



Dean's Message:

In 2025, our school will host a site visit by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), which accredits medical schools in the U.S. and Canada, and sets high standards for the quality of educational programming at those schools. To be properly prepared for this critical visit, it is important to start planning now.

The LCME review is comprehensive, detailed, and vital to our future, and so we must commit to a sustained and focused preparatory effort over the next 24 months. The school has formed 13 committees – one for each standard evaluated by the LCME – with a total of 150 faculty members, students, and staff who have agreed to dedicate their time and energy to this effort. Associate Professor Bonnie Kaplan, MD, is serving as our designated Faculty Accreditation Lead. Task Force Co-Chair and Senior Associate Dean Shanta Zimmer, MD, and the LCME Coordinating task force will provide oversight.

Student engagement is a key cornerstone of LCME review, and our medical students will be organizing an Independent Student Analysis (ISA). The ISA will independently review LCME compliance from students' perspective and make recommendations for improvement that LCME Committees must address in our self-study.

All of these review efforts should address issues that are identified *prior to* the LCME site visit. A formal institutional kick-off of our self-study is slated for August 14, 2023. I will often be reminding you about this review effort because it is so important to our future. Our success in the accreditation process is essential for recruitment of top students and faculty, for research funding, and for ongoing philanthropic support.

In recent years, some of our peer institutions have been put on probation by the LCME. We can learn from their experiences, in addition to the reviews we have previously received from the LCME. Our self-study process is intended to focus our attention to identify and address any potential compliance gaps. When you are asked to assist in the effort, we need you to get involved.

Thank you for your dedication and service to the School of Medicine and the many communities we serve. Since our previous LCME review, we have many significant achievements worthy of recognition, including the exceptional efforts to teach, research, and provide care through the pandemic. Those accomplishments are the foundation that we build on for a better future for all.

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