Dear Colleague,

I have spent all weekend at the Washington Duke Inn in Durham, N.C., at a Macy Foundation conference discussing “Who will be providing primary care and how will they be trained?” It has been a very interesting discussion. As I write this, I am not sure what the conclusions and recommendations will be. It is clear, however, that if an additional 34 million people will have health care, the current shortage of primary care (and specialty) physicians will only be exacerbated. What has been refreshing is that the individuals having this discussion include academicians and practitioners from Medicine, Nursing and Physician Assistant professions. Interprofessional collaboration is going to be pretty important in the future health care system. Figuring out how to work with each other and have a health care system that is accessible, with patient-centered, high-quality care, will not be intuitive or easy. But we will need to figure out how to do it.

I have attached the latest edition of the Faculty Success Newsletter. This publication by the Office of Faculty Affairs represents an additional effort to communicate effectively with the School’s faculty. If you read my letter in it you will see that I describe a meeting with faculty last month. I was asked what the opportunities were for senior faculty who may not have reached retirement status but for any reason have lost either their grants or clinical practice opportunities. Listed in that newsletter are the opportunities to assist the institution in the myriad of critical committees that are central to the success of our research and clinical enterprise. I have also attached to this newsletter the contact information for teaching opportunities in our new curriculum for the medical students. The Child Health Associate Physician Assistant program and Physical Therapy program may also have opportunities.

The current issue includes information about the Academy of Medical Educators, a new Faculty Leadership Training Program, the Office of Continuing Medical Education and the Women in Medicine Program. It also contains a new section, “News about Academic Medicine.” The regular “Faculty FAQ” section of the Newsletter addresses the questions “what is the faculty tuition benefit?” and “what is the Research Professor Series and who is eligible?” The “Faculty Facts” section includes information about sources of compensation for basic science and clinical science faculty.

The University of Colorado Hospital asked providers how it could get even better. The response was big – 82 percent. The results will be presented Jan. 19, from 5-7 pm at the Anschutz Inpatient Pavilion, Room 2007/2133. It’s an open forum where you can learn the results and ask questions. Sponsors are University Hospital and University Physicians. I hope to see you there.
We've made a change in how you should submit school-related items that are sent to the UCD academic announcement list. Please send them to the SOM Deans Office e-mail SOMDeans.Office@ucdenver.edu instead of Jan Bodin’s email.

And, finally, the UPI annual meeting will be Wednesday from 5-7:30 in the Trivisible Room of R2, second floor. There is a reception from 5-6. Then Lilly Marks will give a short review of the year and I will talk briefly about the process I would like to start to improve our clinical enterprise on the Anschutz Medical Campus. I hope many of you can come.

Have a good week.

With warm regards,

Richard D. Krugman, MD
Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and
Dean, School of Medicine

"What’s Going On Here" is an email news bulletin from Richard Krugman, MD, Dean of the CU School of Medicine, that is distributed to inform University of Colorado School of Medicine faculty members about issues pertaining to the School’s mission of education, research, clinical care and community service. If you would like to receive these emails directly, please contact Cheryl.Welch@ucdenver.edu.