The program set forth below is intended to facilitate recruitment and retention of high quality faculty for UCNS-accredited programs. It will be called the “Faculty Diplomates” program.

1. Eligibility

In order to be eligible to sit for a UCNS certification examination under the Faculty Diplomates program, an applicant must:

a. have a medical diploma from an institution registered in the International Medical Education Directory, the AVICENNA Directory for medicine, or the WHO World Directory of Medical Schools;

b. be certified in his or her primary specialty by a competent medical board. Such a board may include: 1) an ABMS member board or the RCPSC, 2) a specialty certification board of the American Osteopathic Association, 3) an appropriate board of the European Union of Medical Specialists (EUMS), or 4) the medical board of the applicant’s country of origin, such board to be approved by the Certification Council;

c. have an active, full-time appointment as a faculty member of a UCNS-accredited training program or have evidence of a current offer of such an appointment. Such an offer must be written by the chairperson of the appropriate department of the academic institution and state: 1) when the appointment began or will begin, 2) that the appointment is contingent upon the applicant sitting for, and passing, the next available UCNS certification examination, and 3) that retention or recruitment of the applicant is considered by the institution to be essential to the quality of the fellowship program;

d. have an active unlimited license to practice medicine or be licensed to practice medicine in the institution at which he or she has, or will have, the faculty appointment.

2. Review by the Certification Council

The Certification Council will review all applications. In determining whether to approve an application, the Certification Council may consider any factors it believes appropriate to verify the training and experience of the applicant, including
information about the standards of the medical board of the applicant’s country of origin.

3. The Nature of Faculty Diplomate Status

   a. Faculty Diplomate status is conditional because it is linked directly to the diplomate’s appointment on the faculty of a UCNS-accredited fellowship. That is, if the diplomate no longer is on the faculty of a UCNS-accredited fellowship, his or her certificate automatically terminates. In effect, Faculty Diplomate status is issued jointly to the faculty member and his or her employing institution, which vouches for the faculty member’s competence.

   b. Faculty Diplomate status is ten years in duration and subject to maintenance of certification. Physicians holding Faculty Diplomate status must meet all maintenance of certification requirements in order to keep their underlying primary specialty certification in effect. In addition, they must meet maintenance of certification requirements established by UCNS. At a minimum, these will include completion of the same number of CME hours as are required of other UCNS diplomates. In addition, renewal of Faculty Diplomate status will require re-examination at the end of the ten-year certification period.

   c. If a physician holding Faculty Diplomate status leaves one institution to join another, his or her certified status will end. If he or she seeks to become a faculty member of a UCNS-accredited program at the new institution, he or she must apply for reinstatement of his or her Faculty Diplomate status. Reinstatement will be for that period remaining in the term of the original certificate.

4. Implementation of the Program

The Faculty Diplomates program will become effective for each subspecialty after the end of its practice track.