Clerkship Committee (CC)
June 30, 2020
12:30 - 2:30 PM


Guests: Drs. C. Hutchison.

1. Welcome and Thanks
The meeting was called to order at 12:35 PM by K. Busche (Chair). K. Busche thanked everyone for coming.

K. Busche introduced N. Hardcastle to the committee who is representing the Anesthesia Clerkship at the committee meeting and is also the new Anesthesia Clerkship Evaluations Coordinator.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda
K. Busche added some updates as agenda items under the New Business section. K. Busche asked for any additional amendments to the meeting agenda as proposed. J. Midgley asked if a “Course 8 Update” could be added to the agenda under “New Business”, K. Busche agreed to add it to the proposed agenda for the meeting. The Course 8 Director had to leave the meeting before completion; as such this agenda item was not discussed. Subsequent to the meeting, the Course 8 Director provided an email update to the committee.

K. Busche asked if there were any other amendments or additions to the meeting agenda as proposed, there were none.

Passed Unanimously

3. Business Arising from the Minutes from May 26, 2020
K. Busche mentioned the minutes from the May 26, 2020 meeting of the committee would be circulated to the committee electronically for their review and approval. K. Busche updated the committee on progress around some of the issues that arose during the May 26, 2020 meeting.

3.1 Patient/Student Interaction Guidelines
K. Busche said since the May 26, 2020 meeting more work on guidelines around patient/student interaction for which sort of patients students would be able to see during the COVID-19 pandemic had been done. K. Busche mentioned the updates to these guidelines would be circulated to the committee electronically.

3.2 Visiting Electives for the Class of 2021
K. Busche updated the committee that since the May 26, 2020 meeting it was decided that there would not be any visiting electives for the Class of 2021 - nationally. K. Busche said that he and M. Louis had been working on plans for students who will have to do all of their remaining visiting electives, locally - in Calgary.
K. Busche said that because there will be no further visiting electives outside of Calgary for the Class of 2021 - UME decided to change guidelines around restricting students to one two-week elective block in any given discipline - the new guidelines allow students to do two two-week elective blocks in any given discipline, without special permission. If students want to do more than two elective blocks in any given discipline, M. Louis put together a short list of questions that students will need to answer to get special permission. M. Louis’ list includes: what electives they have done so far, what other electives do they have planned, what are their career goals, and how do they feel two more weeks in that given discipline would be valuable to them.

3.3 COVID-19 Learner Webpage
K. Busche mentioned that since the May 26, 2020 meeting - the idea of putting a repository of COVID-19 communications to students, resources to AHS information, resources on COVID-19 etc onto a webpage for learners - had been operationalized, and is now live online: https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/mdprogram/current-students/student-resources/covid-response-plan

4. Standing Updates

4.2 Student Reports
S. George from the Class of 2022 gave an update to the committee, including sessions the Class attended last week to get a sense of what questions are still unknown, and what the Class of 2022 Clerkship schedule will look like for learners.

4.3 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UMEC) Update
K. Busche mentioned C. Naugler could not make it to the meeting, but updated the committee that UMEC had met recently and were given a lengthy report on the plans and work done by the committee in terms of COVID-19 changes, the plan for everything decided on by the committee so far to get Clerkship back up-and-running post-COVID-19 was approved by UMEC (via an email vote after the meeting).

4.4 Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) Update
K. Busche mentioned S. Weeks could not make it to the meeting, but had passed on a Pre-Clerkship Committee update to be shared with the committee.

Tanukis: Class of 2022
Starting with Course 4: all lectures, small groups, anatomy, patient presentations, AEBM and midterm exams are online. Course timing has changed with some courses moving earlier to allow for later “in-person” learning events. Starting in September UME will resume in person “experiential” learning events such as: Clinical Correlation, Physical Exam, Communications, Procedural Skills, and the Medical Skills OSCE. Two weeks of the Pre-Clerkship elective time have been saved and will occur “locally” the weeks of September 21 - 25th and November 30 - December 4. Clerkship for the Class of 2022 will start 2 weeks later than planned on January 25, 2021. Shadowing is still a work in progress and updates regarding that will come in the future.

Baby Animals: Class of 2023
Starting with Orientation on July 6, 2020 - then Population Health and Course 1. Similar to the Tanukis, starting in September experiential learning will resume. Pre-Clerkship electives are being changed to one week in March (Limpkins away for CaRMS), with one week spring break, then two weeks in July with one week of summer break.

4.5 Student Evaluation Committee (SEC) Update
K. Busche mentioned K. McLaughlin is covering as Chair of the Student Evaluation Committee for J. Desy while she is away. K. McLaughlin mentioned there are two updates from SEC: 1) EPAs which are scheduled to be discussed separately later on in the agenda, and 2) two SEC meetings ago, it was voted and approved to amend the way the MPL is set.
5. New Business

5.1 Logbook for the Class of 2021
K. Busche asked the committee to consider if the committee required changes to the logbook for the Class of 2021 to reflect any recent changes to Clerkship. M. Paget updated the committee that the Academics Technology team is already working on two impacts: 1) refactoring the way students get reminders to ensure they are timed appropriately to the staggered student schedules, and 2) the faculty performance records that went out recently included 6,000 entries to the logbook - M. Paget thanked UME Faculty members, specifically including the surgeons Dr. John Graham, Dr. Michael Kwan and Dr. Anthony Maclean who were associated with a staggering amount of the entries.

5.2 Class of 2022 Clerkship Schedule
K. Busche updated the committee that the UME is in the process of trying to recreate the Clerkship schedule that was created for the Class of 2021 - in anticipation for the Class of 2022’s entry into Clerkship. K. Busche informed Clerkship rotations they should be planning to revert back to the schedule as it was prepared before the COVID-19 pandemic, utilizing the committee’s work around the length of clerkship rotations, holiday time, electives etc. K. Busche mentioned that S. Tai had circulated a draft schedule for the clerkship of the Class of 2022, and feedback or obstacles should be forwarded to UME as soon as possible.

K. Busche identified some of the currently unknown components that could impact the schedule, including: the CaRMS timeline for the Class of 2022 has not been released, national discussions around pushing CaRMS cut-offs past late November, the Class of 2022’s ability to do visiting electives starting in January 2021 - which they won’t be able to book unless they know they are available in advance. K. Busche committed to provide updates to the committee around the details of the schedule, and the unknown elements that impact the Class of 2022 Clerkship schedule - as they become available.

K. Busche mentioned potential hypotheticals could have unforeseen impacts on any proposed Class of 2022 Clerkship schedule, but the COVID-19 pandemic experience has given him confidence in the ability for the UME Clerkship Committee to adjust and accommodate in a flexible and timely manner.

5.3 CaRMS Prep Day
K. Busche stated the new CaRMS timeline for the Class of 2021 has a cut-off date of February 7, whereas last year it was late November - the Match Date is still unknown. The February 7, 2021 date is the date when Class of 2021 students will need to have all their paperwork together and assign where it is being sent. S. Tai updated the committee on possibilities within the schedule where students could be given time to prepare for CaRMS. K. Busche asked the committee if they had concerns with learners on their rotation having 24 hours off to accommodate CaRMS preparations (documents notarized, appointed with SAW to review personal letters or CVs etc).

MOTION: For the 2020/2021 academic year - that during the second half of Block 9, students will be given a 24 hour period (ideally a weekday, but can be a weekend day) where the student is off (during a period when they would otherwise be on) clinical rotation during the day and not on call at night - for a CaRMS prep day.

FIRST: K. Albrecht
SECOND: R. Ram
MOTION PASSED

5.4 EPAs in Clerkship (K. McLaughlin)
K. Busche mentioned that last week an email on EPAs had been sent out to the committee as a backgrounder on this topic. To ensure graduates of the UME program meet the standards that are expected as a graduate of the program, the committee’s input on the work around competency based assessment is being sought.

K. McLaughlin gave a presentation to the committee on EPAs, competency based education, and their validity. See attached.
K. Busche asked if the committee had any questions or comments for K. McLaughlin. A. Mineyko asked how quickly the evaluators assessing a student fill out an assessment on an EPA, for it to qualify. K. McLaughlin said there is a spectrum of timelines when the EPA is performed and when the valid assessment is completed by the evaluator, but it will fall within UME processes and procedures.

S. George asked a question around how the learner will be responsible for ensuring completion of EPAs. K. McLaughlin mentioned students will not be assessed on EPAs unless they initiate the assessment, and the responsibility for completion belongs to the student as they are also required to initiate the assessment by sending out the initial email. S. George asked questions around ensuring students being able to time the EPAs for graduation properly. K. McLaughlin mentioned UME will be looking at things like mandating students must complete a certain amount of EPAs by a certain time, and/or using email feedback to students mentioning how far along they are compared to how far along it is expected for them to be along in the process etc.

The committee had a discussion around how many times a student can be assessed by an individual preceptor, timelines for completion of assessments, timelines for learners to stay on track to complete the required EPAs by graduation.

5.5 Course 8
J. Midgley asked on behalf of the Pediatrics Clerkship that if Course 8 Zoom lectures were still occurring as some students had mentioned they had Course 8 Zoom lectures to attend. K. Busche mentioned as J. Haws had to step out of the meeting and was not present, himself, the pediatrics clerkship rotation and J. Haws could connect after the meeting to discuss the details.

ACTION ITEM: K. Busche, J. Midgley, S. Bannister, J. Haws to have a conversation around Course 8 scheduling - and to email the committee the outcome of the discussion.

6. Clerkship Reports

6.1 Obstetrics and Gynecology (K. Albrecht)
K. Albrecht delivered the Obstetrics and Gynecology report and presentation to the committee. K. Albrecht mentioned this upcoming year Dr. Weronika Harris-Thompson would be a new Co-Clerkship Director, with herself.

K. Busche thanked K. Albrecht for the report and presentation and asked if any committee members had questions or comments.

The committee had a discussion around the Obstetrics and Gynecology innovations in hands-on block week at the beginning of their clerkship rotation. K. Busche encouraged other clerkships to look at utilizing similar models to the Obstetrics and Gynecology clerkship rotations innovations in this regard.

K. Busche asked for a motion for the Clerkship Committee to accept the Obstetrics and Gynecology report as presented by K. Albrecht.

First: J. Lamothe
Second: G. Greenfield
Motion Passed

6.2 Internal Medicine (M. Slawnych)
M. Slawnych delivered the Internal Medicine report and presentation to the committee.

K. Busche thanked M. Slawnych for the report and presentation and asked if any committee members had questions or comments.
K. Busche asked M. Slawnych when the bedside teaching is done on the clerkship rotation. M. Slawnych answered Wednesday afternoons around 1:00PM. K. Busche asked if there were any better times the bedside teaching could be done. M. Slawnych mentioned the specific challenges around the bedside teaching being in the morning, or in the mid-day, or in the afternoon. The committee had a discussion around possibilities of when the bedside teaching content could be delivered. M. Slawnych mentioned he would bring the ideas and discussion forward to the Internal Medicine Clerkship Committee.

G. Greenfield asked if Internal Medicine pays their preceptors. M. Slawnych mentioned most of the Internal Medicine preceptors are under a contract where they do not get paid from UME funding.

K. Busche asked for a motion for the Clerkship Committee to accept the Internal Medicine report as presented by M. Slawnych.

First: J. LaMothe
Second: R. Ram
Motion Passed

6.3 Psychiatry (T. Ayas)
T. Ayas delivered the Psychiatry report and presentation to the committee.

K. Busche thanked T. Ayas for the report and presentation and asked if any committee members had questions or comments.

A committee member asked how the Psychiatry Clerkship Rotation retreat is paid for. T. Ayas answered that the clerkship rotation retreat is funded through Department of Psychiatry funding for paying any of the sessionals, room bookings, and catering, and not from UME funding. T. Ayas elaborated that the retreat is exploring being partnered with Psychiatry Post-Graduate Medical Education due to similarities, shared benefits, and overlap in preceptors who work within both UME and PGME.

M. Paget asked if there were any anticipated challenges with the Pre-Clerkship Course 7 curriculum being different within the schedule. T. Ayas mentioned he had connected with Course 7 Chair Dr. P. Stokes and had a discussion around recruiting preceptors, producing podcasts, ensuring accessibility for those who are unable to attend in-person - and they are confident most challenges can be mitigated.

K. Busche asked for a motion for the Clerkship Committee to accept the Psychiatry report as presented by T. Ayas.

First: K. Albrecht
Second: J. LaMothe
Motion Passed

7. Next Meeting
K. Busche mentioned that the committee’s next meeting is proposed for September 15, 2020 from 12:30 - 2:30PM and that further details would be sent out to the committee members with plenty of notice.

K. Busche mentioned the proposed committee meeting dates for the 2020 - 2021 academic year would be distributed to the committee membership by D. Beninger this afternoon.

8. Adjournment
K. Busche (Chair) thanked the committee members for their ongoing work to adjust and be flexible in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and challenges. K. Busche adjourned the meeting at 2:29 PM.

Minutes: Dave Beninger – July 20, 2020
Edits: Dr. Kevin Busche – July 31, 2020