



# Clerkship Committee (CC) Minutes

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## Clerkship Committee (CC)

### APPROVED

Tuesday October 25, 2022

12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Meeting via Zoom

**Attendees:** Drs. K. Busche (chair), T. Ayas, R. Brett, K. Darcus, W. Harris-Thompson, A. Harvey, J. Haws, S. Lopushinsky, B. Meatherall, A. Mineyko, M. Mintz, C. Naugler, R. Ram, M. Sohn, S. Wicklum, Ms. N. Begert, Mr. M. Bondok, Ms. B. Bradbury, Ms. K. Fu, Ms. J. Holm, Mr. V. Joe, Mr. J. Kreutz, Ms. E. Lindquist, Mr. M. Paget, Ms. D. Stanojevic, Ms. S. Tai, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

**Regrets:** Drs. S. Bannister, D. Fu, J. Desy, G. Gelfand, N. Hardcastle, L. Hinz, T. Jablonski, F. Jivraj, N. Johnson, R. Kachra, A. Kassam, J. LaMothe, J. Lubin, S. Mohan, C. Taheri, J. Vantanajal, M. Walter, S. Weeks, H. Yoon, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. S. Leskosky

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### 1. Welcome and Thanks

The meeting was conducted through Zoom and was called to order at 12:33 p.m. by Dr. K. Busche (Chair). He gave a brief overview of what the meeting would entail, welcomed back Dr. Sonja Wicklum from her sabbatical, introduced the Class of 2025 Student Representatives Mr. Vak Joe and Mr. Jason Kreutz, and a new DLRI addition in Ms. Becky Bradbury.

2. **Approval of Meeting Agenda** – One additional item added item 7.2 Questions for the Clerkships' Approach about Learners in Difficulty. **Passed unanimously, with additional item.**

3. **Approval of Minutes from September 20, 2022** – Passed unanimously.

4. **Privacy Declaration** – Dr. Busche informed the committee that in previous years there were privacy declaration forms that were sent out for the committee to sign and return back to the UME. He let the committee know that as of last year this has been taken away and is now just an annual reminder for privacy of the committees. Participants are free to report to their stakeholders about topics discussed within meetings, share the minutes, and the changes, however, identification of specific individuals (either on the committee or during discussions) is not permitted.

### 5. Standing Updates

#### 5.1 Student Reports

Class of 2025 update included that they had just finished Course 1 and were awaiting their results, and had just finished the Rheumatology portion of Course 2 and looking forward to the Dermatology component, as well as continuing through Anatomy I.

Class of 2024 update included the presentation for the Clerkship Lottery went over well citing the Lottery Run date will happen on November 5, 2022. They noted a great level of support from Tania Pander in the UME office for the AFMC Portal for Visiting Electives, they noted that the portal was still causing concern among the students with glitches in the system and noted that some schools have decided to put visiting electives on hold due to these issues, Dr. Busche asked the students to document the details for the students having issues and he will be able to provide more information going forward. They questioned the

CaRMS timeline and if there has been a determined cut-off date at this time, Dr. Busche informed the students that there has not been a decision made there are currently two date options but both would have the end of Block 7 for the MSPR cut-off deadline. There were also questions around the IPE and CEL assignments and wondered if they were assigned randomly or if students could select their own options, Ms. Tai informed the students that in December they are given a list of the options and the students rank their preferred experiences, upon the completion of that they are then selected and assigned based on requirements and spaces available.

Class of 2023 update included that CaRMS just opened up for the students, they are currently working on finalizing reference letters, and making decisions. Most students seem to be doing well and some are dealing with some burn out with the rotations and the decisions that need to be made in the coming months. As a whole, the students are happy to be working in clinic spaces with patients and other healthcare staff.

### **5.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee**

Dr. Naugler informed the committee that there is no update at this time and noted that the next UMEC meeting is on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **5.3 Pre-Clerkship Committee Update**

Dr. Busche updated the committee on Dr. Weeks' behalf that the class of 2025 have an upcoming career exploration week in December which are currently being in the process of being booked; this is the class's first career exploration experience. Dr. Busche also reminded the committee that these were formally known as the Pre-Clerkship Electives and showed up on the students' MSPR, they are no longer on the MSPR as they are meant as an experience for the students to explore different areas of medicine without worry for the implications in CaRMS.

### **5.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update**

Dr. Busche informed the committee on Dr. Desy's behalf that the Competency Committee is having its first fall meeting in November; the competency committee was designed to review students before graduation to ensure all requirements are being met including EPA's.

### **5.5 Research Committee Update**

Dr. Busche updated the committee that there were no updates from Dr. Desy.

### **5.6 PGME Update**

Dr. Mineyko provided the update from the PGME, noting that the biggest update was the Accreditation they have just completed went over quite well and the final report will be available after November. The next update was an announcement of Dr. Lisa Welikovitich leaving the PGME office and her role of the Associate Dean and moving to the Senior Associate Dean position with the Cumming School of Medicine. She included that they are conducting interviews soon for her position.

### **5.7 Accreditation Update**

Dr. Mintz updated that the first accreditation steering committee meeting was recently held in September with the next one the beginning of November, she included that the subcommittees are currently being formed with members accepting their roles and starting to come together, working with the Class Presidents to ensure student representation is being met on all the subcommittees. Dr. Mintz informed the committee that there are six subcommittees and a student subcommittee called the Student Analysis Subcommittee. Town halls are coming to discuss the importance of these surveys where incentives will be discussed, Dr. Mintz indicated that she has an upcoming meeting with the UME to discuss topic items for the town halls. Dr. Mintz included that there will be a mock accreditation which will be done in January or February of 2024 with the full accreditation starting in October 2024.

## **6. Arising from the Minutes**

### **6.1 Clerkship Lottery 2024**

Dr. Busche noted that this was talked about in the student reports section of this meeting in the Class of 2024 update. He did note that the one positive about delaying the clerkship lottery is that the students get more time to experience different things in pre clerkship so they can make a more informed choice about how they're going to spend their credits in the clerkship lottery.

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1 Longitudinal Testing in Clerkship**

Dr. Busche explained how the testing in clerkship currently takes place and that includes multiple choice content exams at the end of each rotation and questioned if that is the best way to test the learners knowledge. This current form of evaluation currently has students learning to pass a test through reading and studying and less revisiting of what they have learned in person and clinically. We will look at options to change how evaluations are done to promote more longitudinal testing and learning, especially after the first couple years of RIME (as maintaining current assessments will be important to evaluate the impact of the new pre-clerkship curriculum), with an option to progress testing less frequently with more questions from every rotation.

### **7.2 Questions about Clerkship Approach to Learner Difficulty**

Dr. Sohn posed the question to the clerkship directors if there is a standard approach for how to handle learners with difficulties. Discussion included some orientations for the rotations are very transparent with any discussions from learners as well as preceptors if there is anything they would like to discuss they are open to do so. Dr. Wicklum included that their discussion with preceptors is to bring any deficits or issue to the attention of the directors so the appropriate actions can take place. Open door policies were widely mentioned as options by the different clerkships. Dr. Ayas included that wellness communications are sent to the students that seem to be struggling in one way or another and these students are reached out to with an email and a call to ensure the needs of the students are being met. The Office of Faculty Development and Performance are available resources for this as well. Dr. Busche included that AMA support services, personal support available and the SAW Hub is always available to direct our students to.

## **8. Clerkship Reports**

### **8.1 Internal Medicine**

Dr. Meatherall presented the Internal Medicine Clerkship Report to the committee. She gave an overview of the rotation to the committee that includes an eight week rotation with four weeks of MTU and the option of four weeks in ICU or two separate two week subspecialties. Must complete the formative MCQ, and must complete and must pass the summative MCQ and the Final ITERs on MTU and their subspecialties. Academic half days occur on Wednesday afternoons when clerks are on their subspecialty rotations, bed side teaching is in person, two hour interactive learning session still held via zoom. Call requirements follow PARA rules for all MTU and subspecialty rotations. 4-7 call shifts per MTU block, call on subspecialties extremely variable. Class of 2022 had 12 students unsatisfactory on the MCQ all passed on a rewrite, one on a second rewrite with no appeals. Class of 2023 so far one unsatisfactory with rewrite pending and no appeals. Dr. Meatherall indicated that the overall student rating was 4.1 based on 108 observations. Some students indicated that they were working more than 55 hours per week, but there were fewer students as compared to previous years. Top rated feedback included being treated professionally and respectfully by faculty and staff, feeling safe and secure at the teaching sites, and having an optimal balance of responsibility and supervision. Lowest rated feedback included the opportunity to learn and perform procedures, core document being helpful, and satisfaction with administrative organization. Exam was reflective of learning experiences and learning objectives were rated 3.63 and 3.88 respectfully. Strengths indicated are preceptors, variety of experiences, opportunity for independence and autonomy. The areas that need work include the workload

on MTU with long days busy, with less teaching time, and difficult to find time to read. Other areas that need work include first call to ward was sometimes overwhelming, and organization challenges including schedules or duties being unclear, lack of communication with preceptors and late changes in the schedules. There were five comments of mistreatment noted including not being paged for duties by senior trainees, rude treatment from allied health staff, and rude treatment from preceptors. Resources needed going forward include preceptors for academic half days and bedside teaching, interactive learning sessions, and other areas including CARDS and the online learning curriculum. Future initiatives include reviewing weekly feedback, reconsider structure and timing of the academic half day, reconcile curriculum with RIME, and working with preceptor recruitment. For subspecialty initiatives to review internal medicine subspecialty selection trends, determine factors that influence subspecialty selective choice, and better standardize the subspecialty experience.

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

First: Dr. R. Ram  
Second: Dr. S. Wicklum  
All in favour.

## 8.2 Anesthesia

Dr. Darcus presented the Anesthesia Clerkship Report to the committee. He gave an overview of the rotation to the committee and included that for the class of 2022 they returned to a full two week rotation, it had been one week combined with Emergency during COVID. He also included that there were significant OR closures for a seven week period in the fall of 2021 which affected three and a half rotations worth of students who were unable to do any of their anesthesia rotation in the OR. Dr. Darcus said that there were online sessions as well as the Chronic Pain Day which did go over well, and resulted in no unsuccessful MCQ's. Students are assigned to all four adult sites and include experiences in the OR, Acute Pain Service, Pre-admission Clinic, Obstetrical Anesthesia, and the Chronic Pain Day. Students receive a yellow card that guides for bedside teaching, aligns with the core document, lists the must see and must do components and a reminder to ask for feedback. Overall student rating for the Class of 2022 was 3.55, Class of 2021 was 3.73 and Class of 2020 is 4.0, based on lower evaluation responses than in previous years Dr. Darcus indicated this possibly was also likely because of not having the same experience for all clerks due to the shut down of ORs. Strengths included safe learning environments, one-on-one bedside teaching, excellent teachers and lots of procedural skills practice. Areas to work on included the rotation was deemed difficult when ORs were closed, variable preceptor engagement and not feeling welcome by some, administrative errors were noted with regards to scheduling. Evaluation for Anesthesia includes 6 required daily evaluations that are must pass – these serve as formative feedback with no midpoint evaluation, MCQ exam is a must pass component, and the OSLER logbook must be complete in order to write the MCQ. Dr. Darcus stated for the Class of 2022 had 0 unsatisfactory MCQ's and one unsuccessful ITER which was passed with remediation. Concerns going forward include the continuation of COVID which could impact the OR but hopeful there won't be the same shutdowns seen previously, the launch of connect care at remaining Calgary sites may have short term impact on OR exposure, and preceptor resources are seeing a global shortage of anesthesiologists which is increasing demand for anesthesia training indicating that preceptor burnout has been a concern for many years. Dr. Darcus included the changes for 2023 to include the hope of having fewer disruptions leading to a more predictable and consistent experience for the clerks similar to before the pandemic, the orientation will be done online with a possibility to return to an in-person orientation which would include hands on skill training, reintegration of clerks in rounds and other teaching sessions, visiting elective students return in 2023, and the possible addition of training sites outside of Calgary in the future. Some discussion included making the end of rotation feedback surveys for clerkship rotations mandatory.

**Proposal:** Dr. Busche proposed to accept the Anesthesia Clerkship Report as it was presented today.

First: Dr. R. Ram

Second: Dr. B. Meatherall

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 November 29 via Zoom, where Family Medicine will present.

**Meeting adjourned @ 2:28 p.m.**

**Minutes by: Danielle Jean**

**Edited by: Dr. Kevin Busche**