

Patient Care Committee Minutes

Date	February 14, 2022
Time	4:00 – 5:30PM
Location & Zoom Info	Zoom https://uw-phi.zoom.us/j/533941646
Patient Care Co-Chair	<i>Kristine Calhoun</i>
Attendees	Academic Chair: <i>Kristine Calhoun</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QUORUM REACHED: 11	Voting Members: <i>Abena Knight, Devin Sawyer, Evan Johnson, Jennifer Wright, John McCarthy, Jordan Schroeder, Matt Cunningham, Mike Spinelli, Paul Borghesani, Toby Keys, Wesley Steeb</i> Guests: <i>Sara Fear, Sara Kim, Jordan Symons, Heather McPhillips, Gerald Tolbert, Bekah Burns, Kathy Young, Kelley Goetz, Elizabeth Buhler, Margie Trenary, Michael Champion, Gina Franco, Ryan Richardson, Electra Enslow, Alexis Rush, Esther Chung, Heidi Combs, Geoff Jones, Misbah Keen, Laura Yale, Joshua Jauregui, Laura Goodell, Eric Kraus, Julie Bould, John Willford, Karla Kelly, Erin Gunsul, Cindy Knall</i>
Regrets	Voting members: <i>David Horn, Leslee Kane, MaKenna Stavins, Paula Silha, Serena Brewer</i>

Agenda

	ITEM	LEAD	TIME	ATTACHMENTS	ACTION
1	Exam Schedule Guideline Discussion	Kris Calhoun / Matt Cunningham	15 min	Attachment A	Discussion / Decision
2	PEAC Clerkship Grading Recommendations	Matt Cunningham	75 min	Attachment B	Discussion

Next meeting: March 14, 2022

1. Exam Schedule Guideline Discussion		
<p>Discussion: The timing of clerkship final exams was adjusted for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Patient Care and Explore & Focus phases due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Exams were originally scheduled on Thursdays but were moved to Fridays to give students more time in the clinical learning environment. The committee discussed whether to continue Friday exams into the next academic year.</p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[1] VOTES FOR	[9] VOTES AGAINST
<p>Motion failed: Move to change clerkship exams from Friday to Thursday.</p>		

2. PEAC Clerkship Grading Recommendations		
<p>Discussion: In January 2021, Curriculum Committee reviewed grading criteria for the nine required clerkships (i.e., how the clinical assessments and final exam are combined into a final grade) and noted the large number of differences across clerkships. The committee discussed whether these differences are necessary or beneficial, either from the perspective of assessment validity or from the perspective of a student trying to navigate their required clerkships.</p> <p>The Curriculum Committee then approved a charge to the Program Evaluation and Assessment Committee (PEAC):</p> <p><i>Each required clerkship uses a slightly different method to both calculate the clinical numerical grade, and then combine the clinical numerical grade with the final exam score to come up with the final numerical grade for the clerkship. After examining these methods, the rationale (and benefit to the school) for retaining these differences in grading method is unclear. Grading differences also add unnecessarily to the cognitive load experienced by the students as they navigate the eight required clerkships. The Curriculum Committee charges PEAC to recommend a single method of determining clinical numerical grade and final numerical grade that can be used across all required clerkship departments. Details about what is considered in-scope for this charge are listed below:</i></p> <p><i>In-scope:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Best practices for calculating the clinical numerical grade</i> • <i>How the clinical numerical grade is combined with the exam score to create a final numerical grade</i> • <i>Performance standards for exams (e.g., threshold for passing, threshold for honors)</i> • <i>Percent honors awarded across clerkships</i> <p>In addition, the Curriculum Committee advised PEAC that recommendations for standardization should be developed through an equity lens, looking at the impact that current grading procedures have on students who are from underrepresented minority groups (URM; African American/Black, Latino/Hispanic of any race, American Indian or Native Alaskan, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander). PEAC began work on this project in February 2021. PEAC collected information about core clerkship grading from other medical schools (38 in total).</p> <p>After reviewing the grading policies/procedures for the 38 LCME-accredited schools, PEAC developed a set of questions that would be the basis for any potential recommendations for grade standardization. PEAC</p>		

discussed each of those questions, and the recommendations below are based on the results of those discussions. Each of the recommendations below was independently voted on and approved by PEAC.

Recommendation #1: Departments should adopt a percentage weighting system for combining clinical evaluations and final exam scores into a final grade. The final exam weight can be different by department, but should be no more than 15% of the final grade.

Recommendation #2: UWSOM should set a uniform standard for passing final exams, based on national percentile. This standard should be set by the Patient Care Committee.

Recommendation #3: UWSOM should discontinue the use of final exam performance thresholds that students must meet in order to get a final grade of Honors.

Recommendation #4: UWSOM should explore making broad changes to clerkship grading, centering equity and transparency. Changes could include moving to competency-based assessment/EPAs and to Pass/Fail grading for required clerkships.

The committee discussed each recommendation in depth. **ACTION:** Dr. Calhoun, the Patient Care Committee academic co-chair, will compile a summary of the committee's feedback and thoughts. Dr. Calhoun will reach out to committee members that were not present for their thoughts on each recommendation via e-mail. This summary will be presented to Curriculum Committee at the March 7, 2022 meeting for their review. Curriculum Committee will vote on PEAC's recommendations at the March meeting.