

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Paul J. Wagstaffe, General Counsel
California Northstate University
9700 West Taron Drive, Elk Grove, California 95757
Telephone: (916) 716-6627 Facsimile: (916) 488-5957
Email: pjwagstaffe@gmail.com Website: www.cnsu.edu

CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ACHIEVES PRELIMINARY ACCREDITATION

On June 10, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the governing body for all medical schools in the United States and Canada, granted approval to California Northstate University College of Medicine (CNUCOM) to begin enrollment of students for the study of medicine for this fall semester 2015. This is the crown jewel for the University, which also has a college of pharmacy and undergraduate college of health sciences.

The State of California will now have a new medical college located in Elk Grove. CNU College of Medicine utilizes an integrated approach to teaching medicine. Each student will spend the first two years on campus and the third and fourth years in hospital and clinical settings. They will receive the MD degree upon completion of the required training.

California Northstate University College of Medicine was founded under the academic leadership of President Alvin Cheung, PharmD, MHSA; Dean Joseph Silva, MD; Senior Associate Dean of Medical Education and Accreditation Ralitsa Akins, MD, PhD; Senior Associate Dean of Clinical Medicine Gordon A. Wong, MD and over 350 faculty in both basic science and clinical medicine. The College of Medicine was established primarily by a large number of practicing physicians and pharmacists who were very concerned with the shortage of the primary care physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. The College of Medicine's focused mission is: "To advance healthcare through innovative education, service, research, and social accountability."

In 2010, the California Northstate University Board of Trustees under the leadership of Chair Candace Fong, PharmD, approved the new medical college. The medical community throughout Northern California was encouraging and enthusiastic in its support to assist in establishing the College of Medicine. Among the early supporters were Physicians-in-Chiefs from Kaiser Permanente Drs. Richard Isaacs, Robert Azevedo, and Chris Palkowski; VPs of Medical Affairs for Dignity Health: Drs. John Morelli, Mark Owens, Amir Sweha, and Peter Murphy; Drs. Joseph Martel and Jim Martel of Eye Medical Group; Laurie Harting, Senior Vice President of Operations for Dignity Health; Drs. Azad Sheikh, Carl Hsu Pediatric; John Chin, Cardiology at Sutter Health, Hanns Haesslein, OBGYN, Janak Mehtani Psychiatry, Jeff Rodgerson Emergency Medicine, and Lai Neuzil Neurology. Community support and encouragement came from Gary Davis, Mayor of the City of Elk Grove; Nancy Chaires, City of Elk Grove Planning Commissioner; State Senator Dr. Richard Pan; Congresswoman Doris Matsui.

Dr. Joe Silva, the Founding Dean, commented: "It has been a fulfilling experience to work with such a group of enthusiastic, dedicated, and high caliber physicians. With their support along with leaders in the hospitals in Sacramento, California Northstate University's vision of an integrated high quality campus of colleges will realize the dream of CNU's founders and President Cheung."