



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., October 21, 2008 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm, 758 Borwell

Voting Members Present: Allison Arensman (Year 3), Rich Comi, Scottie Eliassen, Tom Frandsen (Year 2), Virginia Lyons, Gene Nattie, Dave Nierenberg, Rebecca Pschirrer, and Erin Sullivan (Year 2).
(n =9)

Voting Members Absent: Narath Carlile (Year 4), Brian Guercio (Yr. 3), Horace Henriques, John Hwa, Bill Kinlaw, Ben Northrup, Greg Ogrinc, and Eric Shirley.
(n = 8)

Guests and Non-Voting Members: Lori Alvord, Diane Grollman, Beth Harwood, Brian Reid, and Ronald Taylor
(n =5)

Scheduled Meetings:

Sept. 30	Oct. 21	Nov. 18	Dec. 16	Jan. 20	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	May 19	June 16
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I. Course Review: Microbiology/Bacteriology

A. Rich Comi presented the review of the Year 1 Microbiology/Bacteriology course (Attachment A). The following is a summary of his findings:

1. Response rate – 49% (2/3 of students)
2. Course is well-received, scoring higher in all areas than the average Year 1 course
3. “Usefulness of lectures” received a lower score than the rest of the course – although still higher than the average Year 1 course

- B. Ronald Taylor, Course Director, responded that:
1. The improvement over last years' scores may be due in part to his making suggestions for changes to the lecturers who scored poorly last year
 2. Due to the inconsistencies in lecture attendance, he is considering putting all lectures on Blackboard
 3. The timing of the lab exam is admittedly unfortunate, but the exam was actually developed in order to award some credit for the hours students spend in the lab
- C. A lively discussion ensued regarding declining and often low attendance at lectures, mostly focused on the balance between students' comfort level and the result of low attendance on the enthusiasm of lecturers.
- D. Rich Comi raised the issue of use of microscopes (as opposed to electronic images) in labs. Dave Nierenberg responded that teaching there is definitely value in teaching the use of microscopes, so the practice will continue in Year 1 courses. In Year 2 courses, the use of electronic images is increasing.

II. Report on the Survey of the Class of 2007

Dave Nierenberg reported on the survey (Attachment B) created by the Office of Clinical Education and sent to students who graduate in 2007. He conveyed the following:

- A. Out of 57 surveys sent, 28 responded.
- B. In all but three areas, students scored their preparation by DMS remarkably high.
- C. The three areas that scored lower than the rest are consistently problem areas that DMS is actively working to correct. These areas have actually shown improvement in their scores. They are:
1. The lack of social and economic diversity in the patient population;
 2. A lack of opportunity for students to take the number of and variety of elective rotations desired; and
 3. The lack of opportunities to perform routine and technical procedures.

III. Report on AAMC Graduate Questionnaire

Tabled until the November meeting.

IV. Year 1 Issues

Issues regarding Year 1 will be opened for discussion at the December (not November) MEC meeting. Invitations to attend will be sent to all Year 1 Course Directors.

V. DMEDs Improvements

Dave Nierenberg reported that Brian Reid is currently working on an improvement to the DMEDs system that will alert students regarding their progress on fulfilling their clinical goals.

VI. Agenda – November 18, 2008

- A. Course Review: On-Doctoring (Rebecca Pschirrer)
- B. Report on the launches of the OB, Neurology, and Pediatric rotations at California Pacific Medical Center
- C. Discussion of AAMC Graduate Questionnaire