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**Terence R. Flotte, MD**  
Celia and Isaac Haidak Professor of Medical Education  
Dean, School of Medicine  
Provost and Executive Deputy Chancellor, UMMS

October 5, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation process for the School of Medicine's educational program is now officially underway. My vision for our LCME 2012 accreditation is broad engagement across our educational community in a thoughtful self-review of our medical education program. This offers us the potential for transformative change, addressing areas of identified need, and celebrating our strengths and accomplishments as an organization. In broadly engaging the UMass community, I call on students, faculty, leadership, clinical system partners, community-based educational affiliates, residents and alumni to join me in this important work.

LCME accreditation consists of four distinct steps: 1) assembly of the facts—compilation of a database regarding the institutional setting, medical curriculum, students, faculty and educational resources; 2) review, analysis and critique of this database by an independent student analysis committee and a self-study task force comprised of faculty, students and administrators; 3) compilation of an Executive Report based on the self-study task force and independent student analysis; and 4) a site visit by the LCME, scheduled for March 4-7, 2012.

I view the accreditation process as an important opportunity for in-depth dialogue among our diverse constituencies that will foster ongoing innovation and change and enable us to build on past and present successes in medical education. This process will allow us to define areas of strength and weakness as well as strategies for addressing shortfalls and identified needs, in order to assure our compliance with accreditation standards and position us to meet future challenges.

Under the leadership of Michele Pugnaire, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Educational Affairs, we have an outstanding project team supporting these efforts on my behalf. The team will keep you informed via email and please feel free to visit our web site at [umassmed.edu/LCME](http://umassmed.edu/LCME) to find out more about the UMMS 2012 LCME accreditation. If you have any questions about the accreditation process, please contact the project manager, Ashton Gunn at 508-856-5134 or [ashton.gunn@umassmed.edu](mailto:ashton.gunn@umassmed.edu).

On behalf of our medical school, I thank you for your participation in this important process. Your contributions and engagement in our work are most valued and will be essential to our success.

With thanks and appreciation for your participation in this process,

Terence R. Flotte, MD  
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