Dear Faculty, Students and Staff,

As the Thanksgiving holiday draws near, I want to take a moment to reflect and give thanks. I am fortunate to be a part of the RowanSOM family and to be a part of the great achievements that you—our faculty, students and staff—work hard to accomplish. I am thankful that I have this monthly communication to showcase your efforts not only to the greater RowanSOM community, but to outside key constituents, as well. Thank you for all that you do to enrich our campus community.

Dean’s Forum

On October 28th, I held the first Dean’s Forum since our integration into Rowan University. While we continue to work through many integration issues as we align our systems, policies and processes with Rowan’s, key measures indicate that the restructuring has not affected our school’s success. Our applicant pools for undergraduate and graduate medical education are the largest and the strongest ever. We maintain our competitiveness for extramural funding, and anticipate opportunities for new research collaborations with engineering, business and liberal arts fields as part of Rowan. We continue to expand our partnerships with many academic and healthcare organizations throughout the state. The findings of a recent focused site visit from our accrediting body, the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) were very positive. We have strong support from the Rowan leadership in Glassboro, who see RowanSOM as key to the attainment of the University’s strategic goals, and want to work with us as we strive to attain our vision to be the best osteopathic medical school in the nation.

The sixth annual “Calling All Angels” Gala to benefit the Child Abuse Research, Education and Service (CARES) Institute was held on October 24th at Lucien’s Manor in Berlin. The sold-out event welcomed over 450 attendees and raised approximately $115,000. The Gala, organized by the CARES Advisory Board, serves to bring attention to the mission and work of the Institute. For over 25 years, the CARES Institute has provided interdisciplinary, evidence-based medical and mental health services to children, families and developmentally challenged adults suffering from abuse, violence or neglect.

“Calling All Angels” Gala Raises Support for CARES Institute

RowanSOM’s Family Medicine Club and AMSA Chapter Sponsor “Primary Care Week” Activities

RowanSOM’s Family Medicine Club and chapter of American Medical Student Association (AMSA) organized “Primary Care Week” on the Stratford campus October 28 through November 1, 2013. A collaboration of 16 RowanSOM clubs, “Primary Care Week” highlighted the importance of primary care medicine. The week kicked off on Monday, October 28th with a lunch program entitled, “The Future of Primary Care”
Family Medicine Club and AMSA Chapter Sponsor “Primary Care Week” Activities continued...

Family Medicine Club and AMSA Chapter Sponsor “Primary Care Week” Activities continued... presented by keynote speaker Dr. Jeffrey Grove, President of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP). On Wednesday, October 30th, Dr. Aisha Bailey, Instructor, Pediatrics, led a workshop entitled “OMM Integration into Pediatric Medicine.” Throughout the week, invited guests presented panel discussions and speeches on such topics as “Women’s Roles in Women’s Health,” “The Different Faces of Primary Care” and “Roadmap to Patient Centric Primary Care.” On Friday, November 1st, Congressman Robert Andrews (D-NJ) visited the campus for a Town Hall Meeting concerning Graduate Medical Education (GME). Congressman Andrews addressed questions regarding Congress’s actions to preserve funding for residency training positions and how the government is responding to a looming physician shortage, affecting not only New Jersey, but the entire nation.

RowanGSBS Holds Fall Research Retreat

The Rowan University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (RowanGSBS) held its Fall Research Retreat on October 25th on Rowan’s Glassboro campus. Forty-four students and 31 faculty and staff members attended the retreat, featuring a keynote address, “Molecular Architecture and Function of the Microtubule Cytoskeleton,” by Princeton University’s Dr. Sabine Petry. The event included three platform and 35 poster presentations. The Fall Research Retreat is held annually to encourage graduate students to network and share their research findings with faculty, staff and students from Rowan University and other local universities.

Food and Fun at the Annual Alumni/Student Fall Festival

The 7th Annual Alumni/Student Fall Festival, co-sponsored by the Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) and the RowanSOM Alumni Association, was held on Wednesday, October 23rd in the Academic Center. Students, faculty, staff, friends and family enjoyed door prizes, food and activities such as Sumo wrestling, pie toss, basketball free throw, face painting and other skill games. The “Mentor of the Year” award was presented to Dr. Linda Boyd, Professor of Family Medicine and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Proceeds raised from the event will help support student club projects.
First Alumni Reunion as RowanSOM Offers Chance to Reconnect

Over 100 alumni, faculty and guests celebrated the school’s first Alumni Reunion as RowanSOM, held on Saturday, November 16th, at the Mansion on Main Street in Voorhees, NJ. Graduates from 12 different classes spent an enjoyable evening reconnecting with classmates, friends and faculty. While an emphasis was placed on celebrating the school’s legacy through a media presentation that rekindled many memories, the reunion also provided an opportunity, the first one for many of our alumni, to learn more about Rowan University, and SOM’s exciting plans for its future as part of Southern New Jersey’s own, newly-designated comprehensive public research university. The next RowanSOM alumni reunion will be held in 2015.

Be Vigilant, Help Keep our Campus Safe

Twice recently, thanks to calls from students and personnel, unauthorized individuals were removed from our campus and apprehended by Public Safety. We are fortunate to have a campus that overall is a safe environment, and a Public Safety force that does a great job of helping us keep it that way. However, campus safety is everyone’s responsibility, and Public Safety relies upon us to alert them when we observe suspicious people or behavior on campus. Unfortunately, such activities are likely to increase around the holiday season, when there are more crimes of opportunity. In the event that you see activities or individuals that make you uncomfortable, please call 911. This call will be routed to the Camden County dispatch center, which will relay the call to Rowan Public Safety personnel on duty on the Stratford Campus for the most rapid response. Also, now that the days are shorter, please remember that Public Safety offers escort services to your car upon request if you are studying or working late. For this service and for any routine, non-emergency services, please call (856) 256-4922, which is the general dispatch center for Rowan University Public Safety.
Upcoming Events

“Key Essentials for Optimizing Patient Care”
CME Program
December 7, 2013 through January 11, 2014
An opportunity to earn 10 AOA Category 1A CME credits in the two remaining sessions!
For more information or to register for this series, contact Michele Mesica at 856.566.6358 or email mesiscmi@rowan.edu.

Holiday Food Drive
Now through December 13th
Help the Food Bank of South Jersey feed the hungry in our area this holiday season. Donation bins will be set up in the Academic Center Atrium, University Doctors Pavilion lobby, University Educational Center and Science Center to collect the following:
Canned goods (vegetables, beans, soups, fruit, tuna, etc.);
dry boxed goods (cereals, potatoes, rice, pasta, macaroni & cheese), peanut butter, jelly, dry milk

Unity Tree Celebration & Holiday Food Drive

Unity Tree Celebration
Monday, December 9th • 12 pm
Academic Center Atrium

RowanSOM Faculty Meeting
Tuesday, December 17th - 7 am
Multi-Purpose Room, Academic Center

My best regards,

Dr. Thomas A. Cavalieri, Dean