FACTS ABOUT THE NEW IDAHO COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE AT ISU-MERIDIAN

About The Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine, LLC:

The Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine at Idaho State University will be a freestanding, privately funded, separately licensed and independently operated entity located at ISU’s Health Science Center in Meridian. The school will be independent of ISU, but ISU will have representation on the school’s board of trustees. Initial capital investment in the ICOM project will be approximately $105 million. The full agreement between the ICOM and the State Board of Education can be found here.

As part of the collaboration and affiliation agreement with ISU, the ICOM has agreed to a long-term land lease for its facility at ISU’s Meridian Health Science Center. Construction of a roughly 80,000-square-foot, $32 million building to house the medical school will begin by or in February 2017. ICOM also will pay ISU for medical school students to use shared campus space or services. In addition, the ICOM will provide for sharing medical school space and service with ISU students. The agreement provides for joint appointments and shared faculty and joint research between ISU and the ICOM.

Additionally, the ICOM has agreed to create a significant fund to stimulate and assist sponsoring institutions to evaluate and pursue the creation of new graduate medical education residencies in Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. Details of that fund will be announced after first being reviewed by Idaho Hospital Association leaders and representatives of other entities that wish to collaborate in the program.

The ICOM plans to register with the Idaho Secretary of State’s Office as a benefit corporation or “B Corp.” Benefit corporations must make a legal change to their operating agreement or articles of incorporation regarding their commitment to the community and society rather than placing shareholder value as their highest priority.

About Idaho’s Physician Workforce:

Based on 2015 data from the American Association of Medical Colleges, Idaho is 49th among the 50 states in active physicians per capita, 46th in primary care physicians per capita, 49th in female physicians per capita, and 48th in graduate medical education per capita. Based on 2015 data from the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, 348 residents from the five-state region that will be served by ICOM are attending osteopathic medical schools throughout the United States. Of those, 171 or 49 percent are Idaho residents.

About Osteopathic Medical Schools and Physicians:

There are two types of physicians who practice medicine in the United States. Most physicians hold the Doctor of Medicine degree (M.D.), while osteopathic physicians hold the Doctor of
Osteopathic Medicine degree (D.O.). Other than teaching osteopathic manipulative medicine, the medical training for an M.D. and D.O. is virtually indistinguishable. Both D.O. and M.D. students attend and complete four years of medical school, taking the same coursework during years one and two and clinical training in years three and four. There are approximately 141 allopathic (M.D.) medical schools and 30 osteopathic (D.O.) medical schools at 42 locations in the United States. D.O. physicians complete conventional residencies in hospitals and training programs, are licensed in all 50 states and have rights and responsibilities identical to M.D. physicians and surgeons.

D.O.s can practice as neurosurgeons, heart surgeons, radiologists, orthopedic surgeons and every other medical specialty. The American Osteopathic Association and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, which accredits allopathic residency programs, have combined to create a unified accreditation system for graduate medical education or residency programs in the United States. There are more than 92,000 D.O.s in the United States, making up about 11 percent of all practicing physicians nationwide. For more information, contact Dr. Robert Hasty, DO, FACOI, FACP, at 208-696-ICOM or via email at rhasty@me.com.

About the ICOM Leadership:

**Dr. Robert Hasty, DO, FACOI, FACP.** As the ICOM’s founding dean and chief academic officer, Dr. Hasty will manage day-to-day operations and strategic growth of the medical school in collaboration with the Board of Trustees. Dr. Hasty received his undergraduate education at the University of Miami and his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine or D.O. degree from Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Most recently, Dr. Hasty became vice president of medical education and regional associate dean for Campbell University’s Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine in North Carolina. He was promoted to associate dean for postgraduate affairs in 2014.

**John H. Goodnow.** As the ICOM president and a member of the executive board, Goodnow will provide leadership and governance support to Dr. Hasty. Goodnow has been CEO of Benefis Health System, based in Great Falls, Montana, since 2002, and has been a hospital administrator for over 35 years. He will serve in both roles during the ICOM’s development. Goodnow received his undergraduate education at the University of California-Davis and his master’s degree in health services administration from the University of Michigan. Goodnow is a fellow of the American College of Health Executives.

**Dr. Arthur C. Vailas.** Idaho State University’s president will be a member of the ICOM Board of Trustees. President Vailas received his undergraduate education from the University of New Hampshire and his Ph.D. in physical education from the University of Iowa. He later completed a three-year postdoctoral fellowship in orthopedic surgery and biochemistry at the University of Iowa College of Medicine. Before coming to ISU in 2006, he was vice-provost for graduate studies and a professor and distinguished chair in biology and biochemistry at the University of Houston. He previously held various research and academic positions at the University of California-Los Angeles and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.