To: Members of Medical Education Committee  
From: David W. Nierenberg  
Subject: Minutes - Meeting held Tues., Nov. 14, 2006 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm, Fuller Board Room

Voting Members Present: Rich Comi, Barbara Conradt, Andy Daubenspeck, Brian Guercio, Brent Harris, Horace Henriques, John Hwa, Susan Kelly, Petra Lewis, Gene Nattie, Dave Nierenberg, Rebecca Pschirrer, Abigail Rao, and Laura Reis = 14

Voting Members Absent: Jamie Bessich, Leslie Fall, Ben Northrup, Greg Ogrinc, Michelle Oullette, Sarah Pletcher, Jim Price, Valerie Rooney, Eric Shirley, and Joao Tiixeira = 10

Guests and Non-Voting Members: Joan Monahan, Diane Grollman, and Lora Thompson = 3

Scheduled Meetings:

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I. Scheduled Review of Course or Clerkship: Year 3 Surgery

Rich Comi reviewed the Year 3 Surgery clerkship and provided the following information:

A. The clerkship runs approximately 7.5 weeks and is co-chaired by Ken Burchard and Horace Henriques. It includes two rotations, on either one of six DHMC services, and/or the single surgery service at the VA.
B. In general DMS students do well on the surgery portion of Part II of the boards.

C. Discussion then moved to Call Hours for surgery students. The following points were made:

1. Students are not on call more than one evening every six days.
2. The clerkship directors are working towards promoting increased awareness of the students’ level of fatigue while on call.
3. Horace Henriques stated that there is value in students’ learning how the hospital runs during late hours.
4. It is within the purview of MEC to monitor on-call hours for clinical rotations.
5. In order to pursue the subject further, more information from the students is needed (Laura and Ben will continue to survey).

II. Possible Restructuring of the Architecture of Year 3

The membership continued to discuss the issue of possibly revising the overall architecture of Year 3. Issues discussed included:

A. Dave Nierenberg met with each Course and/or Clerkship Director at least once. He reported the following issues related to the possible change to a “7X7” plan:

1. In order to accommodate the additional 1/2 week required in California for licensure, the surgery clerkship will always be followed by an elective block.
2. The new structure would put the Family Medicine clerkship at a disadvantage due to its effect on away rotations and return from the 2-week holiday break.
3. The Pediatrics clerkship has three components (some at distant sites) and would be harder to complete in seven weeks.
4. Obstetrics also has three components, but is not as concerned about a problem.
5. Laura Reis reported that students are 100 percent in favor of the new 7X7 and are enthusiastic about its flexibility.
6. Having electives in Year 3 may be beneficial to students, but is probably only “necessary” for the few students headed for an early match.

B. Dave reported that an alternative to the restructuring might be to work with the Clerkship Directors to accommodate 14 students per cycle for the coming year.

C. Dave Nierenberg suggested that the discussion be completed at the December meeting (when, presumably, all data will be in) and a vote taken.
VI. Agenda for Dec. 12 Meeting:

A. Continuation of discussion and vote on Year 3 restructuring; and