

Dean's Newsletter

November 19, 2012

Thank You

I will be brief, which I fully recognize is at variance with my previous 263 *Dean's Newsletters*. Since I accepted the invitation of President John Hennessy to join the Stanford community as Dean of the School of Medicine in December 2000 through now, I have had the privilege of working with thousands of students, faculty and staff on behalf of Stanford Medicine. Through our shared goal in achieving the decade-long strategic plan *Translating Discoveries*, we have witnessed the continued evolution of excellence in our missions in education, research and patient care that have been aimed to better serve our communities, locally and globally. Today Stanford Medicine stands proudly as one of the very best academic medical centers in the world – thanks largely to your efforts. Of course the journey has had its debates, its ups and downs, its champions and detractors, its leaders and followers. While I recognize that I have sometimes been a lightning rod for change, I have always tried to put the future of Stanford Medicine first and foremost.

More importantly, you have been the source of illumination and luminescence. Along the journey I have done my best to create connections between students, faculty and staff across the medical school, medical center, university and community. Today we stand more united and unified in our commitment to discovery, innovation and to doing all we can to make Stanford Medicine a model of excellence for our community, the nation and beyond. Of course this is a journey that will continue long into the future and I am honored to have served with you for one small set of time points. This month is an ending for me personally but a beginning for the leadership Dr. Lloyd Minor will bring to Stanford in the years ahead. It is also a continuum that has its deep foundations in the outstanding contributions that each of you brings to Stanford.

I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season and look forward to Stanford's continued excellence into the future. Thank you very much and very best wishes to all.