



Section Newsletter

20th December 2007

**UCFA AGM -
Formation of the
BCMA Section of
Clinical Faculty**

Following approval by the BCMA Board for the formation of a Section of Clinical Faculty in September, the required amendment in the UCFA constitution was passed at the UCFA Annual General Meeting on November 8th 2007. Dr Jim Turk Executive Director of the [Canadian Association of University Teachers](http://www.caat.ca) gave an excellent talk entitled "Protecting the rights of Clinical Faculty". Dr Turk illustrated the point that faculty members can find themselves the victim of unwarranted and severe actions, including the loss of income, if adequate protections are not written into their contracts. Video highlights of this talk and the AGM will be posted on the [UCFA website](http://www.ucfa.ca) in the next few days.

The UCFA AGM also approved a reduction in the annual dues from the current \$150 to \$120 for next year. We hope you will encourage colleagues to join as we move forward as the new BCMA Section of Clinical Faculty.

**Liaison
Committee and
Clinical Teaching
Sub-Committee
meetings between
BCMA and UBC.**

The BCMA UBC FoM liaison committee has met once in 2007 and we expect the next meeting to occur early in 2008. Although the [terms of reference of this committee](#) require information shared at the meeting remains confidential we hope that reports of the meetings will be made available to Clinical Faculty. The Clinical Teaching Sub-Committee is due to meet at the end of January and expect work to begin in earnest on review of the outstanding issues in the UBC Clinical Faculty contract. Please [contact the BCMA Section of Clinical Faculty](#) with your comments on the contract or other issues relating to teaching.

**Section of Clinical
Faculty**

At the board meeting in November a number of initiatives were discussed. Our aim remains to support practicing physicians to provide the best teaching to future physicians of BC without negatively impacting patient care or physicians' work life. These initiatives include updating the web-site to provide more useful information to members and enhancing the administrative support of the Section to provide better service to members and support to the board. We also will be coming to our members to assess the impact of teaching on practicing clinicians to guide discussions with UBC. Please [contact us](#) with issues that need to be addressed to assist us to work with UBC to provide the best education possible for future physicians in BC.

**Medical School
Expansion
concerns**

The Section board has recently been alerted to concerns in Kelowna where a specialty service was asked to take on an increased commitment to teaching Medical Students and Residents. Despite work being performed over the past year by members of the service, and promises of support from UBC for this administrative and teaching workload, no support has yet been forthcoming. As a result, these practicing physicians are no longer prepared to undertake this workload.

**New UBC
Contract**

Clinical Faculty in some Departments are being asked to sign the new UBC contract. This contract was initially proposed by UBC and amended following discussions between the BCMA and UBC after the UCFA asked the BCMA to be involved. The UCFA were involved in those discussions and there was agreement that the contract would be for one year and be re-negotiated prior to the end of the contract.

With best wishes for the season

David Wensley