To: UF College of Dentistry,

On May 3, we officially begin our journey to develop a new Strategic Plan that will serve as the guiding framework for our college’s priorities and growth for the next five years.

From May 3-5, Bob Berendt, our strategic planning consultant will be in Gainesville to meet with the strategic planning steering committee, launch four workgroups, and interview several leaders at the university and health science center.

I want to thank everyone who has agreed to participate in this process, including those of you who completed the brief online survey to gather your perceptions of UFCD’s strengths and weaknesses, as well as the opportunities and challenges you see facing dental education today and in the future. I have found the feedback to be very thoughtful, covering a range of topics that are critically important to address in depth through the working groups.

The richness of the comments conveys a clear passion, commitment and engagement in this collaborative process and the amount of positive comments from so many of you underscores your collective pride and belief in our college’s future.

We have created four working groups to focus on research, education, patient care, and institutional growth, support and advancement.

Alabama State students visit to learn about UF SHPEP

On March 30, the UF colleges of medicine, nursing, dentistry and public health & health professions played host to Alabama State’s BioMed Club to educate the group on the work of, and education behind, each profession. You can read more about their visit here.

Important Dates

May 13 - Senior Banquet
May 19 - Commencement
May 22 - UF SHPEP begins
June 18 - White Coat Ceremony
June 22-24 - FDA Convention
Visit the online calendar for more info.

continued
A new page has been added to the shared governance area of our website here that will be updated as we move through this process. We are aiming for a completion date of December 2017 with a timeline that includes feedback/open sessions in town hall meetings during the process. The page also includes reference documents that you might find interesting, including the ADEA Snapshot of Dental Education for 2016-2017 and a Chronicle of Higher Education publication “The Decade Ahead.”

There are many outside considerations that are important to incorporate into our plan – the changing landscape of academic dentistry, emerging technologies for teaching and delivering oral health care, and changes in the way we deliver education, scientific achievements, and fund all of these pursuits.

We are living in a dynamic time and being prepared to adapt to unforeseen changes is a key consideration for all organizations – ours’ included. We also have an eye on the university and the UF Health strategic plans to ensure our plan both supports and benefits from those plans.

As with the accreditation self-study process, our college gains value from the process of developing a strategic plan as much as we do in having a road map for our future. The planning process allows us to hit the ‘pause’ button on today and, instead, spend some time looking to our future and planning for what we want that future to hold.

In articulating our common goals and what our measures of success will be, we can better focus our energies and resources to ensuring this college’s continued excellence as an institution and great place to learn, discover and provide care.

Regards,

Dean Isabel Garcia

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**Strategic Planning Process**

**Suggested topics for working groups**

**Research**
- Support/enhance existing programs
- Opportunities for new areas of research
- Strategic opportunities & partnerships
- Research infrastructure
- Productivity

**Education**
- Predoctoral and advanced education
- Interprofessional education
- Instructional technology
- Cutting edge/innovative curriculum
- Recruitment/Scholarships
- On-line opportunities

**Patient Care**
- Quality and patient satisfaction
- Efficiency and effectiveness
- Interdisciplinary care models
- Inter and intraprofessional referrals
- Marketing and customer service

**Institutional Growth, Support & Advancement**
- Faculty development/support
- Growth and diversification of revenues
- Building & infrastructure needs
- Organizational structure
- UFCD marketing and visibility
- Philanthropy/alumni/giving
- Environmental health and wellness

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Strategic Planning Process

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