

UH Medical School Academic Perspective

Benefits

Engagement and Distinctiveness

- Medical School clinics and services enhance community engagement with the Third Ward towards the President's goals set for that initiative which could not be carried out without a medical school and its community engagement (health disparity interventions, etc.).

Interdisciplinary Practice and Academic Offerings

- Provides the opportunity for a "highly engaged" medical school to interact with other units on campus that use health-related areas for faculty scholarship such as the Department of History, Sociology, Economics and the Arts. For example, in its annual report, the UCF College of Medicine discusses the benefits of partnering to foster "limitless" science: (1) Engineering micro/nano particles for more effective delivery of drugs, (2) Computerized training for neurosurgeons, (3) Assessments of conventional vs. robotic cardiac surgery and (4) The use of game technology to better teach STEM content to diverse students. In its annual report, FSU reports on the benefits of interdisciplinary work in addressing health disparities in the state of Florida. At FSU, a professor from Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine led an interdisciplinary team of researchers on the study of children with Type II diabetes with respect to how they are treated in school settings.
- Provides the opportunity for existing health-related programs to share physical infra-structure and resources with the medical school, such as new teaching labs, clinical practice space, etc.
- Provides opportunities for curriculum integration and inter-professional training for medical and health-related professional students, an essential element for training the next generation of primary care physicians and health-care professionals who work collaboratively in community-based settings.
- Provides the opportunity to create some unique partnerships around health disparities with varying levels of involvement from academic units on campus to foster the development of dual degree offerings at the graduate level:
 - Health Care Management Masters leading to a MD.
 - BA and MA in Health Communication leading to a PhD in Health Communication.

- MD/MBA Offering
- Provides the opportunity to develop degree offerings in academic departments, such as music, arts, sociology, business, focused on health-related topics (Medical Humanities, Music Therapy, Medical Sociology, Business Management of Medical Practice, etc.), which will gain prominence and credibility from having a medical school on campus.

Faculty/Student Incentives

- Opportunity for increased expansion of health-related undergraduate pipe-line programs in biomedical sciences, biomedical engineering, social sciences, nursing and honors college programs, especially if a certain number of UH medical school slots are set aside for students who have graduated from UH pre-med programs.
- Opportunity to create joint faculty appointments between the new medical school and existing academic programs. This is especially relevant for existing faculty members with expertise of value in the medical school core curriculum, and new medical school faculty members that require an academic appointment to conduct their research.
- The development of a practice plan for medical school faculty will provide parallel opportunities for other faculty with clinical expertise to generate clinical income (i.e. Psychology, Social Work, Optometry, Pharmacy, Communications Disorders, etc.).
- New funding opportunities that directly support the medical research activities of the faculty and students involved in the medical school, including the more long-term goal of conducting Phase 1, 2 and 3 clinical trials of pharmaceutical agents and medical device technologies.
- Increased funding opportunities to support the research activities of the faculty and students in existing health and health-related fields (i.e. Nursing, Pharmacy, Optometry, Social Work, Education, CLASS – Psychology, Sociology, Communication Disorders and HHP) linked directly to the access granted through the medical school to clinical practice sites and clinical populations.
- Increased funding opportunities for faculty to conduct health-related research in non-health related academic disciplines such as health disparities, health education, health public policy, health economic policy, health business operations and health law. While this type of research funding is not always directly related to an institution having a medical school, the synergies created by having a medical school on-site appears to increase the success rate in attracting this type of funding.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

- Provide pathways for technology transition and commercialization of novel health-related concepts, ideas and technologies created by or in conjunction with the medical school which realistically can only be achieved by accessing the clinical expertise of a medical faculty and infrastructure afforded by a medical school.
- Building on the existing innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem at UH (i.e. UH I-Corps, Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship, RED LABS, UH Innovation Center), the medical school will create development opportunities and commercialization pathways for new clinically oriented technologies in medical devices, health-related data analytics, drug development and advances in clinical practice arising from fundamental or applied research already underway at UH in the biomedical science, engineering, optometry, psychology, health & human performance and pharmacy areas.

Prestige and Rankings

- Effort would create some level of parity with TMC particularly as this concerns biomedical science and our work with communicable diseases.
- Pharmacy School would become eligible for targeted funding in the way it is not currently because of the lack of a Medical School at UH.
- Provides the opportunity to serve as a venue for garnering intellectual talents of faculty toward addressing pressing social issues, especially in the health disparities area.
- Our national standing would rise due to fact that medical schools attract health related fields that thrive on research and generate research dollars. The FSU College of Medicine, for example, garnered a \$10.4 million NIMH grant to study children and autism. In addition, a review of three medical schools that are of comparable size and mission to UH and using data (normalized data to the year when the school first received accreditation given that the faculty hiring and investments must have taken place in the prior two years before receiving accreditation), three important conclusions are:
 1. Overall Research Expenditures in general went up after the starting of a College of medicine.
 2. Overall NIH related research funding awards went up significantly.
 3. Expenditures by colleges such as Engineering significantly rose.