
Clerkship Committee (CC)

APPROVED

Tuesday September 20, 2022
12:30 pm to 2:30 pm Meeting
via Zoom

Attendees: Drs. K. Busche (chair), R. Brett, W. Harris-Thompson, J. Haws, T. Jablonski, N. Johnson, J. LaMothe, J. Lubin, B. Meatherall, C. Naugler, R. Ram, M. Sohn, A. Thomas, S. Weeks, Ms. N. Begert, Mr. M. Bondok, Ms. K. Fu, Ms. S. Leskosky, Mr. M. Paget, Ms. S. Tai, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

Regrets: Drs. T. Ayas, S. Bannister, K. Darcus, D. Fu, J. Desy, G. Gelfand, N. Hardcastle, A. Harvey, L. Hinz, F. Jivraj, R. Ram, A. Kassam, S. Lopushinsky, A. Mineyko, S. Mohan, C. Taheri, J. Vantanajal, M. Walter, S. Wicklum, H. Yoon, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. E. Lindquist, Ms. D. Stanojevic

1. Welcome and Thanks

The meeting was conducted through Zoom and was called to order at 12:34 p.m. by Dr. K. Busche (Chair). Welcome to members and a brief overview of what the meeting would entail.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda – Passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2022 – Passed unanimously.

4. Standing Updates

4.1 Student Reports

The students had distributed a document prior to the meeting with discussion points for the meeting on their updates. They included questions around the Clerkship Lottery System with modifications made for electives that need to have completed the mandatory rotation before being able to do an elective in that discipline and wondered if there was ability to adjust the system for these students. Mr. Paget informed the students that it is not possible to adjust the lottery for those situations. Ms. Tai indicated that these schedule changes may be accommodated at a case-by-cases basis. Discussion around students booking visiting electives with other schools directly and not through the AFMC portal. Discussed that portal problems should be addressed straight to the AFMC not the school. Dr. Busche confirmed that there are no incoming visiting elective students in Calgary between January and April due to the overlap of clerkship years and the need to protect elective spots for CSM UME student. Dr. Busche also indicated that spots that are reserved for visiting elective students will open to local students should these spots go unfilled. Another student concern was that of the lottery and clerkship timelines, Dr. Busche indicated that the timelines are unable to be confirmed until the cut off dates and upload timelines are made official through AFMC and CaRMS, he also noted that the application submission deadline will be earlier than in recent past, and will be decided towards the end of October. Dr. Busche and the students agreed that a few other points will be discussed at the upcoming Class Update Meetings.

4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee

Dr. Naugler updated the committee that the most recent meeting included the new hiring announcement of the Accreditation Lead in the UME to help lead up to the next accreditation cycle.

4.3 Pre-Clerkship Committee Update

Dr. Weeks updated the committee that the Class of 2025 has received their class animal name, the Pacific Spiny Lumpsumckers, a species of bony fish, and they are currently in the thick of Course 1 and just finished the Anatomy Midpoint Exam. The Class of 2024 has just started Course 7 and this year is followed by Course 6. Preparing for RIME has included lots of behind the scenes work, current struggle is preceptor recruitment the biggest need is for clinical exam, PE, and anatomy preceptors and resident teachers. Discussion around this included the option for EPAs to be offered to the Resident teachers.

4.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update

Dr. Busche informed the committee on Dr. Desy’s behalf that the item for discussion from the Student Evaluation Committee will be discussed in item 6.3 of today’s meeting – *Proposed Changes to Clerkship Failures*.

4.5 Research Committee Update

Dr. Busche updated the committee that there were no updates, but encouraged the committee about any aspects of changes to courses or clerkships to reach out to Dr. Desy to make it into a research project.

4.6 PGME Update

Dr. Busche informed the committee that there were no updates from the PGME at this time.

5. Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Clinical Presentations

Dr. Busche reminded the committee to have the list of clinical presentations done and sent back to Dr. Desy, she will follow up at a future meeting to discuss the presentation results for Clerkship.

6. New Business

6.1 Clerkship Student Feedback Policy

Dr. Busche presented the Clerkship Student Feedback Policy. This was circulated to the committee by email over the summer; several committee members provided suggestions which were incorporated into the version presented at the meeting.

Proposal: Dr. Busche proposed to accept the Clerkship Student Feedback Policy as it was presented today.

First: Dr. S. Weeks
Second: Dr. J. Haws
All in favour.

6.2 Clerkship Work Hours Policy

Dr. Busche presented the Clerkship Work Hour Policy. This was circulated to the committee by email over the summer; several committee members provided suggestions which were incorporated into the version presented at the meeting.

Proposal: Dr. Busche proposed to accept the Clerkship Work Hours Policy as it was presented today.

First: Dr. B. Meatherall
Second: Dr. W. Harris-Thompson
All in favour.

6.3 Proposed Changes to Clerkship Failures

Dr. Busche explained that currently when students fail something in clerkship they fail the rotation, with the opportunity to rewrite the exam and/or have additional remediation hours and if successful that failure never shows up on the students' MSPR or transcript; if they have a second failure they go to SARC. Options from the SARC committee include the ability to continue in clerkship, repeat the clerkship year, or asked to withdraw from the program. Dr. Busche explained to the committee that he is looking at ways to make the failure options softer for the students, he added by saying that the way the clerkship is run, if a student needs to repeat the clerkship year this means repeating two years of medical education due to the overlap of clerkship years. He would like to see the second failure be able to be remediated at the committee level and the third failure would take the student to the SARC committee. The anticipated start time for this would be with the Class of 2024. Discussion was largely varied from the different opinions around these changes, including effort and timing with students having to rebook an exam and study, wondering if allowing extra failures would allow for the students to not work or prepare as hard for a rotation or exam. SEC discussed this as well and supported the same motion proposed here.

Proposal: Dr. Busche proposed a change to the Clerkship Failures Policy as follows: If a student fails two different Clerkship summative examinations but successfully remediates these examinations, they will meet with the Associate Dean and SAW, and if they fail three different Clerkship summative examinations, regardless of the status of remediation, they would meet with the Associate Dean, SAW and go to SARC. If a student fails two summative ITERs, they will proceed to SARC – same goes for one ITER and one MCQ.

Consequences of failures in Clerkship are: three different MCQ's (SARC), two different MCQ's (Associate Dean's Meeting), one MCQ plus rewrite of MCQ failure (SARC), two ITER failures (SARC), one ITER and one MCQ (Associate Dean's Meeting). It is noted that the Clerkship OSCE counts as an ITER. Two summative ITERs. Electives included.

First: Dr. R. Ram
Second: Dr. B. Meatherall
Passed.

6.4 Student Representatives

Dr. Busche presented the CMSA Elections Manual Document, which was circulated to the committee after a question he received about the elected student representatives in their clerkship years and what their responsibilities include during their clerkship year. He explained to the committee that different courses and clerkships use the representatives in different ways, some as a communication source and other are more directly involved in meetings and other things as requested by the course or clerkship.

7. Clerkship Reports

7.1 Surgery

Dr. LaMothe presented the Surgery Clerkship Report to the committee. He gave an overview of the rotation the committee and the structure of the 6 week rotation. Overall student rating of 3.81 this year a slight drop from 3.86 the year before. Dr. LaMothe indicated that the strengths included feeling safe, treated

professionally and respectfully, see enough patients to meet objectives, and satisfied with the quality of teaching. He included the following areas that need improvement, revising the core document, summative exam is not reflective of the learning materials, and the satisfaction with administrative organization. He noted that there were 3 MCQ failures, with no unsatisfactory ITER's, overall three students with performance deficiency and 2 with rewrites. He noted that this year the removal of pre-rounding has made a difference for work hours for the students. He noted the further ratings included strengths in teaching and in the learning environment with requests for better organization, exams, dealing with a sometimes hostile learning environment, and work-life balance is noted to be hard on a busy service. Previous issues included histories and physicals and now with the help from EPA's and the mid-point feedback collated and delivered electronically to 100% of students. Dr. LaMothe noted that scheduling can be variable and he checks in with the students to see if they are working over 55 hours or any other issues through the rotation mid way for all rotations. Preceptor red flags were very limited, with only nine mistreatment theme comments this year, moving ahead of where it has been in previous years. Looking forward the hopes are to go back to more in person seminars and offering better clinical experiences after the OR shut downs during Covid. Preceptor engagement is an ongoing challenge, with preceptor/teacher fatigue slowly getting better from the previous issues. Plans to continue to work on having no pre-rounding, fixing scheduling issues, adding seminars to be front loaded and/or in person, dealing with the workflow restrictions that Covid presented. Dr. LaMothe indicated that potential problems moving forward could be OR time pressures due to staff shortages and patients being cancelled leading to less hands on experience for the students in the OR setting. For a solution should that be a concern in the future the surgery clerkship is looking into a bootcamp style half day with students being able to have hands on teaching and learning experiences.

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

First: Dr. S. Weeks

Second: Dr. W. Harris-Thompson

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 October 25th via Zoom, where Anesthesia and Internal Medicine will present.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:14 p.m.

Minutes by: Danielle Jean

Edited by: Dr. Kevin Busche