

III. College of Osteopathic Medicine

MEDICAL EDUCATION

As an academic health center, the College of Osteopathic Medicine (OUCOM) is uniquely qualified to perform the tripartite mission of educating health professionals, innovating through scientific research, and providing advanced care for patients whose options for such care are limited. Today's medical economics requires that academic health centers also adapt to changes in the health care industry. Toward that end, OUCOM adjusted its financial plan in FY 2001 and initiated measures for advancement into the 2002 fiscal year.

Responsive to changing requirements, OUCOM initiated a comprehensive practice plan review that is currently underway. Recommendations from the review are forthcoming in the late spring of 2001. While Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine plans to phase in recommendations during the 2001-2002 fiscal year, preliminary budget planning takes place in advance of the outcome of the practice plan review.

To be most effective in improving health, academic health centers must partner with the full spectrum of health providers, business, government and the surrounding community to better understand health needs and achieve service and research objectives. COM and other colleges and units of Ohio University are forging such a partnership, working together to provide programs and facilities responsive to the academic needs of Ohio University and the health care needs of the Appalachian region it serves. Efforts to bring the most valuable health resources to the region include:

- Development of a business plan and a preliminary design for new comprehensive clinical facilities;
- Planning and funding for the Center for Appalachian Health Care Research; and
- Initiating a curriculum conference and responding to a request for proposal on alternative medicine with a focus on Chinese medicine and therapies.

Additionally, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine will continue planning and implementation to extend the new Clinical Presentation Curriculum (CPC) into years three and four of the medical education continuum. During the period of intensive development COM must simultaneously develop, deliver, assess and refine all aspects of the CPC offered for 80 percent of the medical class. To meet the demands of the new curriculum Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine will:

- Assess and provide necessary faculty and teaching resources;
- Expand the capacity of the Learning Resources Center to match the requirement for greater student directed learning and meet other requirements for small group meeting space; and
- Implement a plan to upgrade information technology serving the academic programs of the college.

With these initiatives underway, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine submits its budget, which incorporates independent assessments and recommendations that are unique to its revenue and expenditure plan. In fiscal year 2000-2001, the college's budget responded to the financial challenges it faced necessitating appropriate budgetary adjustments. A strategy of tuition increase, voluntary unit reduction, and attrition savings from unfilled positions allowed the college to successfully adjust revenue and expenses within available resources. Beginning in the 2000-2001 fiscal year, the Ohio University Board of Trustees adopted a three year plan to increase Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine tuition toward the state assumption which was \$15,105 at that time, a level more consistent with medical schools in the state and other public osteopathic medical schools nationally. The proposed budget for fiscal year 2001-2002 continues implementation of that proposal for the second year of the plan; the state assumption for medical school tuition has been revised to \$16,037.

Budget planning of the College of Osteopathic Medicine has proceeded independently, but in conjunction with planning activities of the Athens General Programs and Regional Higher Education.

REVENUE

The fiscal year 2001-2002 budget plan is set forth in a more favorable environment. While state appropriations increase modestly (2%) in the proposed budget, and tuition increases 9%, consistent with the three-year plan, physician practice plan performance regained strength and stability. The practice plan revenue rebounded and is budgeted at prior levels of return.

A six percent increase is projected for the general fee consistent with the Athens general program. OUCOM is requesting additional laboratory fees of \$125.00 per student per year for medical students in years one and two of the curriculum to cover the escalating expense of laboratory materials and supplies.

State appropriations, tuition and fee charges and other operating income estimates represent 77.1% of the College's overall budget. The remaining 22.9% includes restricted state and federal grants and contracts as well as restricted state health manpower line items (family practice, primary care, geriatrics and area health education centers) representing the majority of the remaining sources of revenue.

EXPENDITURE PLAN

Revenue projections for the college-supported salary show an increase of 3% for contract faculty and administrators, and classified and bargaining unit staff, consistent with the Athens general program recommendations. The budget is also increased to reflect higher health care insurance rates projected for fiscal year 2001-2002.

Support for academic programs increased by 12.89 percent. Part of the explanation for this growth is the printed budget amounts from last year assumed a 3% compensation increase. After the budget had gone to print, a decision was made to conform to the University's 4.25% compensation increase. Expenditures incorporate a 20% increase in grant funding for research and service programs. Restricted revenue includes grants awarded to OUCOM faculty who are a part of the Edison Bio-Technology Center. Administrative expenditures for FY 2001-2002 have been reduced from FY 2000-2001, reflecting a continued effort to reduce costs.

A summary of the fiscal year 2001-2002 income and expenditure plan for the College is presented on page E.9. This table and the graph on page E.10 provide an explanation for expenditures for academic and research departments and college service units.