



November 20, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

Office of the President

The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin (AHW) Endowment is an extraordinary resource dedicated to improving the health of the people of Wisconsin. Since its inception, AHW has invested more than \$185M in 337 initiatives that advance research, education and community health improvement across every region of our state.

The March 2000 Order of the Commissioner of Insurance serves as the guiding document for the AHW Endowment. The Order specifically authorized the distribution of the funds to the stewardship of Wisconsin's two medical schools.

The Order states that "There is no doubt that the medical schools are capable of establishing such an accountability structure...to ensure that the focus of the conversion funds will remain on broadly promoting the public health of the Wisconsin population" (p. 16, OCI Order). MCW remains committed to the responsible stewardship of AHW, and we are confident that we have established an accountability structure that assures there is no "drift from the purpose of the conversion funds" (p. 10, OCI Order).

In January 2011, MCW placed the AHW Endowment in the Office of the President during a time of leadership transition in the School of Medicine. With the completion of the second programmatic audit conducted by the Legislative Audit Bureau, we have had an opportunity to reflect on AHW's many accomplishments and how best to position the Endowment within MCW's organizational structure for the future.

After discussion with the MCW Consortium on Public and Community Health and the MCW Board of Trustees, effective January 1, 2016, the AHW Endowment will sit within the School of Medicine.

This date coincides with the completion of the Legislative Audit Bureau's second programmatic audit of the AHW Endowment, classified as a good audit, the beginning of the third year of the 2014-2018 AHW Five-Year Plan, and strong leadership from the Dean of the School of Medicine.

Dr. Kerschner has affirmed the exceptional opportunity resulting from the AHW Endowment. He notes that "the School of Medicine is committed to the changemaker approach and the unique opportunity it has presented for faculty and staff to grow, learn and serve Wisconsin by improving the health of the state's citizens in partnership with community stakeholders and interdisciplinary colleagues". At the November MCW Consortium meeting, Ms. Lucey recognized Dr. Raymond for his strong leadership of the AHW Endowment during a time of transition and commented that the Consortium looks forward to Dr. Raymond's continued leadership on the MCW Consortium.

The AHW Director will hold the title of Senior Associate Dean for AHW, consistent with the leadership structure in the School of Medicine. Dr. Maurana, who serves as Director of AHW, will continue her responsibilities as Vice President for Academic Outreach in the President's Office, in which she is working collaboratively to develop new academic programs and the health sciences university.

We remain committed to strong stewardship of the AHW Endowment and look forward to the continued transformation resulting from the excellent work of our many AHW partners.

Sincerely,

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD
President and CEO

Joseph E. Kerschner, MD
Dean of the Medical School
and Executive Vice President

Paula A. Lucey, RN, MSN
Chair, MCW Consortium on
Public and Community Health

Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD
Vice President for Academic
Outreach
Professor and AHW Director