



**Medical College of Georgia  
General Faculty Assembly  
April 26, 2007**

The spring meeting of the Medical College of Georgia General Faculty Assembly was held Thursday, April 26, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. in the School of Dentistry Auditorium. Approximately 100 faculty members, staff and members of the community were in attendance.

I. Welcome / Certification of Minutes

Dr. Rick Callan convened the meeting and welcomed faculty, staff, students and guests. Minutes from the General Faculty Assembly held on November 16, 2006 were approved as presented.

II. Academic Council Update

Dr. Callan thanked the Academic Council and Executive Committee Leaders and Chairs for their service this academic year. There were many accomplishments including six *Forums for the Future*, a successful *New Faculty Reception*, and development of a campus wide *Faculty Development* proposal. The Academic Council represents the faculty across the campus and in all schools. We are focused on a unified faculty culture. There are positions open for the 2007-2008 academic year. Dr. Callan encouraged the faculty to become involved by running for an office or a subcommittee. It was noted that Dr. Martha Tingen will move from Vice Chair Elect to Chair July 1, 2007 and Dr. Callan will become the Past Vice-Chair.

III. MCG Update

Dr. Rahn noted we are dealing with multiple changes. A key priority is to continue to move forward with quality expansion of our medical school to help meet the health care needs of our state. We need to increase enrollment by 30% by 2015. To do this we must make appropriate accommodations for increased space, faculty, clerkships and patients. There has been a resurgence of community interest, which is good. This expansion will require several years of planning and involvement of community partners. We will need increased collaboration and not competition. We must take the leadership in this now to make an impact ten years down the road. Dr. Rahn answered questions. He thanked everyone for their participation in advancing the mission of the organization.

IV. Outstanding Faculty Recognition

The School of Allied Health Sciences honored **Dr. Bonnie Dadig**, chair of the Department of Physician Assistant. A faculty member since 1984, Dr. Dadig has been the principal investigator on \$2 million in grants, including a recent three-year training grant for physician assistants from the Department of Health and Human Services. She has received the Georgia Association of Physician Assistants' Professional Service Award, the School of Allied Health Sciences Distinguished Service Award and an Outstanding Award from the *Physician Assistant Journal*.

Honored in the School of Dentistry was **Dr. Henry Ferguson**, associate professor and director of the oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program. Dr. Ferguson joined the department in 2004 after retiring from a 24-year career in the U.S. Army. He most recently served as a staff surgeon at Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon and a mentor/teacher for Eisenhower's oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program. Dr. Ferguson is a 1980 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. He is a fellow of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the American Dental Society of Anesthesia. His military honors include the Surgeon General's "A" Proficiency Designator in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal and Expert Field Medical Badge.

The School of Graduate Studies honored **Dr. Richard McIndoe**, associate director of the MCG Center for Biotechnology and Genomic Medicine. Last year, Dr. McIndoe received a \$15 million, five-year grant – MCG's largest ever – to continue operating the Coordinating and Bioinformatics Unit for the National Institutes of Health project, Animal Models of Diabetic Complications Consortium and the Mouse Metabolic Phenotyping Centers, another NIH-funded consortium of centers offering expertise in mouse-testing. Scientists nationwide use the animal models to research diseases, including diabetes, obesity and related disorders. A faculty member since 2002, Dr. McIndoe earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology and cell science and a doctoral degree in immunology and molecular pathology, both from the University of Florida.

Honored in the School of Medicine was **Dr. William Dynan**, biochemist and chief of the Cancer Biology and Gene Regulation Program. Dr. Dynan, Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar in Biochemistry and associate director of the MCG Institute for Molecular Medicine and Genetics, also is associate director of the new Nanomedicine Center for Nucleoprotein Machines based at the Georgia Institute of Technology, one of eight Nanomedicine Development Centers funded by the National Institutes of Health in the last two years. Dr. Dynan is a 1975 graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and earned his Ph.D. in 1980 from the University of Wisconsin.

The School of Nursing honored **Dr. Patricia Bowman**, assistant professor of biobehavioral nursing at the School of Nursing's Athens campus. Dr. Bowman, a nurse practitioner and proponent of culturally competent health care, is the past chair of the medical screening committee for the Fiesta Latina de la Salud Health Fair in Athens. She volunteers at the Athens Nurses Clinic. Dr. Bowman is a member of the American and Georgia Nurses Associations, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the American Public Health Association and Sigma Theta Tau. Dr. Bowman earned a Master of Science degree in nursing from Emory University and a doctorate of nursing practice from the University of Tennessee at Memphis.

Honored in the Robert B. Greenblatt, M.D. Library was **Mr. Peter Shipman**, assistant professor and outreach librarian. Mr. Shipman, a faculty member since 2000, is a former Governor's Teaching Fellow and a member of the steering committee for the statewide implementation of GoLocal, a nationwide initiative to link consumers to health care providers through the World Wide Web. He is a member of the Medical Library Association, the Georgia Health Sciences Library Association, the Central Savannah River Area Library Association and Friends of Columbia County Libraries. Mr. Shipman has a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Wake Forest University and a master's degree in library and information studies from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The Academic Council also honored **Dr. Ruth E. Fincher**, vice dean for academic affairs in the School of Medicine, with its Spirit of MCG Award for contributions to medical education at MCG and nationally. A faculty member for more than 23 years, she has received more than 30 teaching awards, including the 2003 Daniel C. Tosteson Award for Leadership in Medical Education from the Carl J. Shapiro Institute for Education and Research at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School and the 1996 Alpha Omega Alpha/Association of American Medical Colleges Robert J. Glaser Distinguished Teacher Award. She was an inaugural inductee into the University System of Georgia's Regents Hall of Fame in 2004. In March 2006, Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine, the association for internal medicine educators in North America, renamed its annual service award in Dr. Fincher's honor. She served on the steering committee that developed CDIM, was the first elected president of the organization and has directed its Annual Pre-Course for New Clerkship Directors for 16 years. She received the group's first service award in 1998 and the Educational Program Award in 2002. Dr. Fincher is an at-large member of the Executive Board of the National Board of Medical Examiners, which develops the three-step U.S. Medical Licensing Examination™. She is a member of the board's Hubbard Award and Composite Committees as well as the Patient Note Task Force and Key Validation Committee of the Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination.

**Dr. Barbara Kiernan**, an associate professor of biobehavioral nursing, was honored with the council's service award for chairing the Scholarships and Standards Committee. **Dr. Vincent Robinson**, a cardiologist and immediate vice chair of academic council, was also honored with a Service Award. **Dr. Kevin Frazier**, an associate professor of oral rehabilitation, was honored with the first Faculty Excellence Award from the Student Government Association.

V. Recognition of Retirees

Retiring faculty members recognized for their years of service were:

- School of Allied Health Sciences, **Franklin Dennison**, associate professor of respiratory therapy, 1984-2006;
- School of Dentistry, **Dr. John Ivanhoe**, professor of oral rehabilitation, 1993-2007, and **Dr. Joseph Konzelman**, professor of oral medicine, 1984-2007;
- School of Medicine, **Dr. You-Jun Fei**, associate professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 1995-2006, **Dr. Ralph C. Kolbeck**, associate professor, Department of Physiology, 1973-2006; **Dr. Patrick Mongan**, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine, 1980-2007, and **Dr. David Lause**, associate professor, Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy, 1985-2007.

VI. Closing Remarks

Dr. Callan provided the closing remarks. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm followed by a reception for the Retirees and Outstanding Faculty.

Submitted by Pam Cook, DNP, RN  
Academic Council, Secretary-Treasurer