

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY College of Medicine

Dean's Newsletter

December 13, 2006



Jay Perman, M.D.,
Dean, College of Medicine
Vice President for Clinical Affairs

As 2006 draws to a close, I want to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication throughout the year. Each one of you has contributed to the success of the College of Medicine, and I am proud to be the Dean of such a flourishing institution.

This year was marked by many accomplishments and great steps toward the goal of becoming a top tier medical school. The unveiling of the campus of the future and the new hospital will provide advantages for our students, house staff, faculty, staff and, of course, our patients.

Being awarded the Clinical and Translational Science Award Planning Grant was also a tremendous accomplishment in 2006. Through this grant, we developed the Center for Clinical and Translational Science, which will improve the quality and accelerate the pace of the University's clinical and translational discoveries — ultimately changing the landscape of future NIH research for the College and the rest of the University.

On the education front, we are transforming our curriculum. Recognizing that our medical students see “snapshots” of chronic illnesses and do not witness the effects it has on the patients and their families, many of the faculty set forth to enhance our curriculum. This curriculum change, which is expected to begin in 2007-2008, will allow our medical students to follow a patient's care over time and will make our students more competitive as they enter residency.

This year we have also begun to explore inter-professional education opportunities between the six health sciences colleges. The goal of this group is to have inter-professional opportunities for our students and residents, long before we break ground on the new campus, which will be designed to foster team efforts.

As for our clinical practice, this year began our transition to a new faculty practice organization. I have met with all of the clinical department faculty and shared this new vision, and appreciate your feedback that this is the right change for our clinical practice and one that is long overdue.

This year the College also embarked upon another community service project. Working with the YMCA, the Lexington Fayette County Health Department and Fayette County Schools, our adoption of Johnson Elementary School is making an impact on the lives of the teachers, children and their parents. Activate Johnson has been a huge success involving multiple colleges from the University and the dedication of many of our medical students. I am delighted with its success.

Again, thank you for your commitment to the College of Medicine and the broader community. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. From all of us in the Dean's Office, have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.