

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # B-11

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE June 16, 2009

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval of a Resolution in Support of the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School's Outreach Efforts, and Support in Concept, the Recommendations Contained in the Washington Advisory Group Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the resolution in support of the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School's outreach efforts, and support in concept, the recommendations contained in the Washington Advisory Group.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-409

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1)  Approved as recommended

2)  Denied

3)  Approved as amended

4)  Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

**DISCUSSION:**

The University of California, Merced is planning a medical school, founded on a community based distributive model of medical education to serve the needs of the San Joaquin Valley and focus teaching and research on the community health needs of the region. The creation of the UC Merced Medical School will address the critical projected physician shortage and combat serious health-related illnesses that plague the San Joaquin Valley and will also expand higher education opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley.

UC Merced has retained the services of the Washington Advisory Group (WAG) to provide recommendations on the planning process for the medical school, and WAG is recommending a delay of UC Merced's current plan due to the recent economic downturn in the State of California and the nation as a whole. WAG has indicated that "the commitment to establish an independent UCM medical school is undiminished," and is recommending the development of a three phase plan, to include the following:

**Phase I:** Development of a "Biomedical Education Track" for an undergraduate pre-med program at UC Merced, to be developed as early as 2010.

**Phase II:** Development of a UC Davis/ UC Merced program for a "branch medical school" of UC Davis, to be developed as early as 2012.

**Phase III:** A fully independent UC Merced Medical School, with a distributive model program, to be developed no later than 2020.

An assessment of California's health care work force points to a shortage of up to 17,000 physicians in the State of California by 2015 and the University of California's Health Sciences Advisory Council has recommended a 34 percent increase in MD student enrollments between 2005 and 2020. The Council also recognized that medical education programs need to be developed in the San Joaquin Valley and the Inland Empire, where projected population growth rates are twice that of the rest of the state.

The San Joaquin Valley has historically been an underserved region in terms of recruiting and retaining medical professionals and has 24 percent fewer physicians and 50 percent fewer specialists than the rest of the state and UC Merced's Medical School is considered to be the single most important action available to address this shortage.

Project proponents recognize that it will take years to plan for a quality medical school, and many more years before the first medical school class is placed into

residency. Quick action is important to avoid an even more serious health care crisis in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School is comprised of elected officials, cities and counties, medical professionals, hospitals and organizations throughout the nine county region (San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern counties) of the San Joaquin Valley. The Coalition's purpose is to support the development of the medical school and to provide recommendations as to how to best develop a UC quality program that meets the needs of the San Joaquin Valley. The Coalition is engaged in ongoing outreach activities in the nine San Joaquin Valley counties in order to obtain input from the valley communities and make conceptual recommendations that will lead to the best plan to develop a UC quality program to meet the needs of San Joaquin Valley residents. Recommendations contained in the WAG report include the following:

- 1) Establish Phase III of the program by 2015 in order to meet the projected physician short fall of the state and the underserved medical needs of the San Joaquin Valley;
- 2) Incorporate medical education and clinical education at UCSF-Fresno and other locations in the San Joaquin Valley, as appropriate, during Phase II of the program;
- 3) Ensure that research is a key component of the medical school;
- 4) Provide funding for the development of the three-phase program, with the modified timeline in Phase III, as recommended in this resolution.

**POLICY ISSUES:**

This action is consistent with the Board's priorities of a healthy community and efficient delivery of public services.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date: June 16, 2009

No. 2009-409

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa Seconded by Supervisor Monteith  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

Item # \*B-11

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

RE: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PLANNING OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED MEDICAL SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the University of California, Merced is planning a medical school, founded on a community based distributive model of medical education in order to best serve the needs of the San Joaquin Valley and focus teaching and research on the community health needs of the region.

WHEREAS, the UC Merced Medical School will address the critical projected physician shortage and combat serious health-related illnesses that plague the San Joaquin Valley and will also expand higher education opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley.

WHEREAS, UC Merced retained the services of the Washington Advisory Group (WAG) to provide recommendations on the planning process for the medical school, and WAG recommends a delay of UC Merced's current plan due to the recent economic downturn in the State of California and the nation as a whole.

WHEREAS, WAG states that "the commitment to establish an independent UCM medical school is undiminished," and instead recommends the development of a three phase plan:

Phase I: Development of a "Biomedical Education Track" for an undergraduate pre-med program at UC Merced, to be developed as early as 2010.

Phase II: Development of a UC Davis/ UC Merced program for a "branch medical school" of UC Davis, to be developed as early as 2012.

Phase III: A fully independent UC Merced Medical School, with a distributive model program, to be developed no later than 2020.

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk  
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors,  
State of California



File No.

WHEREAS, Mark Yudof, President of the University of California, endorsed the WAG report in his remarks before the University of California Board of Regents on February 4, 2009, pledging to work with UC Merced on the development of the plan.

WHEREAS, assessments of California's health care work force point to a shortage of up to 17,000 physicians in the State of California by 2015 and the University of California's Health Sciences Advisory Council recommended a 34 percent increase in MD student enrollments between 2005 and 2020. The Council also recognized that medical education programs need to be developed in the San Joaquin Valley and the Inland Empire, where projected population growth rates are twice that of the rest of the state.

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley has historically been an underserved region in terms of recruiting and retaining medical professionals and has 24 percent fewer physicians and 50 percent fewer specialists than the rest of the state and UC Merced's Medical School will be the single most important action that can be taken to address this shortage.

WHEREAS, it will take years to plan for a quality medical school, and many more years before the first medical school class is placed into residency, so it is important to act now in order to avoid an even more serious health care crisis in the San Joaquin Valley.

WHEREAS, the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School is comprised of elected officials, cities and counties, medical professionals, hospitals and organizations throughout the nine county region (San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern counties) of the San Joaquin Valley whose purpose is to support the development of the medical school and to provide recommendations as to how to best develop a UC quality program that meets the needs of the San Joaquin Valley.

WHEREAS, Boards of Supervisors from the nine county region of the San Joaquin Valley have adopted resolutions in support of the development of the medical school.

WHEREAS, the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School was awarded a \$147,000 grant from the California Endowment to engage in outreach activities in the nine county region of the San Joaquin Valley in order to obtain input from these communities and make recommendations to the University of California as to how to best develop a UC quality program that meets the needs of the San Joaquin Valley.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors strongly supports the continued planning of UC Merced's Medical School;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors supports in concept the recommendations contained in the WAG report and calls upon the Board of Regents of the University of California, the University of California Office of the President and UC Merced officials to:

- 1) Establish Phase III of the program by 2015 in order to meet the projected physician short fall of the state and the underserved medical needs of the San Joaquin Valley;
- 2) Incorporate medical education and clinical education at UCSF-Fresno and other locations in the San Joaquin Valley, as appropriate, during Phase II of the program;
- 3) Ensure that research is a key component of the medical school;

Provide funding for the development of the three-phase program, with the modified timeline in Phase III, as recommended in this resolution.