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To: Members of Medical Education Committee
From: David W. Nierenberg
Subject: Minutes - Meeting held Tues., April 17, 2012 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm, 758W Borwell

Voting Members Present: Ken Burchard, Rich Comi, Aniko Fejes-Toth, Carolyn Koulouris (Year 3), Victor Laurion (Year 1), Tim Lahey, Virginia Lyons, Dave Nierenberg, Todd Poret, Krina Shah (Year 1), and Eric Shirley
 (n = 11)

Voting Members Absent: Jessie Bay (Year 2), Kathleen Chaimberg, Ben Colby (Year 2), Matt Crowson (Year 3), Scottie Eliassen, , Tom Finn (Year 4), Sarah Johansen, Hal Manning, Greg Ogrinc, Virginia Reed, Judy Rees, and Jonathan Zipursky (Year 3).
 (n = 12)

Guests and Non-Voting Members: Laura Cousineau, Ann Davis, John Dick, Diane Grollman, Mikki Jaeger, and Adam Weinstein.
 (n = 6)

Scheduled Meetings:

Sept. 20	Oct. 18	Nov. 15	Dec. 20	Jan. 17	Feb. 7*	Mar. 20	Apr. 17	May 22*	June 19
Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Remsen 221*	Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Aud G*	Borwell 758	Borwell 758	Aud A*	Borwell 758

* Denotes change from original schedule.

I. Report on Year 1 Biochemistry Course Review:

Virginia Lyons presented a report from the Year 1 Course Review Subcommittee on SBM Biochemistry (see attached PPT presentation). Issues discussed by the MEC membership included:

- A. Will the competency grid be completed by the course director? (Dr. Myers is revising and putting it into the correct format.
- B. Why are essay questions a form of assessment for this course? (The students object to the essay programs but they are found to be a useful assessment of how the students are applying what they learn.
- C. Is the LCME standard of <50% lecture realistic? (The LCME does not have a written set standard for percentage of lecture time, but encourages medical schools to limit lecture time to <50% (40% being the ideal). Because of variations in courses, it is not always practical to dictate a lecture ratio.

THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDED CHANGES AS PRESENTED BY VIRGINIA LYONS.

II. Review of Year 1 HAE Course Review:

Virginia Lyons presented a report from the Year 1 Course Review Subcommittee on SBM Human Anatomy and Embryology (HAE) (see second half of attached PPT presentation). Issues discussed by the MEC membership included:

- A. Is there a way to raise the number of responses on the course evaluations? (It was recommended that the course directors add a small non-coercive inducement for students (such as early reporting of scores and grades) to participate and to illustrate to them how evaluations affect positive change.
- B. Is there a way to get other faculty to become proactive with current changes while major curricular changes are coming. (Faculty should be assured that the major curricular changes won't begin to roll out until 2015.

THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDED CHANGES AS PRESENTED BY VIRGINIA LYONS.

III. Report on Year 2 SBM Respiration Course Review:

Dave Nierenberg presented a report from the Year 2 Course Review Subcommittee on the SBM Respiration Course. (See attached report). Issues discussed by the MEC membership included:

- A. Can conference leaders provide more feedback to students? (Note: conference leaders in this course spend enough time with the students to be able to provide informal feedback.

THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDED CHANGES AS PRESENTED BY DAVID NIERENBERG.

IV. Report on Changes to Pediatrics Clerkship:

Adam Weinstein presented an update of the Pediatrics Clerkship to pinpoint improvements and delineate how the clerkship will adjust to the new structure for next year, including:

1. The orientation and wrap-up will remain the same, but the extra week will allow for more direct clinical experience.
2. Students will have a choice of a combination of 4/3 weeks (inpatient/outpatient) or 3/4 weeks.
3. Students will be exposed to more newborn experience.
4. Students will be able to round in the nursery and learn more examination skills.
5. The new structure allows for more flexibility with Friday afternoon seminars.
6. The assignment load will not increase, which allows students to spend more time with patients (and thus be exposed to more conditions).
7. Increased exposure to ambulatory patients should help students score well on Step 2 CK.

V. Brief Report on Changes to Class Sizes:

Dave Nierenberg reported that due to difficulties caused by increased class sizes and unpredictable “surges” size (up to 99 students in Year 3), Dean Souba has agreed to reduce the number of admissions to 87 for June 2012, then 84 for June 2013.

VI. Report on Changes to the Inpatient Medicine Clerkship:

John Dick presented an update of the Inpatient Medicine Clerkship to pinpoint improvements and delineate how the clerkship will adjust to the new structure for next year, including:

- A. There will be little change to orientation and wrap-up. Orientation will be held on the 1st Thursday or the clerkship and the students will be able to leave for distant rotations on Friday.
- B. Cardiology care will be increased to two weeks.
- C. Students will be assigned 6 to CPMC, 5 to DHMC, and 5 to VAMC.

VII. Report on Changes to Admissions Requirements:

- A. Ann Davis announced planned changes in the chemistry and math requirements for admission. (see attached).

1. The current requirements are:

- a) One year general biology
 - b) One year general physics
 - c) One year general chemistry
 - d) One year of organic chemistry
 - e) One half-year of calculus
2. The proposed requirements are:
- a) One year general biology.
 - b) One year of general physics.
 - c) Two years of chemistry, which must include **one semester of organic chemistry and one semester of biochemistry.**
 - d) One half-year of college-level mathematics, **including either calculus or statistics** (statistics preferred).
3. The requirement of facility in written and spoken English will remain unchanged.

B. Discussion ensued, including the following issues:

- 1. Would the biochemistry requirement be difficult to attain for non-traditional students? (While this is true, it becomes difficult for course directors to teach students who do not have a sufficient background in biochemistry.)
- 2. Would coursework count if it is taken during the application year? (Yes, if completed successfully.)
- 3. Are there any courses required that address the core competencies? (Only humanities. But the timing is not right for addressing non-science requirements.)
- 4. Would students who take calculus over statistics be discriminated against? (No.)

THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES AS PRESENTED BY ANN DAVIES.

VIII. Agenda for May 22 Meeting:

- A. Proposed Pilot Program in On-Doctoring (10 minutes)
- B. Approval of Ob/Gyn Essential Skills and Conditions (5 minutes)
- C. Issues Regarding LCME (75 minutes)