



**DARTMOUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL**  
**SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN OF MEDICAL**  
**EDUCATION**

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**To:** Members of Medical Education Committee  
**From:** David W. Nierenberg  
**Subject:** Minutes - Meeting held Tues., October 19, 2010 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm, Borwell 758

**Voting Members Present:** Jessie Bay (Year 1), Rich Comi, Scottie Eliassen, Aniko Fejes-Toth, Carolyn Koulouris (Year 2), Tim Lahey, Dave Nierenberg, Greg Ogrinc, Bijan Osmani (Year 1), Todd Poret, Virginia Reed, Judy Rees, Eric Shirley, and Erin Sullivan (Year 3)  
 (n =14)

**Voting Members Absent:** Kathleen Chaimberg, Matt Crowson (Year 2), Tom Frandsen (Year 4), Sarah Johansen, Virginia Lyons, Gene Nattie, Laura Ostapenko (Year 3), and Jonathan Zipursky (Year 3)  
 (n = 8)

**Guests and Non-Voting Members:** Ann Davis, Diane Grollman, William Hickey, Tony Kidder, Joan Monahan, Brian Reid, Alan Schned, Dean Chip Souba, and Cindy Stewart  
 (n = 9)

**Scheduled Meetings:**

Sept. 14	Oct. 19	Nov. 16	Dec. 21	Jan. 18	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 19	May 17	June 21
Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Borwell 658	Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Borwell 658	Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Borwell 758

**I. Introduction and Review of MEC Membership**

Attending members and guests introduced themselves. Dr. Nierenberg defined the forms of membership in MEC, and the roles and voting status of the members.

## II. Review of Year 1 Pathology Course (Rich Comi):

A. Rich Comi presented his report on the Year 1 Pathology Course (Attachment A), noting a drop in student satisfaction from the previous year and emphasizing that the chief criticisms of the course by the students were:

1. lack of organization;
2. poor and inconsistent lecture notes;
3. a disparity between the lecture materials and the exam questions.

B. Rich opened the floor to discussion. The main issues discussed were:

1. How does the drop in satisfaction from last year relate to the change in Pass/Fail?
2. How much of the drop is subjective to the class, considering that little has changed in the course from last year?
3. Is the drop in satisfaction related to the students' attitudes towards the exam (halo effect)?
4. How did students perform on Step 1 of the boards?

C. Dr. Schned, department head for Pathology, responded with the following points:

1. The department found the students' reactions sobering;
2. The faculty are currently discussing ways to address the issues raised by the students;

D. Dr. Hickey, Pathology course director, responded with the following points:

1. Year 1 Pathology is a very challenging course and requires a specific knowledge base;
2. The spectrum that the course covers is broad and encompasses the origins of all diseases making the scope of the course very daunting;
3. A new textbook was used for the first time in the last Year 1 Pathology course;
4. In addition to lectures, more novel forms of education are being explored;
5. Because of standards set by the LCME, the format of the exam cannot be changed;
6. The following changes are already planned for the next course:
  - a) New lecturers are being brought in;
  - b) The course will be reoriented;
  - c) Notes will be standardized;
  - d) More imaged slides will be used (but the use of the microscope will be retained);
  - e) Lectures will be more case oriented;
  - f) Vocabulary and concepts will be discussed in small groups.

### III. Dr. Chip Souba Addressed the MEC Membership and Guests:

Dr. Chip Souba, the new dean of DMS, dropped by to introduce himself to the MEC and guests. He stated that DMS has a reputation for setting the bar for Medical Education and charged the MEC to set the bar even higher through creativity and innovation. He recommended that, in order for the MEC to accomplish this, each member should indulge in debate without hostility; come to consensus on issues; encourage individuality and authenticity; work for something bigger than him/herselves; and honor his/her word. He stressed that he came to DMS because he was impressed with the commitment of the search committee and President Kim's commitment to Medical Education and Health Care Delivery. He believes in people and wants to help them see how extraordinary they are.

### IV. Discussion and Vote on the Healthcare Delivery Systems Curriculum:

Dr. Nierenberg reported on the progress of the new initiative to insert The Science of Healthcare Delivery Systems into the current DMS curriculum (Attachment B). He requested that the MEC provide a vote of confidence for Greg Ogrinc and the HCDS Vertical Integration Group to continue to develop these facets into the curriculum.

Eric Shirley made a motion that the MEC membership approve the presented outline and charge Greg Ogrinc and the HCDS Vertical Integration Group to proceed with their work.

Rich Comi seconded the motion.

A vote was taken and the results are as follows:

12 votes in favor

0 votes against

0 abstaining

The motion was passed.

Dr. Nierenberg requested that Greg Ogrinc report on the VIG's progress at the March or April 2011 meeting.

### V. Agenda for November 16 meeting:

A. Review of Reproduction (Virginia Reed)

B. LCME Issues