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Dear Colleague:

I am delighted to inform you of the launch of our brand new and unique academic distance learning program. We have designed a Certificate, a Diploma, and a Master's degree in Health Professions Education: Accreditation and Assessment, in partnership with Keele University and the Centre for Medical Education in Context (CenMEDIC) in the United Kingdom. Registration is now open for the first course, which will start in April 2013. For more information, please visit our website at: <http://www.faimer.org/distance-learning/>.

The courses are described in the attached leaflet, which covers the award of degrees by Keele University and the delivery of the courses by CenMEDIC, led by Professor Janet Grant. In the first year, both Professor Grant and I will be the on-line course leaders.

The courses are comprised of comprehensive distance learning units which can be downloaded from the web and are supported by video podcasts made by the authors. This learning material forms the basis for participation in a web-based forum and the provision of individual feedback on the formative and summative assessments that occur throughout the course.

The units themselves have been written by more than 140 expert international authors. This offers the opportunity to study with leaders in the field and it ensures relevance to a broad range of educational and regulatory settings.

We have been aware for some time of a growing world need for greater expertise in health professions education and this program is aimed at providing a sound grounding in all of its aspects. Moreover, it seeks to raise standards in assessment and accreditation, which are central to quality assurance and quality improvement.

Our long term aim is to improve the health of the public by improving health professions education, and we hope to train at least one individual from every leading school and regulatory body worldwide. We encourage you to visit our website at the earliest opportunity, read more about the courses, and reserve a place for you or a member of your team.

This is a ground-breaking program offering both critical and relevant guidance, presented by FAIMER, CenMEDIC, and Keele. We believe it will be a valuable experience for every health professions institution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss the program in greater detail.

With warm regards,



John J. Norcini, Ph.D.

President and CEO, FAIMER