

Progress In Action – Our Commitment to Quality Improvement

Prepared by the UME Team

SAMP Trailblazer week*

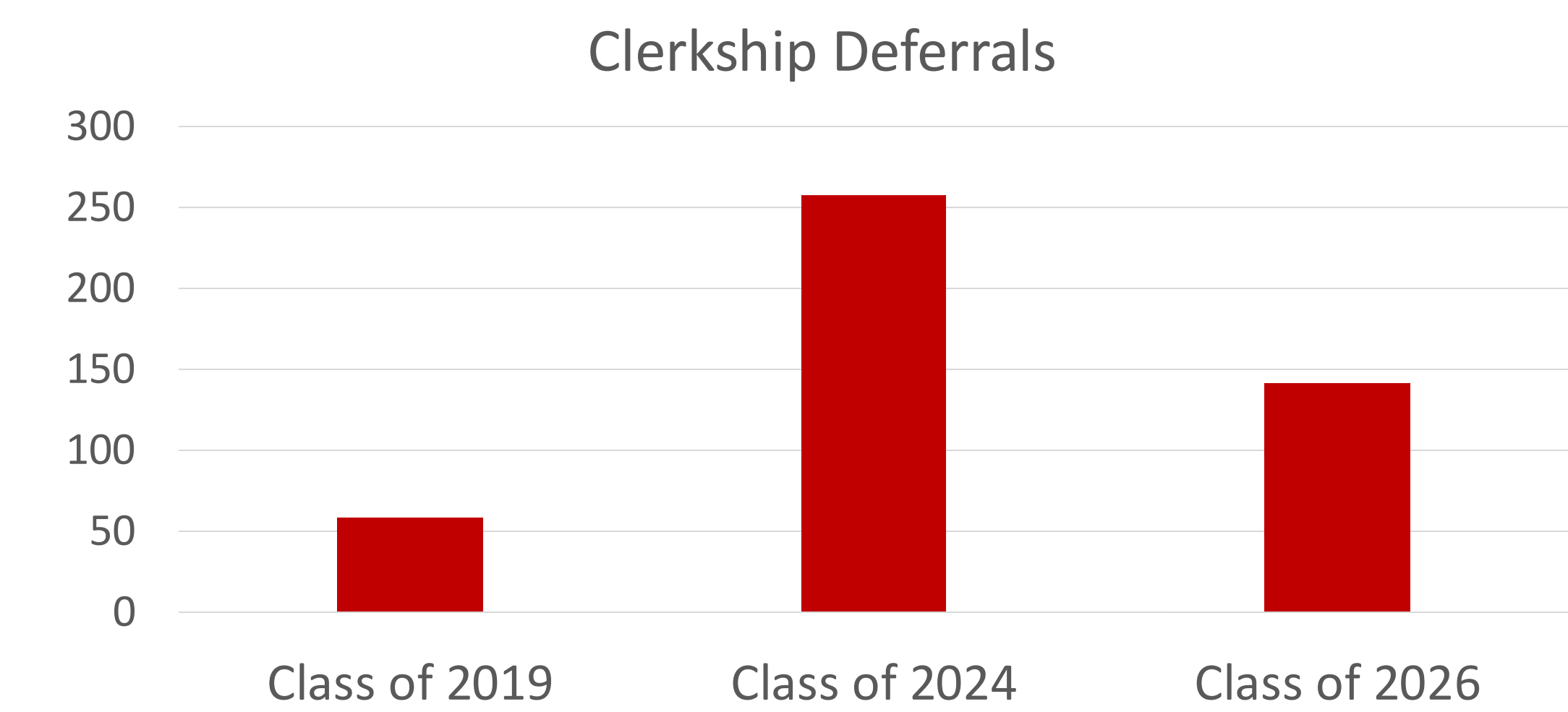
A group of volunteer students joined the SAMP team in Lethbridge for a week of curriculum delivery in Lethbridge. The SAMP Trailblazer Week successfully identified both strengths and areas for improvement, confirming a strong foundation with engaged faculty and a small cohort advantage. Work has been done to start addressing infrastructure and operational challenges revealed by the Trailblazer process before the first cohort arrives in July 2026. Amongst field notes, interviews, and other data collected, students in Lethbridge rated their events highly.

Event Type	SAMP student rating	Metro Calgary student rating
Scholarship small group	4.835 (n=8)	4.327 (n=40)
Small group	4.875 (n=16)	4.459 (n=141)
Large group	4.523 (n=30)	4.757 (n=38)
Clinical skills small group	5 (n=6)	4.506 (n=29)

*Data drawn from the Trailblazer report initiated by the SAMP/UME/DLRI

Clerkship Deferrals

With the transition to the new summative exam model in clerkship, we've seen a huge drop in clerkship deferrals. In previous years with the rotation-based exam model, students would regularly defer exams and find themselves with a significant backlog of exams to pass at the end of the program.



By creating the new summative exams that blueprint across clerkships, we've reduced the number of days away from clinical spaces for exams.

Exhaustion and Burnout*

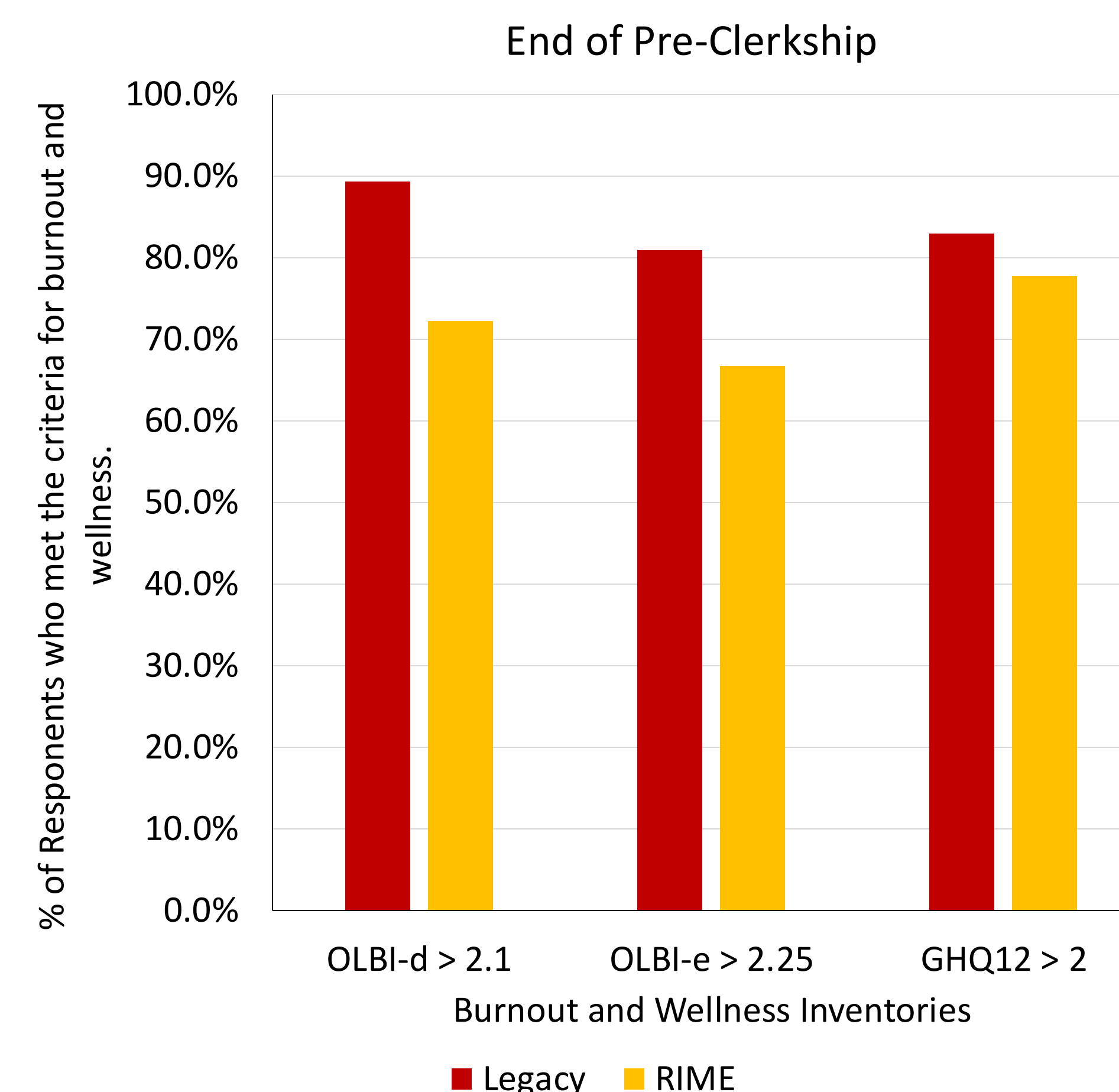
Using a voluntary survey of Legacy (class of 2025) and RIME (class of 2026) cohorts, the study measured burnout and distress with the Oldenburg Burnout Inventory and GHQ-12 at two time points: end of pre-clerkship and one year into clerkship.

Results showed that at the end of pre-clerkship, Legacy students had significantly higher rates of disengagement and exhaustion compared to RIME students, with no difference in psychological distress.

During clerkship, however, RIME respondents reported higher exhaustion rates (reaching 100%) but lower psychological distress compared to Legacy students. The findings suggest that while the RIME curriculum may reduce early burnout, patterns shift during clerkship, highlighting complex dynamics in student wellness over time.

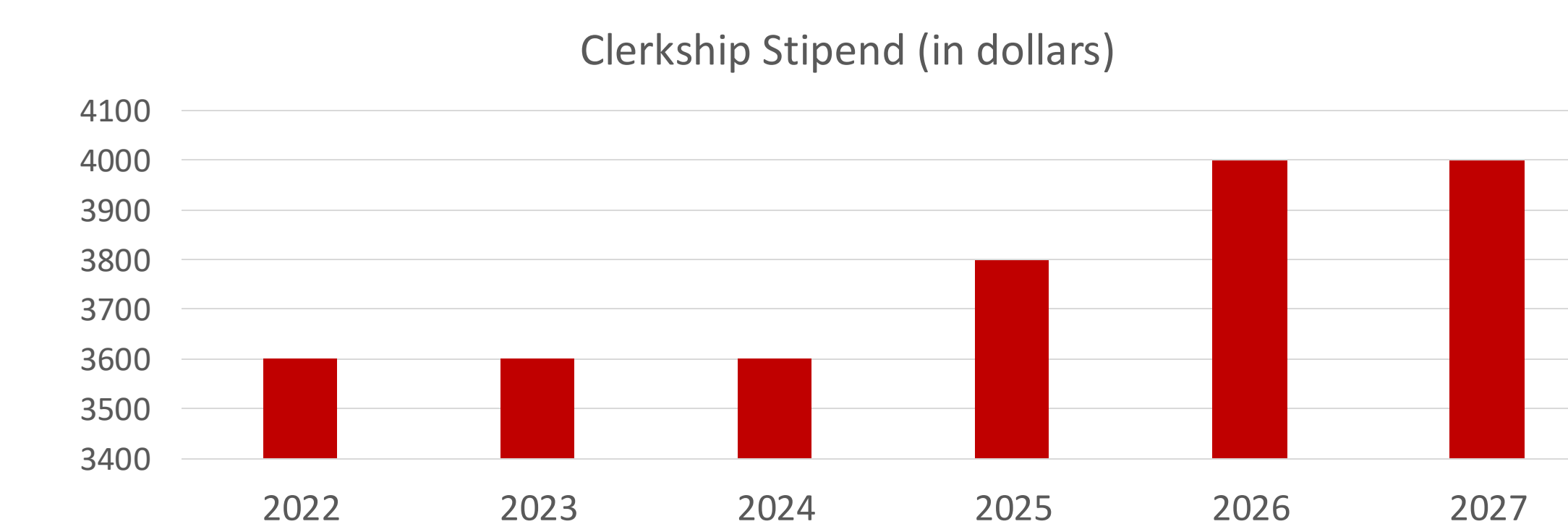
Despite low response rates suggesting survey fatigue, the study supports ongoing monitoring of wellness using streamlined tools like a modified Maslach Burnout Inventory within routine program evaluation.

*Data presented at the 2026 ICAM Conference



Clerkship Stipend Increases

Students from the Class of 2026 and 2027 received increased stipends from the UME during their clerkship.



Q1 2026

Have an idea to highlight in Progress in Action? Contact ume.manager@ucalgary.ca

