

DCN: 5021



ACGME

Accreditation Council for  
Graduate Medical Education

July 14, 2005

BRAC Commission

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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

JUL 18 2005

Received

Re: Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

Dear Chairman Principi:

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) sets the standards for and accredits the nation's 8000 residency programs that in aggregate house 100,000 residents. Our work is recognized and used by the federal government, the state licensing boards, and the certifying boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties.

Dee Hock has said: "Substance is enduring; form is ephemeral. Preserve substance; modify form; know the difference." We write to express our hope that some of the goodness of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) may be preserved while the form of the institute changes. Three areas in particular are heavily used by residents and can be considered a national resource: the courses conducted by the institute; the tissue repository; and museum of teaching cases.

While the current AFIP is bundled within the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, if these three elements could be relocated to the Uniformed Health Services University, much of the substance of the institute could be preserved for the good of the nation's physicians in training.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Cordially,

David C. Leach, M.D.  
Executive Director  
ACGME

DCL/rc