

# SEAMO NEWSLETTER

2002 February 13

## SEAMO Receives Increased Funding for 2002

Having satisfied the conditions of the funding agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, SEAMO has received for calendar year 2002 an adjustment to its funding.

### 2% Base Adjustment

SEAMO received a 1.95% adjustment to its "physician compensation amount". The SEAMO Governing Committee has allocated this increase directly to departments. Departments through their own allocative processes will dispense these funds as they deem desirable.

### Academic Enhancement Funding

Having submitted its 2001/2002 Annual Plan, SEAMO received additional \$1.4 million. In commenting on the Plan, Assistant Deputy Minister, David McCutcheon, asked if the Ministry could provide the plan to others interested in alternative funding to serve as a template for such reports.

SEAMO Governors approved the use of the academic enhancement fund for new and necessary positions. Notwithstanding this approval, Governors have asked the CEO to continue to monitor the need for new positions, including changes in hospital operating plans so that adjustments in the staffing plan can be made if it appears necessary.

### System Management Funding

Having met and exceeded the requirement that SEAMO achieve a 1% increase in clinical activity, SEAMO received a base funding adjustment of approximately \$540,000. SEAMO Governors authorized the use of these funds to enable SEAMO to partially address the funding discrepancies between allocations to the Departments of Emergency Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynaecology alternative funding arrangements in all other academic health sciences centres. In addition, SEAMO allocated funds to address needs in palliative care.

Expenditures of the utilization fund are bridging funds until the negotiation of a new alternative funding agreement. This matter has been raised with the Assistant

Deputy Minister, who, at a meeting of the SEAMO/OMA/MOHLTC Joint Liaison Committee, agreed that the proliferation of discipline based province-wide alternative funding agreements was neither in the

## SEAMO Governance Review

With funding from the Ministry, SEAMO has agreed to conduct a review of its governance structures and processes. SEAMO has secured the services of Dr. Charles Wright who is the Director, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology & Evaluation at Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre. The review is expected to be completed during 2002 March.

Dr. Wright is known to SEAMO, having participated in the first review of governance and management ("*The Blundell Report*"), and having led the Faculty of Health Sciences through a strategic planning retreat two years ago.

## Clinical Teachers' Association to Receive Administrative Support

SEAMO Governors agreed to provide to CTAQ 0.25 FTE secretary. In addition, SEAMO will match a sum to be raised by a levy on CTAQ members up to \$25,000 for purposes related to CTAQ's administrative contribution to SEAMO. Any balance of administrative funds at the end of each fiscal year will be returned to SEAMO. These funds are for use in support SEAMO related administrative activities and are to be used solely at the discretion of CTAQ.

## Clinical Teachers to advise on Surplus Expenditure

Governors have asked CTAQ to draft Terms of Reference for a committee which will oversee the use of fund derived from budgetary surplus. Any such surplus will be used to create an endowed fund to further the objectives of SEAMO. Annual application for these funds will be made to the Committee. As a result of the cash flow structure of the funding agreement, last fiscal year finished with an unusually high surplus of approximately \$1 million.

## SEAMO Office Contact Information:

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interests of the Ministry nor of SEAMO, could be destabilizing to SEAMO and an impediment to integration of clinical services within academic health sciences centres.

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