

Brian L. Strom, MD, MPH
Chancellor

June 30, 2023

Adrienne Simonds, PhD, PT
Chair
Rutgers University Senate
Liberty Plaza, Suite 1250
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Dear Dr. Simonds:

On behalf of President Holloway and myself, I want to thank you and the members of the *Ad Hoc Review Committee to Review Proposal for Merger of the Medical Schools* for developing a report in response to our report responding to the Senate's questions: *Envisioning the Future of Academic Medicine*.

I would also like to reiterate my thanks to you for organizing this review on a timely basis and to the numerous members of the University Senate for their thoughtful input and deliberation on the question of the optimal structure of medical education at Rutgers throughout this process.

As you recall, this is a discussion which was initiated in 2019 with the Future of Academic Medicine committee and its report. The Senate responded in March of 2020 with a comprehensive series of questions. Following the pause prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, we collaborated with the Senate leadership to create a consolidated set of questions that were reviewed and responded through three committees focused on admissions, curriculum, and culture.

As the Senate articulated most recently, we understand the importance of maintaining local leadership at each medical school campus, concerns about Graduate Medical Education and residency placements, and the need for ongoing consultation with all impacted constituencies including faculty, staff, students, the communities we serve, and the University Senate.

All the feedback and information gathered throughout this multi-year review process: the Senate Report as well as additional input gathered from various meetings, forums, faculty surveys, and other input are being presented to President Holloway and the Board of Governors for their discussion and consideration. We anticipate this will be on the agenda for the July 10 Board of Governors meeting.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Senate on this and other major initiatives that enhance and improve our ability to fulfill our missions as a University and an Academic Health Center and to deliver excellence in education, patient care, and research.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Strom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian L. Strom, MD, MPH

c: Jonathan Holloway, PhD