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October 3, 2011

Yocasta Brugal, MD
President and Dean
San Juan Bautista School of Medicine
Apartado 4968
Caguas, PR 00726-4968

Dear President Brugal:

This letter is to advise you of the action taken by the Independent Appeals Panel (the “Panel”) appointed by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) to hear the final appeal of the LCME’s decision to withdraw accreditation from the educational program leading to the MD degree at the San Juan Bautista School of Medicine (SJB). Following the September 12, 2011 appeal hearing, in keeping with the *Process for Appeal of an Adverse Action: Denial or Withdrawal of Accreditation*, the Panel met in executive session to review the proceedings and to reach its decision.

The Panel affirmed the LCME’s decision to withdraw accreditation from the medical education program. This decision is effective October 3, 2011. This decision constitutes the final decision of the LCME on this matter. A copy of the Panel’s final report is enclosed.

The LCME will make available to the public, on the LCME website, a notification of the decision to withdraw accreditation from the medical education program, and the reason for the action, as required by The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 1965, as amended. In addition, the US Department of Education (the “USDE”), the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (“Middle States”), the Federation of State Medical Boards, the Puerto Rico Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline, and the Council on Higher Education of Puerto Rico have been notified. The Panel’s final report will be distributed to the USDE and to Middle States, but will otherwise remain confidential. Any public dissemination of the report will be at the discretion of SJB officials.

Upon receipt of this letter, the program must immediately notify all enrolled students, all applicants accepted for enrollment, and all applicants seeking enrollment, that LCME

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accreditation has been withdrawn. The program must also provide the LCME Secretariat with a copy of such notification promptly thereafter.

The program has the opportunity to provide official comment on this decision to the USDE. If you choose to do so, please send it to the address below and provide a copy to the LCME so that, if requested, it can provide a copy to the public. A copy of this letter will be displayed on the LCME website, as evidence that the LCME notified SJB of its right to make official comments available to the public.

US Department of Education
Accreditation Group
Office of Post Secondary Education
Attn: Ms. Kay Gilcher, Director
1990 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) will be notified of this decision. In the past, the AAMC has assisted displaced students seeking to transfer to an LCME-accredited program. We believe similar assistance will be provided to SJB students who seek it.

Sincerely,



Barbara Barzansky, PhD, MHPE, LCME Secretary, 2011-2012



Dan Hunt, MD, MBA, LCME Secretary, 2012-2013

enc: Final Report of the Independent Appeals Panel
Transcript of September 12, 2011 Appeals Panel Hearing

cc: Lynn D. Fleisher, PhD, JD, LCME Legal Counsel