

## **ACTION ITEM #7**

### **Establishment of the College of Medical Sciences (Daniel J. Bernardo)**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

**PROPOSED:** That the Board of Regents approve the establishment of the College of Medical Sciences effective May, 2014.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Daniel J. Bernardo, Provost and Executive Vice President

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION:** The College of Medical Sciences will bring together the WWAMI medical education program and the department of Speech and Hearing Sciences (SHS) with a common mission of educating clinicians and clinician scientists. Currently, 18 faculty members teach in the WWAMI medical education program in Spokane. The faculty are appointed in various units across the university, including department in the College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Arts and Sciences, and the College of Pharmacy. Formation of the College of Medical Sciences will provide a common administrative home for all of these faculty as well as newly recruited Medical Sciences faculty,

This unit will pursue breakthrough advances in human health in partnership with other WSU colleges and partner with affiliated hospitals and with an anticipated growing private-sector biomedical research and development industry in Spokane and the region.

The Northwest states need more medical students to address the growing shortage of physicians in our region, especially in rural communities. The State of Washington is overdue for a significant growth in medical education and with a growing presence in all fields of health care WSU is uniquely positioned to meet this need.

This action was reviewed by Academic Affairs Committee, the Graduate Studies Committee, the Research and Arts Committee, and the Faculty Affairs Committee. They all reviewed the Compendium of comment and concerns and at the February 6th, 2014 steering committee meeting, it

was discussed and approved. The Faculty Senate approved it on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.