



FACULTY OF MEDICINE | UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary I send you a warm, western welcome to Alberta. It is a pleasure to be the host faculty for CCME 2012 – Global health and Medical Education: Beyond Boundaries.

In Alberta we are stretching the boundaries of health care with our Alberta Academic Health Network (AAHN), our province wide health sciences centre. The University of Calgary is partnering with the University of Alberta and Alberta Health Services in embracing a new vision of academic health care. The goal is to create a fully integrated approach to health care by linking clinical services, health education and research to create new knowledge, improve healthcare delivery and improve the health of Albertans.

The University of Calgary's Faculty of Medicine is also stretching boundaries in areas such as our Global Health and International Partnerships Program. We have active programs in Laos, Kenya, Tanzania, Sudan and the Philippines and partnerships with two Chinese universities. This year will see the graduation of the first MSc students from the new Public Health Program we co-sponsored with Bugundo University in Tanzania.

The Faculty of Medicine is very diverse, including 62 residencies, six different education programs, and our MD students enjoy a unique three year academic program based upon clinical presentations, which includes interaction with patients in the first year. Unlike many faculties, we have an undergraduate science program called the Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc) program. The research-intensive program attracts the University of Calgary's top students and focuses on various aspects of health and health research. We have 2400 students enrolled in MSc and PhD programs in basic sciences, community health, and medical education.

The university's academic foundations – student success, excellence in research, scholarship and creative activity, interdisciplinary education, and return to community – guide and inform everything the faculty undertakes.

All of this is happening in one of Canada's most dynamic cities, Calgary, just a short one-hour drive from Banff National Park – one of Canada's most famous mountain playgrounds and where we are hosting this conference.

This week you will get a chance to view the Rocky Mountains, experience a traditional western barbecue, and hear about innovative medical education programming.

Also top of mind at the conference will be the 'Future of Medical Education' post graduate training document (FMEC-PG). This follows on the success of the Future of Medical Education in Canada (FMEC-MD Education report in 2010. The post graduate training report will include complementary recommendations to the 2010 report and is our blueprint for dynamic improvements in residency education in Canada.

Welcome to Calgary, Banff and Alberta. We hope you enjoy the conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Feasby', is displayed within a light gray rectangular box.

Tom Feasby, MD
Dean, Faculty of Medicine
University of Calgary