



DARTMOUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL

SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION

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To: Members of Medical Education Committee
From: David W. Nierenberg
Subject: Minutes - Meeting held Tues., April 15, 2008 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm, Aud. A

Voting Members Present: Narath Carlile, Rich Comi, Scottie Eliassen, Tom Frandsen (Year 1), Horace Henriques, John Hwa, Susan Kelly (Yr. 3), Bill Kinlaw, Dave Nierenberg, Michelle Oullette (Year 2), Rebecca Pschirrer, Laura Reis (Yr. 4), Eric Shirley, and Erin Sullivan (Year 1).
(n =14)

Voting Members Absent: Andy Daubenspeck, Brian Guercio (Yr. 2), Brent Harris, Gene Nattie, Greg Ogrinc, Jim Price, and Alan Rossi (Yr. 4),
(n = 10)

Guests and Non-Voting Members: David J. Bzik, Dana Carne, Andrew Giustini, Diane Grollman, Valerie Jacobs, Ziev Moses, Charles Sentman, and Caitlin Stashwick
(n =8)

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: Year 1 Microbiology: Immunology & Virology

Based on Student Evaluations and other information, Tom Frandsen and Erin Sullivan presented a review of the Immunology & Virology disciplines of the Year 1 Microbiology course. (Attachment A). The following issues were discussed:

A. Immunology

1. A summary of the Immunology portion of the course is as follows:
 - a. Response rate fairly low (57%)
 - b. Ratings were lower than year one averages, but were slightly higher than last year
 - c. Texts very popular
 - d. Small groups popular, some students wanted to see more focus on course content
 - e. Lectures and notes too detailed, difficult to discern major themes
3. Charles Sentman addressed some of the issues raised, his comments included the following:
 - a. Student comments tend to vary from year to year. Sometimes they request changes and the department complies, only to have subsequent students request that the changes be reversed;
 - b. A major goal of the course director is to have the course conform to the LCME core competencies;
 - c. Although having small groups graded as a team may seem unfair to some students, it does facilitate the students' engagement;
 - d. Ideally, there would be more small groups, but scheduling issues preclude that;
 - e. Regarding the prospect of recording immunology lectures, Dr. Sentman would prefer not to have the lectures recorded live (as they would not be correctible) but would be open to working with Reed Detar to record the lecture materials in a controlled setting.

B. Virology

1. A summary of the Virology Course is as follows:
 - a. Response rate fairly low (58%)
 - b. Course satisfaction was below year one mean
 - c. Lecture notes and course expectations were clear and well-received
 - d. Lecture attendance
 - e. Question format: board style questions are much more popular
2. Dr. Bzik addressed some of the issues raised, his comments included the following:

- a. A pending issue that will impact the course is that Dr. Pfeffercorn is on the verge of retiring. Within a year, Drs. Usherwood and Bzik will be teaching all lectures;
 - b. The exams and quizzes are in the process of improvement and questions should conform more closely to those on the boards by the next round of courses.
3. Dave Nierenberg presented scores from Step 1 of the boards taken last May/June by Year 2 students (Attachment B) that illustrate DMS students are scoring significantly better than the national mean in Microbiology/Immunology. This would indicate that the core material is being well covered in this course and related Year 2 courses.

II. Update of California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) Affiliation

Dave Nierenberg reported that he had visited CPMC over the weekend and was very pleased with the affiliation at this point. He noted that:

- A. Two DMS students are currently $\frac{3}{4}$ through with their Inpatient Medicine clerkship there and have expressed that it has been a very positive experience for them. They are especially impressed with the opportunity to interact with a very diverse patient population.
- B. Two students are attending a Psychology clerkship (two have already completed) and are finding their experience very positive.
- C. Neurology will begin taking one student at a time, beginning in July.
- D. Ob/Gyn may begin taking two students at a time in Block 2.
- E. Family Medicine may begin to take students in a year or two.
- F. Pediatrics will be taking three students in the coming year (although the rotation will not be limited to DMS students).
- G. Surgery at CPMC is eager to begin accepting DMS students, but the DMS surgery clerkship is reluctant to have students participate at this point.
- H. Geriatrics and Ambulatory Medicine is preparing to accept students.
- I. CPMC would also like for DMS students to participate in Year 4 electives at their facility.
- J. The students' apartment is very nice and is in a very good neighborhood, although the students may be moved to a larger apartment close by as more students participate.

III. Update of Ad Hoc Committee for Year 3 Restructuring

Dave Nierenberg presented the following information:

- A. The most popular and workable structures for the possible restructuring appear to be:
 - 1. A modified 7 x 7 structure (3/7/7/7/break/7/7/7/7 weeks);

2. An 8/8/6/6/6 weeks structure; and
 3. A 12/6/6/12/6/6 weeks structure.
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- B. Dave has already met with clerkship directors in Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, and Family Medicine regarding the proposed structures. He has plans to meet with clerkship directors in Psychiatry, Obstetrics, Neurology, and Genetics/Ambulatory Medicine.
 - C. Dave also plans to meet with the DMS Student Government to present the structural options and obtain feedback.
 - D. Dave will present his findings and discussion will continue at the next MEC meeting on May 20. If the restructuring is to be enacted on time, a proposal would have to be drawn up before June.

III. Agenda for May 20 (Aud G):

- A. Course Review: Biochemistry (Metabolism) Kalindi Trietley
- B. Update on CPMC clinical affiliation (Medicine clerkship)
- C. Continuation of Discussion Regarding Restructuring of Year 3