PROJECT 125 AND BEYOND

Greetings! The University has recently completed its strategic plan entitled Strategic Plan Project 125. This plan will serve as the foundation for programs and activities with the University. Five major goals were identified: 1) Enhance Creighton University’s national identity and focus its dedication to mission 2) Nurture Creighton’s academic excellence 3) Create a diverse human community of students, faculty and staff at Creighton 4) Provide a dynamic environment for Creighton Students and 5) Ensure overall financial stability for Creighton University and its schools and colleges. In my role as Vice President for Health Sciences I will be working with the Health Science deans to operationalize each of these goals.

Goal #3 is extremely important since it relates to students’ activities. As Vice President for Health Sciences I am deeply committed to enhancing student and faculty diversity. Creighton was one of only 11 schools nationwide to be awarded a Center of Excellence grant to promote diversity. I will be working with Dr. Kosoko-Lasaki and her colleagues on this important initiative. At the Fall medical school faculty meeting, I relayed to the faculty that there will be zero tolerance for discrimination or harassment in any format. Goal #4 speaks to the creation of a dynamic environment for Creighton students. In the School of Medicine our education program will continue to evolve to incorporate additional opportunities for development of self-directed, life long learning skills. We have a great opportunity to incorporate information technology within our curriculum to promote learning and a life-long connection to Creighton.

This is an exciting time at Creighton. The LCME site visit team that visited our School of Medicine in October was laudatory of our students and faculty. Creighton along with the University of Nebraska was awarded the prestigious Outstanding Community Service Award at the annual meeting of the Association of American Medial Colleges in November. Father Sehlegel has announced plans for continued growth of the campus via a campus master plan extending over the next 10 - 15 years. We are proud of our students and faculty and look forward to the next chapter in the history of Creighton University. I want to wish you all happy holidays and I look forward to seeing you in the year 2004.

Cam Enarson, MD, MBA
VP for Health Sciences
Dean, School of Medicine

WELCOME!! DEAN, SCHOOL OF PHARMACY & HEALTH PROFESSIONS

J. Chris Bradberry PhD earned his baccalaureate in pharmacy and masters degree in hospital pharmacy from the University of Louisiana at Monroe. He completed his doctor of pharmacy degree at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center, Memphis and his residency in pharmacy at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. Dr. Bradberry served as Chief Pharmacy Officer, Chinle Health Center, Indian Health Service, US Public Health Service and he has practiced in both community and institutional pharmacy. He has been on the faculty at the University of Nebraska, the University of Texas, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Tennessee. Until August 1, 2003, Dr. Bradberry was Professor, Departments of Pharmacy and Family Medicine, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis. Most recently, Dr. Bradberry has been appointed Dean, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions at Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Bradberry is active in a number of professional organizations including, APhA, ASHP, ACCP, American Heart Association, and the American Diabetes Association. He has held offices in local and state pharmacy organizations as well as national offices in ASHP, and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. He is a member of the Specialty Council of the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties, a past member of the Board of Directors of the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education, a member of the National Pharmacy Cardiovascular Council, a Fellow in the American Society of Health-system Pharmacists, and Fellow of the American Heart Association. Dr. Bradberry is a consultant to a number of pharmaceutical companies in the areas of cardiovascular drug therapy management. Dr. Bradberry has clinical and research interests in dyslipidemias; outcomes of pharmacist management of hypercholesterolemia; compensation for cognitive services; and the management and outcomes of cardiovascular risk reduction in the ambulatory environment.

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**SUMMER SUCCESS FOR NEW SRI MENTOR AND STUDENT**

Congratulations to Laura Romito-Cera, DDS, MS a first time mentor in the Summer Research Institute for Minority students program. Dr. Romito-Cera is a 1988 graduate of Ohio State University. She completed a General Practice Residency at University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1989. She practiced general dentistry in Ohio and Iowa before joining the faculty of the Creighton University School of Dentistry in 1995. Dr. Romito-Cera received a M.S. degree in Health Promotion from Nebraska Methodist College in 2001. Karine Calixte a Senior at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida participated in the Summer Research Institute for Minority Students in 2003. Their poster presentation and abstract, “Tobacco Use Among Patients Receiving Emergency and Comprehensive Care in an Urban Dental School Clinic” was accepted for presentation at the 81st Annual Session and Exhibition of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), to be held in Seattle, March 6-9, 2004. The abstract and time of their presentation will appear in the February issue of the Journal of Dental Education, as well as on the ADEA web site. In addition, their published paper may also appear in the Journal of Dental Education.

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**THE MENTOR’S GUIDE**

This section is to guide the mentor-mentee program that was created in HS-MACA at Creighton University a few years ago. We now have more than sixty partners and the group continues to evolve. Mentoring can be a powerful growth experience for both the mentor and the mentee. The Mentors would learn new things about themselves and about their mentee. In this edition of HS-MACA newsletter, I will talk about the growth experience. In future editions, I would talk about the process of successful mentoring, and how to focus on the mentee.

**The Growth Experience of Mentoring**

The mentor is looked upon as the “expert” by the mentee. But for individuals, who may have never experienced formal mentoring, it is important for the mentor to discover and gain a powerful insight into the culture of the mentee. Since the mentoring program in HS-MACA does not pair individuals by race, it is assumed that the mentor would be culturally sensitive to the needs of the mentee, who may be of a different race. Mentors must have a clear understanding of their own journey so that they can impact only their positive experiences on the mentee. In order to achieve this, the mentor must identify opportunities that have allowed growth and development, identify events that have not been so pleasant and must be able and willing to use these experiences in their own development as mentors. The role of the mentor ultimately is to facilitate learning such that the knowledge impacted on the mentee would translate into positive experiences for all.

Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH
(Adapted from “the Mentor’s Guide” by L. J. Zachary.)

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**CREIGHTON PREP STUDENT RECEIVES AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

Michael Ramirez was one of 65 students selected from the United States and Puerto Rico to participate in the High School Summer Research Program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and Charles Drew University. Mike’s 12-week research project conducted at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska, culminated with an oral presentation titled, “The Role of Ceramide in Oxidized Low-Density Lipoprotein-induced Apoptosis in Human Coronary Smooth Muscle Cells” at the National Institutes for Health in Washington, D.C., where an Award of Excellence in Oral Presentation was bestowed upon him. A similarly titled article is currently in press through the National Institutes of Health.

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES $1.7 MILLION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE GRANT

The Office of Health Sciences’ Multicultural and Community Affairs and Creighton University Medical Center’s School of Medicine has received a three-year, $1.7 million grant as a Center of Excellence (COE) from the U.S. Department in minority education of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Creighton is one of only 11 universities throughout the U.S. to receive a COE grant. The COE program serves as a catalyst for institutions seeking to train students from minority groups in order to build a more diverse health care workforce. Creighton’s Office of Health Sciences’ Multicultural and Community Affairs will use COE fund to focus on boosting the academic performance of underrepresented minority medical students, encouraging medical school graduates to provide health care to underserved people, and raising the recruitment and retention rates of minority faculty in the School of Medicine.

“With the COE grant, we can continue our commitment to recruiting, educating, developing and challenging the potential of minority students and faculty, thus improving the quality of healthcare to the diverse U.S. Population,” said Dr. Kosoko-Lasaki, M.D., M.S.P.H., associate vice president for Health Sciences’ Multicultural and Community Affairs. Dr. Kosoko-Lasaki led a collaborative effort among associate and assistant deans in the School of Medicine to obtain the grant. Dr. Cam Enarson Vice President and Dean of the Medical School is a co-director of this initiative.

$1.3 MILLION HCOP AWARD

Creighton University is once again the recipient of award for the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP). This $1.3 million award will provide a Pipeline to Success for high school, college, and medical post-baccalaureate students from disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue careers in the medical, dental and allied health professions over the next three years. HCOP enhances the academic skills of students from disadvantaged backgrounds and supports them in successfully competing, entering and graduating from health professions training programs. This will be accomplished through partnership with Omaha Public Schools to provide mentoring, and other training activities throughout the academic year and an intensive summer program.

HS—MACA STARTS SATURDAY ACADEMY

The Center of Excellence Saturday Academy (CESA) is a 27-week, six hours per day program conducted on Saturdays throughout the academic year. This program is designed to enable 80 minority high school students to excel in their academic course work, expand their quests for knowledge, and motivate them to enroll in higher level course work. CESA provides enrichment activities in math, reading, and writing.

Students in ninth through eleventh grade at time of application. A student must have a "C" or better grade average in math and science. CESA program activities are held on the Creighton University campus.
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RESERVE MY SEAT!
POST-BACCALAUREATE REUNION

Basketball Game
Creighton Bluejays vs. Southern Illinois University
Saturday, February 7th  3:00 P.M.
Post Game Reception to follow
___ # tickets (2 Complimentary tickets)
___ # additional tickets $9.00 each

Reunion Brunch
with Father John P. Schlegel, President of CU
Sunday, February 8th  10:00
___ # attending

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