



**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Illinois' first public university

Office of the President

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August 11, 2008

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**HEALTH FACILITIES
PLANNING BOARD**

Mr. Jeffrey S. Mark
Executive Secretary
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
Second Floor
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Mr. Mark:

I am writing to tell you of the important relationship that has evolved between Illinois State University and BroMenn Regional Medical Center. Both institutions are located in Normal, Illinois and have been "neighbors" for over 110 years. In the recent years, the leadership of both organizations has been pursuing a more collaborative relationship. We have worked together to lead the planning for a stronger Main Street corridor and are beginning to see the fruits of that effort.

In 1999 the BroMenn Healthcare System transferred the Mennonite School of Nursing to Illinois State University to grow and develop this excellent nursing college with an 85-year history. The collaboration in nursing continues between Illinois State University and the Mennonite School of Nursing through a joint endowed professorship in Nursing Research which is shared by our two institutions, and the excellent clinical experience that nursing students receive at the BroMenn Regional Medical Center.

Now we are working together to strengthen the neurological research that has been growing in our Department of Biological Sciences through a collaborative program involving BroMenn's neurosurgeons, the Central Illinois Neuroscience Foundation (CINF) and BroMenn's Neurosurgical Residency program affiliated with the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Midwestern University. One outcome we expect from these efforts is a positive national reputation for these clinicians and researchers who, in turn, will be utilizing and expanding the services and facilities of the BroMenn Regional Medical Center.

You are going to have an opportunity to support this effort by approving the Certificate of Need application for a new addition at BroMenn. The facility will include a new Intensive Care unit and the essential Step-down unit. Based on our view of the neurological service alone, this will bring many more patients to BroMenn from other regions of the country.

We ask that you join Illinois State University in supporting this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Al Bowman".

Al Bowman
President

xc: Mr. Roger S. Hunt