

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact: Kate Reagan, Director of Public Relations

Phone: 423-869-6389

Fax: 423-869-6370

E-mail: kate.reagan@lmunet.edu

LMU & HEALTHCARE 21 JOIN FORCES, PLAN RESEARCH CENTER

Establishment of proposed Center for Health care Effectiveness eyed

Knoxville, Tennessee, May 3, 2011—Lincoln Memorial University (LMU) and HealthCare 21 Business Coalition (HC21) announced plans on Tuesday for the two non-profit organizations, whose similar missions aim to improve the lives and well-being of the Tennessee and Appalachian people, to develop health care programs. The initial agreement is underway and the announcement of the partnership came at HC21's Annual Health and Productivity Forum in Knoxville, Tenn.

The partnership aims to create a Center for Health Care Effectiveness to conduct research and provide education that will maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of health care delivery. LMU and HC21 will pursue grant funding to establish the Center. Once fully established, the Center will be administered by the LMU Division of Health Sciences and housed within its facilities.

“Health care is under more pressure than ever. Patients expect increasingly sophisticated treatments, while providers are forced to stretch their health care dollars farther. The only solution is to more closely study the relationship between cost and quality and emphasize the methods that work best,” said LMU Trustee Brian C. DeBusk. “The LMU-HealthCare 21 partnership forming the Center for Health Care Effectiveness will do exactly that. We are incredibly excited to extend our research capabilities into this emerging area as it furthers our mission to improve the lives of the people of Appalachia as well as the country as a whole.”

HC21 is a non-profit, member driven organization committed to improving the quality and cost of health care in Tennessee and the surrounding region. “The new partnership will enhance the health effectiveness research we currently do within Tennessee,” said HC21 President Jerry Burgess.

Similarly, LMU has focused on combating the growing shortage of health care providers in the region since 1974 when it began its nursing program. Since that time, LMU's Caylor School of Nursing has grown to include associate, bachelor and master of science in nursing programs. The School of Allied Health Science at LMU includes Medical Technology, Social Work, Veterinary Technology, Athletic Training and Physical Education and Kinesiology. In 2007 the LMU-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU-DCOM) was founded and a Physician Assistant Studies program was added in 2009.

Lincoln Memorial University is a values-based learning community dedicated to providing educational experiences in the liberal arts and professional studies. The main campus is located in Harrogate, Tennessee. For more information about the undergraduate and graduate programs available at LMU, contact the Office of Admissions at 423-869-6280 or e-mail at admissions@lmunet.edu.

CUMBERLAND GAP PARKWAY

P.O. BOX 2005

HARROGATE, TENNESSEE 37752

- 1 -