The CECD voted to request a change to the end of clerkship NBME subject matter exam grading policy and are hopeful to put this into effect with the start of this new academic year.

Current grading guidelines state that an NBME score above the 10\textsuperscript{th} percentile will be a pass, 10-6\textsuperscript{th} percentile is a discretionary zone where the clerkship director can decide on a grade of incomplete with exam retake or failure based on other performance markers, and score < 6\textsuperscript{th} percentile is a course failure requiring referral to CSPC.

We've like to eliminate the discretionary zone and make it a simple >5\textsuperscript{th} percentile is pass and 5\% and lower is failure and referral to CSPC.

Impetus is to be more in line with what other schools are doing, with what the NBME recommends as minimum passing, and in line with pass performance on step 2 CK.

We do not believe that asking students to use the limited free time they have to restudy and take these repeat exams if scoring in the 6-10 percentile truly improves their educational experiences. More than likely, it simply identifies those students that struggle on standardized tests.

Here is the current policy with our proposed deletion in red:

**Use of NBME Shelf Exams in Clerkship Grading**

Medical knowledge is an important competency to be assessed in the evaluation and grading of medical students. One means of assessing medical knowledge is through the use of clerkship specific NBME subject exams. These exams are very commonly used in US medical schools, and at Geisel most clerkships administer them as well. While clerkships are free to establish how exams are weighted and incorporated into the final grade, the school supports standardization in determining passing or failing exam performances and their consequences. Geisel's policy on the use of subject exams in clerkship grading is as follows:

Subject exam results at the 11th percentile or higher represent a passing grade, with the results incorporated into the clerkship grade based on the clerkship grading policy.

Results from the 6th to the 10th percentile represent a zone of discretion. In this range the clerkship director(s) may elect to allow a student to repeat the subject exam prior to determining the final clerkship grade, with the grade carried as Incomplete until the results of the repeat exam are known. If the student’s performance was sufficiently strong on other measures of the knowledge competency, such as preceptor evaluations or other clerkship exams, then repeating the subject exam may be allowed. If performance on other measures of the knowledge competency was not sufficiently strong, then a subject exam score in this range will result in a failing grade for the clerkship and the student will be discussed at the Committee on Student Performance and Conduct (CSPC) to develop a plan for remediation.

Subject exam results at the 5th percentile or lower represent a failure of the knowledge competency and therefore a clerkship failure and the student will be discussed at the CSPC to develop a plan for remediation.