We are now 13 weeks into the formation of the new enterprise and 14 integration teams are making great progress toward creating the “best practice” operations for UA Healthcare.

The work in these teams can be difficult and all those participating in integration teams at this point are to be congratulated for their work, their patience, their innovation and mostly for their dedication to this new enterprise. Henry Ford reminds us, “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success”. I see more and more of these teams really working together – that's success!

Here is a brief update on the work on all the teams:

**Purchasing/Supply Chain**: This group presented to the President’s Council in early September and is now addressing follow-up items including, integration of this process with the Practice Plan and Health Plan Divisions; defining targets; and developing tracking mechanisms.

**Contracts**: Presented to the President's Council last week (10/05/10). Based on feedback from the Council, the team will develop a strategy to move their plan forward.

**Credentialing**: The team is scheduled to present to the President's Council in late October and is working on the final presentation document.

**Compliance**: This team is making good progress in teaming efforts and is beginning to develop their plan; the team will present to the President’s Council in December.

**Foundations**: This team is adding additional resources to their team and going into Phase II of the process – researching best practices and aspirational peers.

**Patient Accounting**: This team is progressing through the planning stage. Currently the team is working on aligning policies, collection agencies, etc. The goal is consistent revenue cycle processes and ultimately one bill.

**Human Resources**: This area has several sub-groups working on integration plans. The sub-groups began presentations to the lead team on 10/1/10. The team has planned a retreat for November to begin developing the final report for presentation to the Council in December. The goal is alignment of benefit structures by July 2011.

**Risk Management/Claims**: This group will be adding additional members to the team and is working with insurance brokers to help with defining the future state and creating a plan. Some members are attending the ASHRM conference where they will begin the best practice discussions with aspirational peers.
Information Technology: The team is very active and continues to make good progress. The group is addressing mapping issues with Version 10. Version 11 integration is moving along with no major issues to date.

Finance/Treasury: Team is on track with the planning stage and recently held a brainstorming session with many of their key “customers”. The identification of a common financial system is a key milestone for this group.

Quality & Government Relations: These teams are adding resources and membership to their groups and will formalize the structures in the next couple of weeks.

University Medical Imaging: The team is in the initial planning stages and has made great progress toward a shared vision for future success between faculty and staff.

Marketing Communications: This team’s work on the branding project continues to progress as scheduled. More information regarding the potential brand, naming and brand architecture will be available in the next few weeks.

The Patient Access Team will kick off on October 12th and there are two more teams kicking off the week of October 18th – Peri-operative Services and Call Center/PBX.

I continue to meet with clinical department heads and faculty to bring them up to date and several have been assigned to the integration teams. I am happy to meet with any groups of staff that may be interested in the project or the work of any of the teams.

Integration...... Working together to create the future