



# Clerkship Committee (CC)

## Minutes

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### Clerkship Committee (CC)

#### APPROVED

Tuesday May 2, 2023

12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Meeting via Zoom

**Attendees:** Drs. K. Busche (chair), T. Ayas, R. Brett, N. Hardcastle, W. Harris-Thompson, A. Harvey, J. Haws, S. Lopushinsky, B. Meatherall, A. Mineyko, C. Naugler, R. Ram, M. Sohn, S. Weeks, S. Wicklum, Mr. M. Bondok, Ms. J. Holm, Mr. V. Joe, Mr. J. Kreutz, Mr. M. Paget, Ms. T. Pander, Ms. D. Stanojevic, Ms. G. Taneja, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

**Regrets:** Drs. S. Bannister, K. Darcus, J. Desy, G. Gelfand, T. Jablonski, F. Jivraj, N. Johnson, R. Kachra, J. LaMothe, J. Lubin, M. Mintz, S. Mohan, E. Ruka, J. Vantanajal, M. Walter, H. Yoon, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. K. Fu, Ms. S. Leskosky, Ms. E. Lindquist, Ms. S. Tai

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#### 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). He informed the committee that there is a new member for the OPEd EDI Diversity position and let Ms. Gauri Taneja introduce herself to the committee. He then gave a brief overview of what the meeting would entail, and thanked everyone for being able to make it.

#### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda –Passed unanimously.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes from March 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Passed unanimously.

#### 4. Standing Updates

##### 4.1 Student Reports

Mr. Kreutz provided some updates from the Class of 2025, those included working through Course 4, a CMSA town hall that was well received and attended. Current concerns for the Class of 2025 include the capacity for clerkship becoming a bit of a stressor knowing the increase in class sizes, some residency programs requiring undergraduate transcripts as part of the CaRMS applications as well was noted as a concern for some students. Dr. Busche informed the students and the committee that each program has the ability to get the information they want during the CaRMS application cycles. Mr. Joe added the question of the upcoming information sessions with the clarification of the virtual and in person sessions, why there are both, and if this is correct with the ask of moving it to Zoom, Dr. Busche clarified that the session with him on August 22<sup>nd</sup> will remain in person but recorded for the students not in attendance.

Mr. Bondok informed the committee that the Class of 2024 has just finished some of their electives, questions arising from the class include the attendance policies of each rotation and if there is an overall policy set in place from the UME or if the attendance policy is rotation is specific, Dr. Busche clarified and noted that there is the time off policy in the Clerkship Handbook but each clerkship rotation will have their own set attendance policy which is given to each student prior to their rotation. The other question Mr. Bondok had was regarding what goes onto the MSPR's from the ITERs and evaluations on One45, there is

uncertainty if all comments and all scores appear or just the final comments and overall evaluation will be included. Dr. Busche added clarification stating that the overall grade shows up plus the comments that are in the 'For MSPR' box of the ITER, which is the first of the two comment boxes on every ITER. There was another question around the ITERs depicting that some preceptors are harder to get outstanding from than others leaving it to subjective scoring, and students are wondering if there could be a way to do something to make a more objective structure around the level of overall scoring, making it more comparable from one ITER to the next and less subjective. There was also a question on how many ITERs should students be sending to their preceptors during a rotation, Dr. Busche indicated that there should be one overall or final ITER, and if looking for more feedback to use the EPAs to the other preceptors worked with on rotation. Mr. Bondok's final concern was the frustration students have over getting parking tickets when they shouldn't be while on rotations, Dr. Busche asked if they could get specific examples and bring them forward to Ms. Shannon Leskoski who then can take it through the correct channels with AHS and parking.

#### **4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee**

Dr. Naugler informed the committee that there are no updates at this time, with the next UMEC meeting scheduled later in May.

#### **4.3 Pre-Clerkship Committee Update**

Dr. Weeks' update included that the Class of 2025 has not had to have any Covid related adjustments that the previous class years have had to face with their Career Exploration weeks and with Course 4, which is a nice relief for the class and the scheduling coordinators as well. Biggest happening in Pre-Clerkship is the upcoming RIME launch, with lots of online work being put in now, and lots more things to come. Dr. Weeks included that she will provide a larger update about RIME at a future meeting.

#### **4.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update**

Dr. Harvey informed the committee that there are no updates to provide at this time, but did include that the Competency Committee meetings are being held prior to the Clerkship Graduation, so the data is currently being collated for those meetings.

#### **4.5 Research Committee Update**

Dr. Harvey updated the committee that there are no updates from the Research Committee at this time, but added that if students are interested in projects to reach out to Dr. Harvey, Dr. Desy or Ms. Irene Ma as there is a list that they do keep for students to match them with projects as they get developed and distributed. As well as, if there is anyone wanting to produce a research project to reach out as well to submit their request to the committee.

#### **4.6 PGME Update**

Dr. Mineyko informed the committee that there are no updates from the Post Graduate office at this time.

#### **4.7 Accreditation Update**

In Dr. Mintz' absence Dr. Busche informed the committee that there will continue to be requests coming from himself and the accreditation team for documents and other information that the departments can provide regarding the upcoming 2024 Accreditation, this information will need to include the legacy and RIME curriculum data for the preclerkship information. Dr. Busche also reminded the committee that there will be a mock accreditation in early 2024 where all documentation needs to be finished and there will be some meetings taking place at that time and will possibly include meeting with Clerkship Leaders and Directors from this committee, so everyone is aware.

## 5. Arising from the Minutes

### 5.1 Clerkship Feedback Policy

Dr. Busche informed the committee that this policy has been worked on with this committee from the past few meetings, it has come to a point where it has now been formatted and edited upon the committees edits.

**Motion:** Dr. Busche proposed to accept the Clerkship Feedback Policy as presented today.

First: Dr. R. Ram

Second: Dr. S Weeks

*13 In Favour 1 Against 2 Abstain*

Motion: **Approved**

### 5.2 Upcoming Class Sizes and Capacity

Dr. Busche informed the committee that going forward the number of students that will be in a class will be larger than previous years. He commented that for the Class of 2025 is larger due to the increased number of students moving from one class to another. For the classes going forward the intake numbers will be increased as well; the enrollment numbers will begin at 180 new students beginning this July with the class of 2026. Dr. Busche included a few different options such as shortening rotations and adding more electives and selective weeks for the students for opening up some rotational spots and the other option of increasing capacity limits. He opened up the meeting for discussion to hear other ideas and options that things that other people in the committee would be open to. There was a large amount of discussion that took place, including the option of using more of the other sites, increasing preceptor recruitment, adding more rural, outreach and UCLIC options, pay increases and different options for teaching. There was discussion around the increase in funding for the new regional teaching locations which are Lethbridge and Grande Prairie. Dr. Naugler spoke to the possibility of more funding for positions such as an AMHSP role, with stating that many of the solutions will come from committees and positions far higher than those of this committee including University of Calgary leadership, AHS, and Government will play significant roles in making these decisions. Another idea was proposed regarding using the break times from the University of Alberta, as a four year program they do receive summer breaks and other breaks during the year, by being able to utilize their clinical capacities for rotations could help ease some of the numbers during certain times of the year. Dr. Busche concluded the discussion noting that there are not perfect answers at this point but understanding that there are significant issues and there will be support provided for these issues.

### 5.3 Upcoming CaRMS Timelines

Dr. Busche informed the committee that there was discussion at the ICAM conference to reopen the CaRMS timelines to make changes for the second round of the match for the Class of 2024. There was a proposal for solidifying the timeline for the next three years, during the pandemic these timelines were on a year by year basis with the Class of 2024 currently still being about two weeks off of the pre-pandemic timelines. Dr. Busche indicated that by having a consistent CaRMS timeline in place for dates that are similar to those from before the pandemic for the Classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 will provide stability in scheduling and less taxing on staff and faculty members. He also included that there could be possible changes to the processes of different application dates going forward, but all of these are still under discussion and will be brought back to this committee when more decisions are made.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Request for Different Assignment Policy**

Dr. Wicklum brought the Request for Different Assignment Policy to the committee's attention of wanting to add in an additional statement in the policy section '*Students will be notified of their selection to a rural/regional site at the end of the second undergraduate year, with the receipt of the clerkship scheduling information.*' Would like to add a statement that includes that students are able to make changes to their location should a student need to for extenuating circumstances that prevent them from being able to be at the original site. Dr. Wicklum added that this is to ensure the wording will cover any last minute changes that could potentially take place due to something like this happening. Dr. Wicklum is sending the exact wording amendment she is looking to make to Dr. Busche who will include this in the policy for a review in a future meeting.

### **6.2 Planning for Rural Placements**

Dr. Wicklum informed the committee that the placement planning for Family Medicine will include that each block will be evened out to have 16 students per block for all 12 blocks instead of just the first four that was asked for the rotations to plan for. Unaware of other strategies for other clerkship rotations but felt that it was easiest to make it as even as possible throughout the year.

### **6.3 Clerks with Accommodations**

Dr. Busche has tabled this item due to Dr. Harris-Thompson having to leave early for teaching, will include on the next meetings agenda.

### **6.4 Exam Question Overlap**

Dr. Busche has tabled this item due to Dr. Desy being away, will include on the next meetings agenda.

## **7. Clerkship Reports**

### **7.1 Obstetrics & Gynecology Report**

Dr. Harris-Thompson presented the Obstetrics & Gynecology Report to the committee. She gave an overview of the rotation including sites, structure, goals, and key administrative staff and faculty of the program. The structure of the Obstetrics & Gynecology rotations are six weeks separated into two separate blocks both are mandatory and include a two and a four week rotation. The four week rotation is inpatient services including: labor and delivery, triage, antepartum, postpartum, operating room, and emergency gynecological consultations; the two week rotation is an outpatient rotation with a preceptor group from a clinic. The rotation also include two clinical teaching days with a combination of in person and Zoom sessions. The overall rating for this report is 4.14, up from the 3.95 of last year and the best rating since before Covid, adding that could be due to the split rotation opposed to the confluent rotation that is was before. The strengths indicated included that the students feel safe and secure at the teaching sites, treated professionally and respectfully by faculty and staff, students were able to see the types of patients required, good variety in clinical experiences, excellent and enthusiastic preceptors and teaching, as well as the orientation and upfront teachings from a dedicated group of teachers. The weaknesses included the opportunity to learn and to perform procedures, administrative organization including clarification regarding scheduling booking shifts and roles seemed different in different sites, and the ability to use problem solving schemes when working with patients. Students also requesting for more preceptor continuity noting that it is a challenge to get feedback especially recommendation letters when working with multiple preceptors and students would also indicated a desire for the blocks to be a continuous six week rotation. Dr. Harris-Thompson indicated that there was one MCQ failure and one clinical failure resulting in two weeks additional clinic time to be completed. Concerns included the filling in of schedules and the loss of call rooms especially at the PLC site. A further concern is to promote evaluations reflective of performance to help support learners in difficulty the option for improvement can happen with more faculty education on what

information goes onto the CaRMS MSPRs for the students. Concerns going forward noted were the class size and capacity limits, administrative burden of the split rotation blocks, budget cuts, and preceptor and faculty burnout becoming more apparent.

**Proposal:** Dr. Busche proposed to accept the Obstetrics & Gynecology Report as it was presented today.

First: Dr. R. Ram

Second: Dr. A. Harvey

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 June 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm where Pediatrics and Course 8 will present.

**Meeting adjourned @ 2:35 p.m.**

**Minutes by: Danielle Jean**

**Edited by: Dr. Kevin Busche**