DATE REPORT ISSUED: January 12, 2015
ATTENTION: Members, Medical Board of California
SUBJECT: Special Faculty Permit Review Committee Recommendations
STAFF CONTACT: Curtis J. Worden, Chief of Licensing

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the recommendations of the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee (SFPRC) for appointments for Hideho Okada, M.D., Ph.D., and Rene J. Sotelo, M.D., pursuant to Section 2168.1 of the California Business and Professions Code (B&P).

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

The Medical Board of California (Board) is authorized to issue a Special Faculty Permit (SFP) to a person who is academically eminent and meets all of the other requirements pursuant to Section 2168.1 of the B&P.

An individual who holds a valid SFP is authorized to practice medicine only within the medical school itself and any affiliated institutions in which the SFP holder is providing instruction as part of the medical school’s educational program, and for which the medical school has assumed direct responsibility.

The SFPRC is comprised of two Board Members, one who is a physician and one who is a public member, and one representative from each of the medical schools in California. The SFPRC reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the applicants applying pursuant to Section 2168.1 of the B&P.

At the SFPRC’s December 4, 2014 meeting, the SFPRC reviewed the qualifications of two applicants: one applicant from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and one applicant from Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California (USC).

Hideho Okada, M.D., Ph.D. - UCSF:
Neal Cohen, M.D., M.S., M.P.H., Vice Dean, UCSF, presented UCSF’s request for Hideho Okada, M.D., Ph.D., to receive an SFP and provided the SFPRC with Dr. Okada’s qualifications. Dr. Okada’s area of expertise is Neurosurgery, specifically in the area of brain cancer immunotherapy.

Dr. Okada has held the following positions: tenured professor at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine; and Visiting Research Instructor and Visiting Research Associate at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Okada was one of the co-leaders for the international working group, Immunotherapy Response Assessment in Neuro-Oncology. Dr. Okada has published 67
publications, 137 invited published papers and has been invited to lecture at several seminars. Dr. Okada has an in-depth understanding of immunology in central nervous systems tumors, and has unique expertise and experience in both the clinical and basic research aspects of medical science. Dr Okada’s national and international reputation as a leader in this field is reinforced by his outstanding clinical investigations.

Dr. Okada will hold a full-time faculty appointment as a Professor of Neurological Surgery, Step 1 in the Department of Neurological Surgery at UCSF, if approved for an SFP appointment by the Board. Dr. Okada will provide instruction as part of the medical school’s education program and see patients to fulfill his clinical teaching responsibilities at UCSF. Dr. Okada will be instrumental to the mission of neurological surgery at UCSF, developing novel and promising therapeutic strategies to treat patients with brain tumors.

Dr. Okada’s application is complete except for the final fee for the permit. The final fee for the permit will be required prior to issuing the SFP if the Board adopts the Committee’s recommendation for approval.

**Dr. Okada’s Medical Education**

**Medical School:**

- Nagoya University School of Medicine  
  Graduated March 25, 1991  
  Japan 1987 - 1991

- Nagoya University School of Medicine  
  Doctorate of Philosophy  
  Japan 1992 - 1996

**Postgraduate Training:**

- Handa Municipal Hospital  
  Internship  
  Japan 06/91 - 03/92

- Nagoya University Hospital  
  Neurological Surgery  
  Japan 04/92 - 03/96

**Rene J. Sotelo, M.D. - USC**

Frank Sinatra, M.D., Assistant Dean for Faculty Development, USC, presented USC’s request for Rene J. Sotelo, M.D., to receive an SFP and provided the SFPRC with Dr. Sotelo’s qualifications. Dr. Sotelo’s area of expertise is in minimally invasive urologic surgery.

Dr. Sotelo is currently the Professor and Chairman of the Department of Urology and Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery at Clinica Floresta in Venezuela. Dr. Sotelo has also held the following positions: Director, Minimally Invasive Surgery in Urology, Universidad Santa Maria;
Director of Fellowship in Urologic Minimally Invasive Surgery, Universidad Central de Venezuela; Assistant Professor, Universidad Nacional de Colombia; and Visiting Professor, Sociedad de Cirugia de Bogota, Hospital de San Jose. Dr. Sotelo has published over 60 peer reviewed articles, 3 textbooks and over 27 book chapters, and has lectured in major scientific societies in over 24 countries. Dr. Sotelo is an expert in robotic surgery in South America and is a pioneer in single-port laparoscopic and robotic surgery. Dr. Sotelo is an internationally known pioneer who led the development of laparoscopic and robotic techniques for urinary fistula surgery.

Dr. Sotelo will hold a full time faculty appointment as a Professor of Clinical Urology at USC, if approved for an SFP appointment by the Board. Dr. Sotelo will be providing medical instruction to medical students, residents and fellows and will conduct research in the development of novel robotic and single-port techniques. Dr. Sotelo will also provide clinical care, outpatient services and inpatient services at USC clinical sites and at Los Angeles County/USC Medical Centers. Dr. Sotelo has the credentials to guide the USC program to the highest levels of excellence and will enhance USC’s robotic enterprise, given his unique, cutting edge talents.

EDUCATION:

Medical School:

Universidad Central de Venezuela, 1981 thru 1987
Escuela de Medicina - Luis Razetti Venezuela 1981 - 1987
Graduated July 29, 1988

Postgraduate Training:

- Hospital General Del Este Dr. Domingo Luciani Surgery Venezuela 1989 - 1992
- Hospital General Del Este Dr. Domingo Luciani Urology Venezuela 1992 - 1995

Fellowship:

- Hospital Oncologico Padre Machado Venezuela 07/96 – 07/97

Dr. Renee J. Sotelo’s application is complete except for the copy of the U.S. social security card, copy of his visa and the final fee for the permit. The copy of the U.S. social security card, visa, and the final fee for the permit will be required prior to issuing the SFP if the Board adopts the Committee’s recommendation for approval.
SPECIAL FACULTY PERMIT REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The SFPRC recommended approval of Dr. Okada for an SFP at UCSF pursuant to B&P Section 2168.1 (a)(1)(A).

The SFPRC recommended approval of Dr. Sotelo for an SFP at USC pursuant to B&P Section 2168.1 (a)(1)(B).