

MEDICAL BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE REPORT ISSUED: October 10, 2011
 ATTENTION: Medical Board of California
 SUBJECT: Special Faculty Permit Review Committee
 Recommendation
 STAFF CONTACT: Curtis J. Worden, Chief of Licensing

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Board approves the recommendations of the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee (SFPRC) for appointments pursuant to Section 2168.1 of the California Business and Professions Code.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

The Medical Board of California is authorized to issue a Special Faculty Permit (SFP) to a person who is academically eminent and meets all of the other requirements pursuant to Section 2168.1 of the California Business and Professions Code (B&P).

An individual who holds a valid SFP is authorized to practice medicine only within the medical school itself and any affiliated institutions in which the SFP holder is providing instruction as part of the medical school's educational program and for which the medical school has assumed direct responsibility.

The SFPRC is comprised of two Board members, one who is a physician and surgeon and one who is a public member, and of one representative from each of the medical schools in California. The SFPRC reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the applicants applying pursuant to Section 2161.1 of the B&P.

At its September 15, 2011 meeting, the SFPRC reviewed the qualifications of two applicants: One from the University of California Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine (UCLA-DGSOM) and one from the University of California San Francisco, School of Medicine (UCSF-SOM,).

DANIEL HOMMES, M.D., UCLA- DGSOM - SFP

On behalf of Neil Parker, M.D., UCLA-DGSOM, Senior Associate Dean Student Affairs and Graduate Medical Education, Gary Gitnick, M.D., UCLA-DGSOM, Chief of Digestive Diseases/Gastroenterology, Professor of Medicine, presented UCLA-DGSOM's request for Daniel Hommes, M.D. to receive a special faculty permit and the qualifications of Dr. Hommes. Dr. Gitnick indicated that Dr. Hommes is an internationally recognized physician in the specialized area of gastroenterology, specifically in the area of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. Dr. Hommes has conducted pioneering work into the pathogenesis of the disease as well as the mechanism of action of new medications and has made innovative and significant authentic contributions to clinical research,

specifically regarding stem cell research and education in the gastroenterology field. In addition, Dr. Gitnick stated Dr. Homme's presence at UCLA-DGSOM will be a unique and remarkable addition to the Division of Digestive Diseases and would benefit patients at UCLA-DGSOM.

Dr. Hommes graduated from the University of Amsterdam in August 1993. He has completed several residencies and fellowships between 1990-2002. Dr. Hommes completed three years of residency training in internal medicine at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam from 1991-1994 and continued his training completing a research fellowship at the Center for Experimental Internal Medicine from 1994-1995. Dr. Hommes' training completed from 1995-2000 allowed him to become board certified in internal medicine in May 2000 and board certified in gastroenterology in May 2002.

Dr. Hommes has held academic positions in Amsterdam and the Netherlands: Head Center for Inflammatory Bowel Disease 2002; Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Leiden University Medical Center 2006; Professor gastroenterology and hepatology 2007, Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC); Project leader for CuraRata "Integrating HealthCare and Research" 2007; Steering Committee LUMC 2008, along with several other academic positions. Dr. Hommes' highly innovative discoveries have been published in numerous top medical journals and his publications are referenced, discussed, and cited within peer-reviewed publications authored by international and national leaders in the field.

Dr. Hommes is a nationally recognized chairperson for several committees: Centraal Begeleidings Orgaan (CBO) Committee in 2007; founder and vice-chair Dutch Crohn Colitis Foundation (DCCF) 2006; Chair of Dutch Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD) Guidelines Committee CBO 2004. His international recognition consists of being the President of the European Crohn and Colitis Organization 2010-2012; Editor Journal Crohn's and Colitis 2007; Chair of European Crohn's Colitis Organization (ECCO) Scientific Committee 2004, along with several other committees. Dr. Hommes is currently the Chairman of the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands. Dr. Gitnick stated that there is a great need for in California and in our nation for the type of stem cell therapy and research to treat Crohn's disease. Currently, this type of cutting edge research and treatment is not available in the U.S. After an extension search both nationally and internationally, UCLA-DGSOM has determined that Dr. Hommes is the most qualified individual to bring this advance treat and research to California.

Dr. Hommes will be performing clinical activities approximately 80% of the time and at least 10% teaching is included in the clinical activities and fellows round with faculty when they see patients. Under the University guidelines, this is considered teaching while performing clinical activities. The remaining 20% will be devoted to clinical administration and clinical trials.

GEORG WIESELTHALER, M.D., UCSF-SOM - SFP APPLICANT:

Neal Cohen, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., UCSF, Vice Dean Academic Affairs, presented UCSF-SOM's request for Georg Wieselthaler, M.D., to receive a special faculty permit and the qualifications of Dr. Wieselthaler. Dr. Cohen indicated that Dr. Wieselthaler is an extraordinarily accomplished surgeon who is a preeminent cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon and is regarded internationally as a leader in the field of Cardiac Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support. UCSF-SOM believes Dr. Wieselthaler has the credentials to guide the UCSF-SOM program in advanced heart failure and provide patient care in this specialty of medicine.

Dr. Wieselthaler graduated from the University of Vienna, Austria in November 1987. He has completed several residency programs and fellowships between 1988-2007. Dr. Wieselthaler completed one year of military service in the department of surgery at the Military Hospital in Vienna 1988-1989 and continued his residency training in surgery for six years at the University of Vienna 1989-1995. Dr. Wieselthaler was staff surgeon at the University of Vienna from 1995-1999 and senior staff surgeon from 1999-2003. His clinical expertise is highly regarded in the United States. He was a visiting fellow at the following universities: Baylor College of Medicine, Texas 1999; Milton Hershey Medical Center, Pennsylvania 2003; Columbia Medical Center, New York 2005; Cleveland Clinic, Ohio 2007; along with the Ottawa Heart Center in Ottawa, Canada 2007.

Dr. Wieselthaler completed two advance fellowships in Austria working as a staff surgeon at St. Pollen Hospital 1996-1997 and at Lainz Hospital 1997-1998; he also completed two years of training with the Vienna Lung Transplant Program and Vienna Heart Transplant Program in Austria. He has been the principal investigator of the European trials for the Arrow Lion Heart implantable ventricular assist pump in which he performed numerous heart transplants, and is internationally recognized for his surgical experience in artificial heart and ventricular assist device implants. Dr. Wieselthaler has been recognized by the leading international transplant organization, which is the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation, where he now serves on the Board of Directors

Dr. Wieselthaler holds two academic appointments at the University of Vienna, Assistant Professor of Surgery in 2000, and Associate Professor of Surgery 2003-present. He holds several institutional appointments as the Medical Director of Mechanical Circulatory Support 1999-present, Vice Director Clinical Heart Transplant Program 2000-present, and Director of Interdisciplinary Surgical Heart Failure 2005-present. Dr. Wieselthaler has been the attending surgeon in the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Medical University of Vienna since 2003.

Dr. Cohen advised the SFPRC that UCSF-SOM is currently not in a position to meet the needs of the patients with heart failure who require circulatory assist devices or heart transplantations. While UCSF-SOM has a large heart failure patient population, it currently does not have a surgical program to support the needs of this patient population. UCSF-SOM is also required to appoint a surgeon who can qualify as a certified heart transplant surgeon no later than April 2012 or risk losing UCSF-SOM's national certification to perform heart transplant surgery. Upon his appointment at UCSF-SOM Dr. Wieselthaler will be the only surgeon in Northern California with the expertise and experience to perform the most advanced ventricular assist devices

implantations and techniques. UCSF-SOM was in competition with the Cleveland Clinic to recruit Dr. Wieselthaler.

Dr. Wieselthaler will devote approximately 70% of his time to patient care activity, 20% to teaching activities and 10% to administrative time.

SPECIAL FACULTY PERMIT REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The SFPRC recommended approval of Dr. Hommes for a SFP at UCLA, contingent upon receipt of follow-up documentation from UCLA regarding why a great need exists to fill the appointment as a SFP holder and follow-up documentation of the breakdown of time to be spent in various activities.

The SFPRC recommended approval of Dr. Wieselthaler for a SFP at UCSF, contingent upon receipt of follow-up documentation from UCSF regarding why a great need exists to fill the appointment as a SFP holder and follow-up documentation of the breakdown of time to be spent in various activities.

Board staff received and reviewed the requested follow-up documentation regarding the great need to fill the appointment and the breakdown of time to be spent in activities from UCLA and UCSF. Staff has determined it is in order as described above. Therefore, SFPRC recommends approval for both Dr. Hommes and Dr. Wieselthaler.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None

If you have any questions concerning this memorandum, please telephone me at (916) 263-2382.