



## DARTMOUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL

### SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION

Hinman 7005

306D Remsen

Hanover, NH 03755-3847

Telephone 603-650-7679

Facsimile 603-650-6841

[David.Nierenberg@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:David.Nierenberg@Dartmouth.edu)

**To:** Members of Medical Education Committee  
**From:** David W. Nierenberg  
**Subject:** Minutes - Meeting held Tues., March 25, 2008 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm, Aud. A

**Voting Members Present:** Rich Comi, Scottie Eliassen, Tom Frandsen (Year 1), Brent Harris, Horace Henriques, Susan Kelly (Yr. 3), Gene Nattie, Dave Nierenberg, Rebecca Pschirrer, Eric Shirley, and Erin Sullivan (Year 1).  
 (n =11)

**Voting Members Absent:** Andy Daubenspeck, Narath Carlile, Brian Guercio (Yr. 2), John Hwa, Bill Kinlaw, Greg Ogrinc, Michelle Oullette (Year 2), Jim Price, Laura Reis (Yr. 4), and Alan Rossi (Yr. 4),  
 (n = 10)

**Guests and Non-Voting Members:** Lori Alvord (Student Affairs), Diane Grollman (Evaluations), Beth Harwood (OSCEs), Bruce Stanton (Physiology), and Kalindi Trietley (OLADS)  
 (n = 5)

### Scheduled Meetings:

Sept. 25	Oct. 16	Nov. 27	Dec. 18	Jan. 22	Feb. 19	Mar. 25	Apr. 15	May 20	June 17
Aud. B	Borwell 658	Borwell 758	Aud. A	Aud. F	Aud. A	Aud. A	Aud. A	Aud. G	Aud. A

### I. Course Review: Physiology – Endocrinology and Renal

Based on Student Evaluations and other information, Lori Alvord presented a review of the Renal and Endocrinology disciplines of the Year 1 Physiology course. (Attachments A & B). Points of discussion that ensued included:

- A. Although the contents of the courses did not change, there was a moderately large difference between the evaluations of AY'07 and AY'08: higher satisfaction rate in '08 in Endocrinology; lower satisfaction rate in '08 in Renal.
- B. The students routinely comment that more small groups would be an improvement to the course, but, according to the course director, lack of faculty precludes formation of those groups. Nevertheless, the faculty will continue to pursue the means to expand this part of the program.
- C. The faculty will continue to try to standardize lecture notes.
- D. The lectures could be recorded electronically for student access.

## II. Update of Ad Hoc Committee for Year 3 Restructuring

Dave Nierenberg reported on the status of Year 3 restructuring:

- A. Background:
  - a. The changing of the structure of Year 3 to allow for an elective in that year has been a major concern of students;
  - b. Admissions has expressed that allowing for a Year 3 elective would make DMS more attractive to prospective students;
  - c. That the new dean has declared a goal to increase class size by five students per class effective August '08. Changes in Year 3 will help alleviate resulting future capacity issues.
- B. Considerations for the changes:
  - a. The changes would need to be made without diminishing the quality of the existing clerkships;
  - b. Clerkship directors and faculty are currently seeking ways to cut budgets;
  - c. Ideally, changes to existing clerkships would be small;
  - d. DMS graduates should still be eligible to be licensed in all of the United States.
  - e. Ideally, changes could be made without creating new clerkships;
  - f. Changes would have to be made with a minimum of capacity issues for the transitional year.
  - g. Whichever structure is chosen, it would have to be one that all parties involved could commit to, since it will be a lot of effort to create the changes.
- C. Suggested structures:
  - a. Dave presented a chart of six suggested structures (Attachment C) and pros and cons for each;
  - b. Horace Henriques suggested a seventh plan of 4 – 12 week blocks.
- D. Discussion ensued regarding all suggested structures.
- E. Due to time constraints, further discussion will occur at the next MEC meeting.

### III. Agenda for April 15 (Aud A):

- a. Course Review: (Tom Frandsen & Erin Sullivan)
- b. Continuation of Discussion Regarding Restructuring of Year 3