



**Reference Laboratory** 

#### Serving the needs of the Healthcare Community



#### UIC BRINGING ADMINISTRATORS TOGETHER CONFERENCE

James Carson, Ph.D., MBA Administrative Director Pathology Laboratories

## Personal Background

- Undergraduate and graduate degrees in Medical Laboratory Sciences and Pathology from UIC.
- MBA from another university.
- Served as a corporate executive of four national healthcare companies and many regional hospital and commercial laboratories.
- Worked in consulting, investment banking and venture capital.
- Returned to UIC about seven years ago.

# **Pathology Laboratories**

- Performs anatomic and clinical pathology tests from tissue and various body fluid samples. (13 areas of scientific specialties)
- Operates 24 hours, 7 days per week.
- Performs about 2.9 million tests per year.
- Annual operating gross revenue is about \$200 million/net revenue \$77 million.
- Supported by 280 FTE's and 20 doctoral level pathologist's and clinical scientists.
- Operates an extensive outreach program.

### **Outreach Purpose**

- Essentially had a small community hospital laboratory trying to support an academic medical staff and mission.
- Hospital was looking for alternative sources of revenue.
- COM wanted to upgrade its faculty and clinical services.
- Strong medical leadership was hard to attract in the existing environment.
- Most equipment was over 20 years old with a normal lifespan of 5-7 years.
- Referred testing expense was very high.
- Overall, unit expense was high.

#### Outreach



#### Initial Planning Process (Business Plan)

- Opportunity Assessment > Go/No Go
- Marketing Sub-Plan
- Operation Sub-Plan > Go/No Go
- Financial Sub-Plan > Go/No Go
- Implementation Sub-Plan
- Monitoring Plan
- Partnership Agreement

## **Performance Monitoring**

- Previously hired a financial coordinator for the department.
- Refined department financial statements to correspond to operating units.
- Later developed outreach specific financial statements.
- Developed benchmarks.
  - Monthly sales goals
  - Contribution expectation
  - Revenue per test
  - Cost per test
- Developed performance incentive program.

#### **Benefits**

