

Explore & Focus Committee Minutes

Date	October 18, 2021
Time	4:00 – 5:30PM
Co-Chairs	<i>Mark Whipple, Esther Chung</i>
Attendees	Academic Chair: <i>Esther Chung</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QUORUM REACHED: 11	Voting Members: <i>Barb Doty, Chelsea Denney, Doug Schaad, Jaryd Unangst, Matt Cunningham, Mike Spinelli, Roger Tatum, Susan Merel, Thomas Payne, Troy Johnston</i>
	Guests: <i>Emily Myers, Eric Kraus, Claire Sandstrom, Lena Sibulesky, Gina Franco, Ivan Henson, Margie Trenary, Greg Schmale, Julie Bould, Lan Nguyen, Alisa Ulrich-Herrera, Heidi Combs, Kellie Engle, Allie Correll-Buss, Erin Gunsul, Kelley Goetz, Nick Cheung, Paul Borghesani, Ralph Ermoian, Sylvia Zavatchen, Judy Swanson, Ross Kessler, Gerald Tolbert, Maya Sardesai, Ruth Sanchez</i>
Regrets	Voting members: <i>Alson Burke, Amanda Kost, Jacob Romm, Matthew Hollon, Nam Tran, Sarah Thomson</i>

Agenda

	ITEM	LEAD	TIME	ATTACHMENT(S)	ACTION
1	Updates / New Business	Esther Chung	5 min		Discussion
2	Announcements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June minutes were approved via e-vote • November 15th meeting canceled 	Esther Chung	5 min		Announcement
3	Approve September Minutes	Esther Chung	5 min	Attachment A	Decision
4	AAMC Graduation Questionnaire	Sara Kim	30 min	Attachment B	Discussion
5	Closing: Next Steps, Looking Ahead to the December Meeting	Esther Chung	5 min		Discussion

Next Meeting: November 15, 2021

1. Updates / New Business

Discussion: If any committee members have agenda items to discuss at future meetings, e-mail somgov@uw.edu.

2. Announcements

Announcements:

- We did not reach quorum at the September Explore & Focus Phase committee, so the June minutes were approved via e-vote.
- The November 15th meeting is canceled. The next scheduled meeting is December 20, 2021.

3. Approve September Minutes

Discussion: The committee reviewed the September meeting minutes.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[11] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
--	----------------	-------------------

Decision: The Explore & Focus committee approved September meeting minutes

4. AAMC Graduation Questionnaire

Discussion: The committee reviewed the 2021 Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Graduation Questionnaire (GQ) results. This is a national survey of graduating medical students. In 2021, approximately 16,000 graduating students completed the questionnaire. The Educational Quality Improvement (EQI) unit synthesizes the UWSOM-specific data and creates a high-level overview that is shared with various groups, including the governance committees.

The response rate was 63% (178 out of 285 graduating students from the E-17 cohort). The response rate was lower than last year (79% response rate in 2020). The lower response rate may be attributed to survey fatigue. Students are asked to complete the GQ at the same time as the end of Explore & Focus Phase internal survey. Among the respondents, 55% identified women and 45% identified as men. 10% of respondents identified as an underrepresented minority in medicine.

Key takeaways:

Overall quality of medical education

- About 85% of students said they were satisfied / very satisfied with the quality of their medical education (50% of those students marked “very satisfied”). The UW School of Medicine (UWSOM) slightly exceeds the national average.
- About 90% of respondents said they agree / strongly agree that they are prepared for residency training.

Mission-oriented outcomes

- The UWSOM consistently exceeds the national average for percent of graduates responding “yes” to the following questions:
 - Do you plan to work in a small city/smaller area?
 - Do you plan to practice in an underserved area?
 - Regardless of location, do you plan to care for an underserved population?

A higher percentage of graduates identifying as women indicated they intend to practice in an underserved area (women- 51% vs. men- 38%) and care for an underserved population (women- 61% vs. men- 37%).

Learning environment

- UWSOM graduates are almost identical to the national average for the following indices:
 - Student-faculty interaction (perception of faculty supportiveness)
 - Interpersonal reactivity index (level of empathy)
 - Emotional climate (affective response to learning environment)
 - Tolerance for ambiguity (ability to cope with uncertainty)
 - Burnout: disengagement (negative attitudes towards medical school)
 - Burnout: exhaustion (cognitive and emotional strain)
- The percent of students who agree / strongly agree with the statement “My medical school has done a good job of fostering and nurturing my development as a person,” increased last year, but is still lagging slightly behind the national average.
 - This could be a new question to include on internal surveys with a comment box for students to provide specific feedback.
- The UWSOM consistently ranks highly and in step with the national average for the question “My medical school has done a good job of fostering and nurturing my development as a future physician.”
- The UWSOM trends behind the national average for the percent of students who agree / strongly agree with the statements:
 - “My knowledge or opinion was influenced by perspectives of individuals from different backgrounds.”
 - “The diversity within my medical school class enhanced my training and skills to work with individuals from different backgrounds.”

Curriculum

- The UWSOM is in step with the national average for students agreeing or strongly agreeing with the following statements:
 - “Basic science content had sufficient illustrations of clinical relevance.”
 - “Required clinical experiences integrated basic science content.”

Student services

- Across the board, counseling (academic, career, financial aid, and personal) has seen marked improvement in student satisfaction.

Student mistreatment

- The UWSOM has an unsatisfactory accreditation status from the LCME for student mistreatment.
- Ninety-nine percent of students are aware of the mistreatment policy.
- Ninety-five percent of students are aware of mistreatment reporting procedures (up from 78% in 2017).
- The UWSOM is slightly above the national average for the following student mistreatment prevalence rates:
 - Overall mistreatment (7% higher than the national average, however UWSOM is trending downward from last year’s data).

- Offensive sexist remarks (17% higher than the national average, however UWSOM is trending downward from last year's data).
- Public humiliation (this area increased from last year's data, from 23% to 27%).
- The largest source of reported student mistreatment sources is clerkship faculty, followed by residents and then nurses.

In summary:

- The 2021 GQ findings show continued excellence in clinical training based on student experiences.
- Students' experiences with mistreatment during clinical training remain a challenge; require multi-pronged approaches involving awareness building (both students and educators), faculty development, individual coaching, and interventions (removal of individuals from teach, site closure).

The committee provided feedback and asked questions:

- The School needs to improve the culture around giving and receiving feedback (both from the faculty side and the student side). An important component is acknowledging the power differential between preceptors and students and in this context, working to build solid report early on between faculty and students. The onus is on the preceptor to discuss the following with the student:
 - How best do you receive feedback (verbally, written, in the moment, privately, etc.)?
 - What kinds of feedback do you respond well to? Poorly to?
 - These are the ways I usually provide feedback...

QUESTION – Some of the regional sites saw increases in overall student satisfaction, are there best practices from these sites that can be modeled elsewhere?

ANSWER – The interventions at these sites boil down to improved communication and expectation setting with students. Additionally, the faculty were consistently accessible to students.

QUESTION – Does the data indicate whether issues are happening in core clerkships versus electives?

ANSWER – GQ data does not get this granular, it is based on the entirety of the program. We can drill down to this data in the new end of clerkship evaluations that asks identical mistreatment questions from the GQ. The Medical Education and Evaluation team is working to compile the end of clerkship evaluation data to answer questions like these.

A future Explore & Focus Committee agenda item: A general discussion with the Learning Environment team on commonalities across mistreatment instances in the clinical phases and potential targeted interventions we could collectively pursue.

See meeting handouts for details.

5. Closing: Next Steps, Looking Ahead to the December Meeting

Discussion:

- The November meeting is canceled.
- The End of Explore & Focus Phase report will be covered at the December meeting.