



Faculty Forward Initiative

September 6, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to report that UT Southwestern Medical School will be participating in a Faculty Engagement Survey through the Association of American Medical College (AAMC). This survey is part of an initiative called **Faculty Forward** created to support medical schools in their efforts to attract and retain the best and brightest academic scientists, educators, and clinicians.

As part of our participation in the AAMC's Faculty Forward initiative, all Medical School faculty members will be invited to take part in this confidential Faculty Forward Engagement Survey. The survey will benchmark our faculty engagement levels with peer institutions and provide actionable data for evaluation.

We have established an Internal Task Force, chaired by Dr. Dwain Thiele, to serve as our internal panel with responsibility for delivering a set of recommendations to me based on the Faculty Forward survey findings. Our Internal Task Force will be working closely with me and the AAMC Faculty Forward team over the course of the next year to assess our engagement and improve our institutional performance.

In the near term, you should expect further information from us, our task force, and your department chairs regarding the upcoming survey which will launch on October 11, 2016. I strongly encourage you to share your views candidly to help us understand how you view specific institutional policies and practices here at UT Southwestern, understand workforce engagement compared to peer institutions, and prioritize key workplace issues that are important to our faculty.

If you have questions in the meantime, please feel free to review additional information on our [website](#).

Our institution's participation in Faculty Forward marks UT Southwestern's continued commitment to faculty vitality, illustrating our belief that enhancing our faculty workplace is an important strategic priority. We welcome this opportunity to learn more about your views on UT Southwestern as a workplace. Thank you in advance for your participation in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

J. Gregory Fitz, M.D., FAASLD
Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School