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The 1776 Foundation Act of the faculty of medicine of the Universitas Claudiopolitana

UBB School of Health

S Maria Theresia divina favente clementia romanorum imperatrix vidua regina Hungariae, Bohemiae, archidux Austriae Dux Lotharingiae et Barri, magna dux Hetruriae, dux Burgundiae, Styriae, Carinthiae et Carnioliae magna princeps Transylvaniae, comes Flandriae, Tyrolis, Garitie et Siculorum,

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Illustres, reverendae, spectabiles, magnifici, generosi, egregii, audentes item ac circumspecti, fideles nostri, sincere nobis dilecti! Maternam nostram, qua in incrementum studiorum ferimur sollicitudinem erga magnum nostrum principatum ultro benigne confirmare volentes in Universitate Claudiopolitana successione saltem facultatem medicam introducere, atque ad scopum hunc assequendum subsequenti anno scholastico duos professores, et quidem unum pro chimia et botania, alium pro anatomia, dein anno 1778/9 pro physiologia, anno denique 1779/80 pro pathologia, cum annuo florenorum salarie e cassa nostra provinciali pendendo, nullo habito ad religionem aut universitatem in quem gradum obtinuerunt respectu e numero Transilvanorum si tales apti adinveniri poterint constituere atque concursum eatenus cum fine mensis maii anni 1777 pro duobus prioribus cathedris primo anno suffectoris, ordinare benigne decrevimus. Vestrum proinde regii nostri gubernii erit, benignam hanc nostram mentem medio circularium indilate spargendarum illis qui

Maria Theresa, by divine grace imperial widow of the Romans, queen of Hungary, of Bohemia, archduchess of Austria, duchess of Lotharingia and of Barri, grand duchess of Etruria, duchess of Burgundy, Styria, Carinthia and Carniola, grand princess of Transylvania, countess of Flanders, Tyrol, Galicia and of the Szeklers,

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Illustrious, venerables, respectables, magnificent, noble, chosen, daring but also prudent devout people of ours, beloved by us with sincerity! For we wish to strengthen with benevolence, with the view to strengthen the studies, from our maternal care for our great Transylvanian principality, we have decided with magnanimity to insert at least in successive order within the Claudiopolitan university a faculty of medicine; with this view, the next academic year, two teachers will be designated, one to teach Chemistry and Botantics, the other Anatomy; beginning with 1778/9, one for physiology, and from 1779/80 one teacher for pathology, with an annual stipendium of one thousand florins from our provincial treasury, without considering the confession or the university that awarded them the degree, among the number of Transylvanian people, should there be any skilled, and the competition for the first two departments above mentioned that are to be endowed will be scheduled at

ad duas has cathedras chimiam nempe cum botania et anatomiam seorsumve tradendam concurrere vellent notam reddere cum adnexo quod subiecta termino superius praefixo semet in archiducali civitate nostra Vienna sistere atque tentamini non quidem circa ipsam scientiam medicam verum super eo num collegiorum etiam ex tempore superproposita sibi e studio quod tradere quivis intenderet per Facultatem huiatem Medicam materia celebrandorum pares futuri sint sese subiicere debeant. Quibus in reliquo gratia nostra caesarei regia ac principali benigne propensa manemus. Datum in civitate nostra Vienna Austriae, die septima mensis novembris anno Domini millesimo septingessimam septuagesimo sexto, regnorum vero nostrorum trigesimo septimo. Ad mandatum sacrae caesareae regiae maiestatis proprium (SS. indescifr.)

the end of May 1777. Therefore, you, our royal government, will have to inform of this benevolent intention of ours, via memoranda spread immediately to those who would wish to compete for the two departments to be opened, Chemistry and Botantics, and separately Anatomy, by adding that they should be present in our archducal citadel of Vienna at the afore mentioned term and give an exam in not only the very science of medicine, but also answering whether the proposals made to them during colleges, based on the studies each would like to teach within the existing faculty of medicine there, would be adequate to the subject of those to be honoured. In this respect, we remain within our imperial-royal grace and with good intentions. Dated in our citadel, Vienna of Austria, on the seventh say of the month of November one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six anno Domini, the thirty-seventh year of our reign. Her majesty's own imperial-royal mandate (SS indescifr.)

- Source: Szögi, L. and Varga, I. (2011). A Szegedi tudományegyetem es elodel tortenete. Szeged.

(retrieved in Latin from the image included in Szögi and Varga, 2011, with translation by Alexander Baumgarten for the present volume)

- Note: On 26th January 1775, already, Empress Maria Theresa issued the decree by which she named Josef Laffer professor of surgery and obstetrics at the University of Cluj.