Clerkship Committee Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

Tuesday, March 5th, 2019


Regrets: Kelly Albrecht, Na’ama Avitzur, Susan Bannister, Kate Brockman, Kevin Busche, Karl Darcus, Gary Gelfand, Adrian Harvey, Farah Jivraj, Nicole Johnson, Rahim Kachra, Martina Kelly, William Kennedy, Kathryn Kenny, Michael Kwan, Jeremy Lamothe, Irene Ma, Kevin McLaughlin, Artan Reso, Mike Slawnych, Jimmy Vantanajal, Ian Wishart.

1. Welcome
Dr. Veale called the meeting to order @ 12:35 p.m. and Dr. Veale introduced the two new Resident Representatives; Drs. Caroline O’Shaughnessy, and Kelsey Ragan. Everyone else introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda
The March 5th, 2019 agenda was approved as circulated.

3. Approval of Minutes
The January 22nd, 2018 minutes were approved as circulated, with some minor amendments. Moved by Mr. M. Paget, seconded by Ms. Emily Macphail.

4. Arising from Minutes
a) & b) Schedule Changes and Clerkship Exams:
Dr. Veale presented the pre-circulated Scheduled Changes and Clerkship Exam changes for the Class of 2021. She went through each module, both present and changes beginning with the Class of 2021. Significant changes were also noted. She noted SARC’s small change to the previous circulated document, as highlighted:

“Review by SARC – 2 components in two different rotations that are not satisfactory or 2 rotations that are not satisfactory.”

This will be forwarded to UMEC for final approval in April. The MSPR comment will reflect what is completed, with different wording. Mr. Paget noted that double-day exams will not occur. Formative exams are not part of the MSPR. Students suggested that a long weekend, perhaps July 1st weekend, be considered for students (without call). This is due to students not always knowing what their schedule is, up to two weeks before their rotation, and they have lost the Wellness weekend. Dr. Veale said this can be considered. Dr. Veale will report back after the UMEC meeting in April. Upon a suggestion, Dr. Veale will look at whether there may be another alternate option for a separate point for vacation, perhaps during elective time.

5. Standing Updates
a) Report from Student Representatives: Students from the Class of 2019 suggested to be excused from call the night before the Match and which will permit students to support unmatched classmates who found out the day before of their results. They further requested no call/no clinical duties on Match day. This is due to the different process this year from CaRMS, that students have the option to provide permission for UME to know who has been unmatched in order for UME to call the students to advise them that day. As there were 22 unmatched, 15 were contacted the day before. This caused stress for the unmatched students as well as successful matched students (regarding empathy and support for their unmatched colleagues). It was noted that the unmatched students that had provided consent to be reached by UME the day before, were pulled off service. Ms. Smith noted they had polled other schools to found out how much time off of clinical duties students are able to take, at Match time, and it ranged from two hours to more. Dr. Veale indicated she agreed with this suggestion but would like to defer the decision until next year until the CaRMS Match process is confirmed for the Class of 2020. Students suggested perhaps asking the remaining 7 students who did not want to be called the day before, whether they would have been alright with the university knowing their status the day prior or not. This feedback could be relayed back to CaRMS.

Mr. Amin (Class of 2019) noted there was a previous decision made by the Pediatric Clerkship Committee that clerks were no longer assigned to the level 3 NICU at the Foothills, due to the complexity of the babies, however, they are still being assigned to this unit.

Action: Ms. Tai indicated the scheduler is not aware of this, and both Dr. Veale and Ms. Tai will follow up on this.
Mr. Amin noted that on Fridays, students often will return to their clinical duties after an exam (for example), only to be told to go home. This occurs most often on anesthesia. He suggested that Friday afternoons be left flexible, as it could be a time to reset for the next rotation. This is a concern particularly if returning to the SHC. As well, students do not often know of their schedule until 2 weeks in advance of their rotation, especially in anesthesia. Action: Dr. Veale will follow up with anesthesia on this issue.

b) Other UME Committees: UMEC: Have not met since the last meeting. PCC: No new updates. SEC: Will meet this Friday and multiple-choice exams will be reviewed with the clerkship directors and evaluation coordinators. Clerkship OSCE is scheduled for next week.

6. Clerkship Reports

a) Emergency Medicine: Dr. Greenfield presented the pre-circulated Emergency Medicine report. Students provided positive feedback to some of the proposed changes, such as a two-hour block with nursing in order to learn IV’s, etc. Concern from students is historically to request consistent preceptors, in order to obtain a letter for residency applications. However, due to the logistics of the schedule in Emergency, this is not possible. A suggestion to provide extra shifts to students during Emergency will be reviewed, however, options are very limited. Dr. Veale thanked Dr. Greenfield for his work and presentation.

b) Electives: Dr. Baker presented the pre-circulated Electives report. Dr. Baker thanked Ms. Pander and Ms. Ward for their immense efforts and work they do as Program Coordinators for the Elective program. She noted that all the 17 schools in Canada have agreed that there must be two CaRMS disciplines reflected over the clerkship elective weeks, with the Class of 2021 and students are not able to exceed 8 weeks in any single entry-level discipline. She noted the continuing trend of resource demands; nation-wide and it is encouraged to have junior faculty involved as preceptors as well. Dr. Veale thanked Dr. Baker for her presentation and work.

7. New Business

a) Behind-the-Scenes Awards for Clerkship Programs: Dr. Veale noted that recognition for this Award is provided to people who work behind the scenes on Clerkship programs. The pre-circulated guideline notes that Clerkship Directors can nominate up to 3 people, but not for those whose contribution is part of the normal responsibilities in their Clerkship committee. Action: Dr. Veale asked members to provide nominations for each of their Clerkship Committees by March 31st. She will send out an email to this effect.

b) Online Orientation: Mr. Paget presented the example of the online orientation that anesthesia provides to students. He noted for the other clerkships, this could be part of their package, with a video, or podcast, texts, etc., showcasing different clinical examples. Dr. Veale encouraged clerkships to look at this type of orientation modality, as it was very well received by students.

c) Match Results: Dr. Coderre noted the different process this year from CaRMS that provided the students who were unmatched, the choice to permit UME to know the day before the match, so that UME could call them with the result. This year there were 22 unmatched students, which is the highest number to date. He noted there are approximately 200 unmatched students across Canada, with U of C and Montreal in the 20’s. 15 of the 22 unmatched students provided permission for UME to know the results the day before. Dr. Coderre noted he was proud of UME and SAW’s response to students. The second iteration is for April 10th and submissions must be received by March 14th. He provided a slide presentation on the data with comparison to other universities. He noted that the resident surveys indicate a consistency over 15 years regarding the quality of our graduates. Dr. Veale thanked the clerkship members in juggling the last two weeks for students in regards to the match, and for their support.

d) Mandatory Clerkship ITER: Mr. Paget thanked members for receiving the must-see clinical presentations. He presented the pre-circulated mandatory clerkship ITER, which is essentially the same, with the exception of the Overall Assessment of Student’s Performance, which now has 3 ratings: Unsatisfactory (remediation required to address deficiencies), Satisfactory-good (functioning at expected level), and Outstanding (functioning above expected level). Comments will be included in the MSPR with other UME follow-up showing links. The other comments requested previously, that would not be put on the MSPR, has been eliminated due to some Postgraduate Residency programs asking for copies of ITERs from students. Dr. Veale indicated she had met with the PGME voicing concern that programs are requesting these copies, as some information on them is not relevant. It is hoped that this format will soon be utilized for all ITERs, including the Elective ITERs. It was suggested that an alternate link be added for constructive criticism or comments that would be useful to SARC. It was noted that constructive criticism is often valuable to residency programs. Formative and daily ITERs are not included in the MSPR. This revised ITER will be reviewed at SEC.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 23rd @ 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. in G750, HSC Bldg. (Reports due: Psychiatry, Course 8)

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