

## 2009 Current Fiscal Year Report: Blue Ribbon Panel on VA-Medical School Affiliations

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

### 2. Fiscal Year

2009

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Blue Ribbon Panel on VA-Medical School  
Affiliations

### 3b. GSA

### Committee No.

29143

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

08/28/2008

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

### 7. Expected Term Date

09/30/2009

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

### 8c. Actual Term Date

09/30/2009

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

### 11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

Secretary Decision

### 13. Effective Date

09/25/2006

### 14. Committee Type

Ad hoc

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

### 16b. Report Date

### Report Title

Report of the Blue Ribbon Panel on  
VA-Medical School Affiliations  
09/29/2009 Transforming an Historic Partnership  
for the 21st Century

### Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

### 17a.

Open

1 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 1

## Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
Discussed the content and format for the final report and recommendations.	03/24/2009	03/25/2009

## Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$3,600.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$45,960.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$7,362.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$4,318.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$61,240.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.30	0.00

## 20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

In September 2006, the Secretary approved the establishment of the Panel to advise the Department on VA's long standing partnerships with the academic community. The Panel's charter solicited advice on a comprehensive philosophical framework to enhance VA's partnerships with medical schools and affiliated institutions. Specific goals included: reaffirming the importance of

partnership between VA and academic medicine; reviewing the overall health of the partnership in light of the significant changes in medical practice since the signing of policy Memorandum #2 in 1946; describing present and future opportunities for expanding the relationship for the mutual benefit of both partners; and categorizing barriers affecting effective and cordial relationships. The Panel submitted to the Secretary The Report of the Blue Ribbon Panel on VA Medical-School Affiliations Transforming an Historic Partnership for the 21st Century that laid out 2 major, 8 primary and 44 enabling recommendations.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Membership on the Panel included individuals who could effectively express the views of both large and small medical schools with differing strengths in the respective components of the affiliations (research, patient care and education). Membership also reflected the greatest possible geographic diversity.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Panel met as often as 2 times per year. Those meetings provided opportunities to thoroughly review VA's academic affiliation program and devise ways to strengthen that program. The Panel was staffed by the Veterans Health Administration's Office of Academic Affiliations and assisted throughout its deliberations by an internal advisory committee composed of VA medical care facility (VA facility) and Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) leaders with extensive experience in managing VA's academic relationships. The Panel received numerous background presentations and issues

papers on topics relevant to its deliberations and undertook two national surveys of the present governance and effectiveness of VA-Medical School affiliations.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

Resources within VA were not sufficient to provide the objectivity that the comprehensive review demands. It was very important that VA received input from the external academic community on all facets of the affiliation relationships (education, research and patient care). It was also important that the review lead to a real dialogue between VA health care leaders and key stakeholders at medical schools and other affiliated institutions. The Panel promoted the sort of dialogue that is so essential to a complete review.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

Meetings were open to the public.

**21. Remarks**

**Designated Federal Officer**

Gloria Holland Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Bremner, William	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Chairman, Department of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, WA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cohen, Jordan	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	President Emeritus, Association of American Medical Colleges, Washington, DC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Drees, Betty	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Dean, University of Missouri-Dansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City, MO	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Fihn, Stephan	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Deputy ACOS for Health Services Research, Director, VA Northwest HSR&D Ceter for Excellence, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Flynn, Timothy	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education, Univ. of Florida College of Medicine, Dept of Surgery, Gainesville, FL	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Gardner, Laurence	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Chair, Department of Medicine, Univ of Miami, Miami, FL	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Higginbotham, Eve	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Dean & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Johnson, Jr., Bennett	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education & Minority Affairs, Univ. of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kendall, John	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Dean Emeritus, Prof. of Medicine Emeritus, Oregon Health & Science University School of Med., Portland, OR	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lawley, Thomas	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Dean, Emory School of Medicine, Emory Univ. School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Parthemore, Jacqueline	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Chief of Staff, VAMC San Diego, San Diego, CA	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Petzel, Robert	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Director, VISN 23, VA Midwest Healthcare Network (10N23) Minneapolis, MN	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Stern, David	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Dean, College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Traber, Peter	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	President & CEO, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Winship, Daniel	09/25/2006	09/30/2009	Chief, Cook County Bureau of Health Services, Chicago, IL	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 15**

### Narrative Description

The Blue Ribbon Panel on VA-Medical School Affiliations advises the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Under Secretary for Health on the formation of a comprehensive framework for guiding VA's affiliations with medical schools and academic medical centers.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>

Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements  
Other

☐  
☐

**Outcome Comments**

NA

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

None  
Unable to Determine  
Under \$100,000  
\$100,000 - \$500,000  
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000  
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000  
Over \$10,000,000  
Cost Savings Other

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**Cost Savings Comments**

The Panel presented their final report to the Secretary on September 29, 2009.

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

54

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

This is a total of recommendations for FY 2009.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

0%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

The Panel presented their final report to the Secretary on September 29, 2009.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

0%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

The Panel presented their final report to the Secretary on September 29, 2009.

### **Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

The Department will provide a response to each recommendation.

### **What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Action Comments**

The Panel presented their final report to the Secretary on September 29, 2009.

### **Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

### **Grant Review Comments**

NA

### **How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>



Other



**Access Comments**

N/A