



Patient Care Phase Committee Minutes

Date	January 23, 2023
Time	4:00 – 5:30PM
Patient Care Co-Chairs	<i>Kris Calhoun; Joshua Jauregui</i>
Attendees	<p>Academic Chair: <i>Kris Calhoun; Executive Chair:</i> <i>Joshua Jauregui</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QUORUM REACHED: YES, 9</p> <p>Voting Members: <i>Abena Knight, Devin Sawyer, Evan Johnson, Jenny Wright, Matt Cunningham, Mike Spinelli, Paul Borghesani, Toby Keys</i></p> <p>Guests: <i>Sylvia Zavatchen, RaQuel Harwick, Alexis Rush, Jordan Kinder, Julie Bould, Kellie Engle, Kristen Seiler, Bekah Burns, Vicki Mendiratta, Gina Franco, Sara Kim, Amy Dettori, Eric Kraus, Margie Trenary, Geoff Jones, Debbie Blackstone, Sarah Villarreal, Esther Chung, Michael Champion, Carmelita Mason-Richardson, Ruth Sanchez, Scott Bailey, Neha Deshpande, Jung Lee, Karla Kelly, Sarah Wood, Ross Kessler, Sara Fear, Gerald Tolbert, Misbah Keen</i></p>
Regrets	Voting members: <i>David Horn, John McCarthy, Leslee Kane, Paula Silha, Serena Brewer</i>

Agenda

	ITEM	LEAD	TIME	ATTACHMENT	ACTION
1	Approve December minutes	Kris Calhoun	5 min	Attachment A	Decision
2	PEAC Grading Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check-in: Uniform Standard for Passing Final Exams • Decision: Final Exam Weight Cap 	Joshua Jauregui / Matt Cunningham	60 min	Attachment B	Decision
3	Clerkship Requirement Changes for the 2023-2024 Clinical Year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obstetrics and Gynecology • Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences 	Vicki Mendiratta / Paul Borghesani	20 min	Attachment C, D	Decision



1. Approve December minutes		
Discussion: The committee reviewed the previous minutes.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[6] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
Decision: The Patient Care Phase Committee approved the December minutes.		

2. PEAC Grading Recommendations		
Discussion: In March 2022, Curriculum Committee approved required clerkship grading recommendations from the Program Evaluation and Assessment Committee (PEAC):		
	Curriculum Committee approved (3/7/2022):	Status:
1.	UWSOM should explore making broad changes to clerkship grading, centering equity and transparency.	In progress. A clinical assessment workgroup is developing recommendations.
2.	Departments should adopt a percentage weighting system for combining clinical evaluations and final exam scores into a final grade (starting with the 2023-2024 clinical year).	Clerkships must implement starting March 2023.
3.	The final exam weight can be different by department and the cap should be set and approved by the Patient Care Phase and Explore & Focus Phase committees (starting with the 2023-2024 clinical year).	
4.	There should be a set uniform standard for passing final exams, based on national percentile. This standard should be set and approved by the Patient Care Phase and Explore & Focus Phase committees.	The standard has been set at the third percentile.
5.	UWSOM should discontinue the use of final exam performance thresholds students must meet in order to get a final grade of Honors (starting with the 2023-2024 clinical year).	Clerkships must implement starting March 2023.
Check-in: #4. Uniform Standard for Passing Final Exams		
Item number four has been set and approved at the third percentile. The committee touched base with Clerkship Directors on this standard and reviewed the number of students that failed the final exam and at what percentile for the last year. The committee also reviewed recent data from the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and the NBME's recommendation for minimum passing scores for required clerkships.		



The Clerkship Directors and committee felt the standard is appropriate at the third percentile. This topic will be revisited annually.

Decision: #3. Final Exam Weight Cap

The committee discussed item number three at the December Patient Care Phase Committee meeting and could not reach a consensus on a final exam weight cap. Options discussed ranged from 15% to 50%, however concerns were raised about either extreme (see the [December meeting minutes](#) for details). Since the December meeting, Clerkship Directors met with the Director of Educational Evaluation to discuss how grading would be affected by possible final exam weight caps.

While most clerkships plan to weight the final exam at 20%, others feel the final exam is a critical metric of clinical knowledge and want the flexibility to set the final exam weight cap at a higher percent. The committee also discussed the importance of recognizing the differences between clerkships, including the unique clinical knowledge and clinical experiences of each specialty. Ultimately, the committee proposed approving a 50 percent final exam weight cap, emphasizing that this is a cap and not a suggested final exam weight.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[6] VOTES FOR	[2] VOTES AGAINST
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Decision: The Patient Care Phase Committee approved setting the final exam weight cap at up to 50 percent of the final grade.

3. Clerkship Requirement Changes for the 2023-2024 Clinical Year

Discussion: Each year, the six required Patient Care Phase clerkships present changes for the upcoming clinical year to the committee for review and approval. This is a critical process for the school’s continued accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). Changes could include:

- Clerkship objectives
- Required clerkship activities
- Clinical encounters
- Mini-CEX
- Plans to recruit, add or otherwise change clerkship sites
- Assessment
- Grading System

Obstetrics & Gynecology and Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences presented changes for the 2023-2024 clinical year, beginning on March 27, 2023. See meeting handouts for details.

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Grading system changes:

- Use an 80/20 weight for the clinical grade and final exam.
- Change the clinical GPA minimum for the final grade of Honors from 3.5 to 3.8.

Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences



Clerkship sites:

- New site in Fairbanks, Alaska.
- Looking into Wyoming sites in Sheridan and Casper.

Grading system changes:

- Students must get 71% correct (approximately the third percentile nationally) of exam questions correct to pass.
- The clinical grade accounts for 50% of the final grade and the exam score accounts for 20%.

The committee provided feedback, recommending Psychiatry remove the following language in the “grading system changes” section:

"Exam Score (accounts for 20% of your Final Grade): You must get 71% correct (~3rd percentile nationally) or above to pass the exam. Scoring 70% correct or below will require you to retake the NBME in accordance with Patient Care Phase policies. ~~If you fail the NBME exam on your first try (e.g., getting ≤ 70% correct) the maximum Final Grade you can receive for the clerkship will be a High Pass and may result in failure of the clerkship and need to retake the clerkship in its entirety.~~ Historically, the UWSOM average NBME score is ~84% correct, equivalent to the national average."

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[8] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
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Decision: The Patient Care Phase Committee approved Obstetrics & Gynecology's clerkship changes for the 2023-2024 clinical year.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[8] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
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Decision: The Patient Care Phase Committee approved Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences' clerkship changes for the 2023-2024 clinical year, striking the language: *"Exam Score (accounts for 20% of your Final Grade): You must get 71% correct (~3rd percentile nationally) or above to pass the exam. Scoring 70% correct or below will require you to retake the NBME in accordance with Patient Care Phase policies. ~~If you fail the NBME exam on your first try (e.g., getting ≤ 70% correct) the maximum Final Grade you can receive for the clerkship will be a High Pass and may result in failure of the clerkship and need to retake the clerkship in its entirety.~~ Historically, the UWSOM average NBME score is ~84% correct, equivalent to the national average."*