

**Opening Remarks**  
*Reed V. Tuckson, M.D.*

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DR. TUCKSON: Good morning to everybody. Good morning, good morning. Welcome to day two. It is amazing. I don't know how, but all of the new folk, even after the painful, tough work of yesterday, have returned.

[Laughter.]

DR. TUCKSON: It is amazing. We are starting on time, of course, which is terrific as well.

If you can see behind me, there are people who are gathering there because they thought that they were going to have a few more minutes to prepare, but it turns out that we are going to wind up being flexible.

We have three of our superstar members who are ending their term. They are gathered over there in the corner commiserating at all the pain, misery, and suffering we have put them through. They are going to get awarded. But to award people in government, you have to have people of rank, and sometimes people of rank have other things that delay them.

So until the rank gets here, we are going to, in the interest of time, march forward. We have our guests here, so what we are going to do is we are going to say to our guests thank you. We are going to say to our guests that you are flexible and we are flexible.

So what will happen, Judy and the rest of you, is that we are going to start. Then rank is going to come. Then we will stop and we are going to honor our departing three. Then we will resume again, because we are all intelligent enough to have more than one idea in our heads at the same time.

That is the way it is going to work. No matter what happens, though, we have to finish the ceremony by 9:30. So I can absolutely tell you there is a hard stop on the ceremony at 9:30 because folk have other things they have to do.

With that, we are going to turn this over to Barbara. I want you all to remember we went through the chart yesterday of what was important, our strategic plan and where we were with it. One of them was education of health professionals. So your job today is to listen and query these experts around ultimately making a decision about whether or not we need to go forward with something in this area and, if we are, what might that be that you might want to do. Or you might decide that the world is in good hands by others and you can turn your attention and intelligence to other weighty matters that are on our agenda.

So you don't always have to decide to do something just because we present it in front of you. With that, you are going to think through and deliberate.

Barbara is going to take us through it, so Barbara Burns McGrath.