UBC until there is a satisfactory agreement with the BCMA.* Further background information can be obtained on the [UCFA website](#) along with a [sample letter](#) to respond to a request for teaching.

**LCME Accreditation
Team recommends
that UBC Medical
School expansion
address Clinical
Faculty issues
identified by UCFA.**

Earlier this year UCFA members asked the Liaison Committee on Medical Education accreditation team if we could meet them during their visit to the Province and they agreed. A [detailed brief](#) was submitted pointing out that, since more than 60% of medical training is done by Clinical Faculty, the unsatisfactory working conditions and policies for CF placed into question whether sufficient CF could be recruited and retained to meet the University's goal of doubled student enrolment.

Following the slow response of the University to our request for a copy of the accreditation committee's final report, it was obtained through the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The accreditation committee acknowledged our concerns and included these in their statement that: "the following areas remain in transition, and their outcomes could affect the school's ongoing compliance with accreditation standards." These areas included: "Planning for Distributed Learning in the Clinical Years; Funding Issues; and Clinical Faculty Recognition." The report stated: "at the time of the survey visit, plans to compensate clinical faculty for teaching in the context of clinical care have not been released. A number of faculty members have expressed strong concern about the issue and some have tied its resolution to their willingness to teach. The issue is complex, and requires actions by Faculty of Medicine, the Ministry of Health, and the Health Authorities." Clearly, action by the University to address these concerns must occur before the next full survey takes place during the 2007-8 academic year.

This acknowledgment of the UCFA's concerns by an outside accreditation agency sends a strong message to the University and the Government.

**UCFA AGM:
January 18th**

The UCFA Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday January 18th 2007. We are planning an interesting meeting. More details to follow.

**UBC Conflict of
Interest and
Commitment
requirement.**

UBC requires that researchers file a Conflict of Interest and Commitment Declaration. The UCFA recognizes the importance of transparency in the association of CF with the University and in Research and Teaching. However, some of our members were concerned about the wording of the policy and have asked us to seek independent legal advice. *Please [contact the UCFA](#) if you would like further information.*

David Wensley