



Clerkship Committee (CC) Minutes

Clerkship Committee (CC)

APPROVED

Tuesday January 28, 2025

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm Meeting

via Zoom

Attendees: Drs. K. Busche (chair), K. Darcus, M. Davis, J. Desy, G. Gelfand, L. Harper, W. Harris-Thompson, J. Haws, T. Killam, H. Kim, T. Lohmann, S. McLeod, R. Ram, A. Ramaliu, E. Ruka, M. Sohn, S. Weeks, T. Wong, Ms. A. Adel, Ms. S. Facchini, Ms. M. Hsu, Ms. S. Leskosky, Ms. T. McNally, Ms. S. Tai, Ms. G. Taneja, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

Regrets: Drs. S. Bannister, A. Bromley, S. Coderre, A. DiNinno, F. Jivraj, N. Johnson, K. Lafreniere, S. Lopushinsky, M. Mintz, S. Pancic, A. Ritter, M. Thompson, J. Vantanajal, C. Zavitz, Mr. S. Ivaturi, Mr. V. Joe, Mr. J. Kreutz, Mr. M. Paget, Ms. A. Randhawa, Ms. D. Stanojevic

1. Welcome and Thanks

The meeting was conducted through Zoom and was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Dr. K. Busche (Chair). Dr. Busche welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those who adjusted their schedules to attend the PDRI presentation before this meeting. He then formally introduced Dr. Tara Lohmann into her position as the Internal Medicine Clerkship Director.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda –Passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2024 – Passed unanimously.

4. Standing Updates

4.1 Student Reports

Ms. Hsu informed the committee that the Class of 2027 are currently four weeks into Block 2 after the winter break. She included that due to the spiral curriculum so far in Block 2 there is advanced learning from the concepts that were introduced in Block 1 which is exciting for the students to continue building on those concepts with more information.

Ms. Adel updated the committee for the Class of 2026, including that the class had just started their Clerkship and overall feedback has been good. She noted that there have been concepts that were learned about in RIME that have come up in the various blocks of Clerkship so far which has helped with the excitement and learning through the start of Clerkship.

4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee

Dr. Busche informed the committee that Dr. Bromley is not able to attend the meeting and is meeting with the team from the expansion campus from Lethbridge to go over a lot of the information and infrastructure and working with the architects for the building and redesigning of the new campus. The updates included that UMEC met on December 13th and approved the RPCC ToR which added the department of family medicine, along with other members, UMEC also approved to add the Class Presidents for each year to their

ToR. Excitement continues around the Southern Alberta Medical Program expansion moving forward and no new issues have come up to address.

4.3 RIME Pre-Clerkship Committee Update

Dr. Weeks informed the committee that the Class of 2027 have completed their first six-month block of RIME. She included that there was a Pre-Clerkship educator retreat on January 24th, which brought together all the educators for an opportunity to workshop and go over things that may not be going well, what is going well, and what changes they would like to see from their level. Around 85% of the educators were present for the retreat with a lot of dedication and some great ideas to continue the quality of education, areas to improve and make things better for the years to come. Dr. Weeks reminded the committee that the Class of 2027 will have two more Career Development weeks with one week being June 2nd to 6th, and the final week being one of the weeks between June 30th and July 18th.

4.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update

Dr. Desy informed the committee that both the Clerkship and Pre-Clerkship levels of Competency Committees were running, and added two new voting members to the Clerkship Competency Committee the first being a representative from the SAW-Hub as the Pre-Clerkship level had them as a voting member so the goal was to align the voting members to be the same, and the second was Dr. Lea Harper was added to both the committees. She included that there was a midpoint meeting where concerns and recommendations were addressed and sent out to the students most specifically around the EPA completion. The final Clerkship Competency Committee will meet when students are wrapping up their rotations and approaching graduation in the spring.

4.5 Research Committee Update

Dr. Desy informed the committee that she has met with Dr. Lara Cooke who is taking over the Medical Education Institute at the University of Calgary, which will be replacing OHMES. This will create a working group to form strong relationships through this new centre, the UME and the stakeholders to ensure the needs of each office will be met.

4.6 Continuous Quality Improvement/Curriculum Innovation and Oversight Update

Dr. Harper informed the committee that there has been a new strategy created in efforts to improve curricular management both from a quality and accreditation perspective, the Curriculum Innovation and Oversight Operating Standards. This is going to guide how the UME oversees any curricular changes, including the use of an application to be filled out when approaching the changes and this will ensure the changes will be met with the standards and policies for changes and anything that does get implemented will be brought back to the corresponding committee for final approvals. Dr. Harper added that if there are any ideas for changes to email Dr. Busche or herself. Dr. Busche added that this change has been brought forward from the accreditation viewpoint that at present, there has not been an official way of keeping track and reporting of any changes previously, and this is designed to change that for the accreditors. Some clarification questions around curricular audit processes were addressed.

4.6 PGME Update

Dr. Davis informed the committee that currently the PGME office is currently in a relatively calm position which has created the space to work on some strategic planning around teaching assessments and how to provide the feedback to the teaching faculty in a meaningful way while balancing the needs of safety and confidentiality for the residents and fellows, who share the information. Dr. Davis also included that she has been part of the AFMC working group for the final year of medicine, which is starting to produce initial recommendations being circulated and will be a lot of combined work between the UME and PGME levels going forward.

4.7 Accreditation Update

Dr. Busche informed the committee that the preliminary written report from the accreditors will be provided on February 10th and there is a formal review session scheduled with the UME Dean's to go over this report, once reviewed there will be more information coming to address any changes that will need to be worked on for the accreditation process, if required.

4.8 EDI Update

Ms. Taneja updated the committee that in addition to the PDRI changes there will be some resources developed and will be available on their website in the coming months that will help people through the process of dealing with mistreatment, retaliation and reprisal. There are also lots of Black History Month events coming including a conference being hosted by the Faculty of Social Work and events from the Dean's Office.

5. Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Clerkship Exams: Dates and Formative Experiences

Dr. Busche reminded the committee about the evaluation changes for the Class of 2026, regarding the new exam format and schedule. He added that it is supported and encouraged for each rotation to still use non-mandatory formative assessments as part of their rotation. The request is to have these exams converted from the Dolphin platform to the CARDS platform as the new Clerks have not had to use Dolphin previously, the Academic Technologies Team can be reached through Mr. Mike Paget, to have the current formatives converted.

6. New Business

6.1 Study Resources for Learners Not on Rotation

Dr. Busche brought forward this topic after some conversations with students around the new evaluation format where the students are evaluated on all the content knowledge from all rotations in each exam. He has requested the committee think of current resources that are available to the students through the Osler landing page and start evaluating the resources that would be most helpful for student's who are not currently on the rotation but will still be studying for the exam where there will be content from the rotation. He included that it is a good chance to review this information and ensure that what is available on the landing page for resources is still up to date and represents the information that the students should learn or do on rotation, he suggested that putting together a folder of high yield information and resources for students to use to study. Some questions posed included the use of physical materials provided to the students for each rotation, such as the Ottawa Anesthesia Primer, noting that any student that has not gone through an Anesthesia rotation will not have seen or had access to this resource to study. Discussion concluded with looking into this further for potential online based resources that can be used for the students to study from.

6.2 EPA 0 in Clerkship

Dr. Busche reminded the committee about EPA's and what their purpose is throughout the Clerkship and that the students need to have 43 completed over their Clerkship. He included that he was approached by Dr. Sohn that in the Pre-Clerkship there was a need to evaluate learners around some fundamental aspects of their performance and from the conversations held the team created the EPA 0. Dr. Busche included that the EPA 0 is initiated by the preceptor, unlike the other EPAs in Clerkship or Residency where the learner initiates the EPA. The purpose of these is to identify a learner who is demonstrating some kind of behaviour that a preceptor and the school would not want them to continue as they are doing, or they can be filled out for exceptional behaviour the other way as well. Dr. Busche used the examples of a learner who is frequently late or absent, or who has not completed something in a timely fashion, and the preceptor can initiate this form as a lower level way to start to capture some concerning behaviours that may not make it to the overall evaluation. Dr. Busche invited Dr. Sohn to provide some input towards the steps of bringing this forward into

the Clerkship curriculum and how these have worked in the Pre-Clerkship so far. Dr. Sohn approached this as the professionalism EPA, noting that in various rotations some of the students may be with a different preceptor each day, with their own daily evaluation ITER that get compiled by an evaluation coordinator overall and some of this information could be missed or lost over a midpoint or final ITER comments, which would have this EPA 0 being a good use of something to be noted as it happens and would not be lost through the compilation of final ITERs. She included that this provides a discrete way to capture the good things and potentially create the opportunities for students to learn more about professionalism and the behaviours associated with being a physician. Dr. Busche included that these EPAs would also be reviewed by the Competency Committee and their recommendations around promotions and graduation, these would also not appear on a student's MSPR like an ITER comment would. Dr. Weeks informed the committee that this has been rolling out through every tutorial group and clinical skills session that the preceptors are filling out one of these for a learner to use as a coaching opportunity. She included that there was a behavioural and accountability change amongst the whole class once these came into place. Dr. Busche informed the committee that these would work the same as other EPA's including that residents can fill them out and they would be viewable by the students as well.

7. Clerkship Reports

7.1 Emergency Medicine

Dr. Sohn presented the Emergency Medicine Clerkship Report to the Committee. She included the overview and structure of the rotation including the sites, objectives and evaluations of the Clerkship. Dr. Sohn noted that the overall rating for Emergency Medicine as received from 39 responses was 4.18/5 which is slightly lower than the ratings from the last three years, however, she noted that the comments that were made this year are more favorable than in previous years. Highlights noted include being treated professionally/respectfully by faculty and staff, optimal balance of responsibility and supervision, feeling safe and secure at teaching sites, and receiving actionable feedback. The weaknesses noted include the summative exam being reflective of the learning experience and objectives. Strengths noted from the student feedback include great preceptors, lots of opportunities to practice procedures, a good variety of presentations along with working in different settings. Feedback suggested from the students include having an orientation before starting about the flow and organization of Emergency Medicine as it can be a very chaotic and confusing first day, having the nursing blocks earlier on with key concepts being at the beginning of the rotation, more practice questions before the exam, and having the rotation be longer than two weeks. She included that there were six students unsatisfactory on the summative exam with three successful on the rewrite so far and no appeals during this reporting period. Dr. Sohn noted that there have been objective changes for the Class of 2026 including having more specific learning points for the students to read around than the broad approach for each clinical objective. Looking ahead, Dr. Sohn indicated there will be the creation of more CARDS, work through site nuances, the possibility of adding more shifts with the exam model being changed, and the possibility of moving didactic teaching to the first Monday, or Tuesday if a holiday, of the block. Dr. Harper informed the Committee that there are plans to look at the Clerkship Survey's and how to make them to support the students to give feedback, an option includes looking at a similar model as the Pre-Clerkship students where a third of the class gives feedback at any given time and it is a mandatory component of the rotation and has decreased the overall burden of surveys.

Proposal: Dr. Busche proposed to accept the Emergency Medicine Report as it was presented today.

First: Dr. R. Ram

Second: Dr. H. Kim

All in favour.

Dr. Busche thanked everyone for attending and for their discussion. He reminded the committee that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 4th at 12:30pm where Electives and Psychiatry will present.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:27 p.m.

Minutes by: Danielle Jean

Edited by: Dr. Kevin Busche