



Explore & Focus Phase Committee Minutes

| | |
|---|--|
| Date | March 20, 2023 |
| Time | 4:00 – 5:30PM |
| Co-Chairs | <i>Esther Chung; Joshua Jauregui</i> |
| Attendees | Academic Chair: <i>Esther Chung</i> ; Executive Chair: <i>Joshua Jauregui</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QUORUM REACHED: YES, 7 | Voting Members: <i>Emily Myers, Matt Cunningham, Mike Spinelli, Roger Tatum, Sarah Thomson, Troy Johnston</i> |
| | Guests: <i>Kellie Engle, Eric Kraus, Megan Osika-Dass, Christine Rizkalla, Jordan Kinder, Kristen Seiler, Claire Sandstrom, Julie Bould, Jung Lee, Niels Beck, Margie Trenary, Susan Merel, Geoff Jones, Paul Borghesani, Doug Schaad, Ruth Sanchez, Erin Gunsul, Gina Franco</i> |
| Regrets | Voting members: <i>Alson Burke, Barb Doty, Nam Tran, Ralph Ermoian</i> |

Agenda

| | ITEM | LEAD | TIME | ATTACHMENT | ACTION |
|---|--|-----------------|--------|--------------------|----------|
| 1 | Approve February Minutes | Esther Chung | 5 min | Attachment A | Decision |
| 2 | Policies for 2023-2024 Clinical Year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance & Absentee – Clinical Phase Policy • Student Access to Anticipated Healthcare Policy | Joshua Jauregui | 15 min | Attachment B, C, D | Decision |
| 3 | Required Clerkship Requirement Changes for the 2023-2024 Clinical Year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neurology | Eric Kraus | 15 min | Attachment E | Decision |



| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Approve February Minutes | | |
| Discussion: The committee reviewed the previous minutes. | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED? | [7] VOTES FOR | [0] VOTES AGAINST |
| Decision: The Explore & Focus Phase Committee approved February meeting minutes | | |

| |
|---|
| 2. Policies for 2023-2024 Clinical Year |
| <p>Discussion: At the 2018 Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation site visit, the UW School of Medicine (UWSOM) received an <i>Unsatisfactory</i> citation for 12.4 “Clinical students’ access to healthcare services.” In 2020, the rating was updated to <i>Satisfactory with a Need for Monitoring</i>. In 2022, it fell back to <i>Unsatisfactory</i>. Student survey results reveal dissatisfaction stems from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school’s large geographic region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finding providers and scheduling regular healthcare appointments is difficult (rotations are typically six-weeks in length). ○ Health insurance and Medicaid coverage often does not carry over state lines. • Difficulty accessing and navigating the healthcare system. • Fear of school/faculty/preceptor retaliation (specifically to students’ grades). <p>UWSOM is taking a multi-prong approach to increase student satisfaction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve communication to students on how to report issues accessing healthcare (Student Affairs, Learning Environment Committee, and Educational Quality Improvement) 2. Revise Attendance & Absentee policy (Patient Care Phase and Explore & Focus Phase Committees) 3. Improve student access to telehealth services (Student Affairs) 4. Improve communication to and faculty development for clinical site preceptors (Faculty Development) <p>Over several months, the Curriculum Office has gathered extensive stakeholder feedback (formal and informal discussions, and numerous surveys) and reviewed peer medical schools’ policies. Utilizing this information, the attendance policy was revised and a new policy was drafted specifically around student access to healthcare. These edits aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplify language • Balance the needs of all stakeholders • Maintain an excellent medical education program • Address LCME citation • Emphasize the importance of student wellness and encourage/protect access to healthcare • Support departments and UWSOM’s capacity to operationalize change <p>The Patient Care Phase Committee discussed policy revisions at the February 2023 meeting. Following this meeting, the Curriculum Office surveyed clerkship directors and administrators to gather additional feedback, which has been incorporated into the proposed revisions.</p> |



In addition to cleaning up the policy language and expressing the UWSOM's explicit support of students' wellness and access to healthcare, the proposed revisions will grant students one additional allowed absence (on most rotations) for healthcare:

| Rotation | Anticipated Healthcare Absences | Anticipated Personal or Academic Absences |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| 2-week elective clerkship 3-week required clerkship (WRITE) 4-week Sub-Internship (Sub-I) | Up to 1 day | NONE |
| 4-week required clerkship (not including Sub-I) 4-week clinical elective clerkship 4-week Advanced Patient Care clerkship (APC) 6-week required clerkship | Up to 1 day | Up to 2 days * |
| Greater than 6 weeks (> 6 weeks) | Up to 2 days | Up to 2 days * |
| * Approved at the discretion of the Clerkship Director | | |

The committee reviewed the proposed revisions and provided feedback. The committee requested minor edits to the Attendance & Absentee policy, primarily impacting E&F courses. The changes include:

- Add the caveat that two days of anticipated absences are approved at the discretion of the Clerkship Director in 4-week required clerkships, except in Sub-Internships (Sub-Is).
- Add 4-week Advanced Patient Care clerkships (APCs) to the list of rotations allowing two days of anticipated absences (at the discretion of the Clerkship Director).
- Update the language from "Anticipated absences are not permitted during..." to "Anticipated absences are discouraged and not guaranteed during..."

The additional edits will be sent to the Patient Care Phase Committee to review and approve via e-vote.

| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED? | [7] VOTES FOR | [0] VOTES AGAINST |
|--|---------------|-------------------|

Decision: The Explore & Focus Phase Committee approved revisions to the "Attendance & Absentee - Clinical Phases" policy, effective for the 2023-2024 clinical year

| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED? | [7] VOTES FOR | [0] VOTES AGAINST |
|--|---------------|-------------------|

Decision: The Explore & Focus Phase Committee approved the "Student Access to Anticipated Healthcare" policy, effective for the 2023-2024 clinical year

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

Discussion: Each year, the three required Explore & Focus 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

Emergency Medicine and Neurosurgery presented changes for the 2023-2024 clinical year, beginning on March 27, 2023. See meeting handouts for details.

Neurology

Clerkship Sites

- Helena, Montana.
- Bozeman, Montana.

Grading System

- The final grade weighting system is 50% clinical grade and 50% final exam grade.
- Grade cut-offs
 - Honors (H): 86
 - High Pass (HP): 78
- Final grade
 - Honors (H): 49%
 - High Pass (HP): 35%
 - Pass (P): 16%

See meeting handouts for details.

| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED? | [7] VOTES FOR | [0] VOTES AGAINST |
|--|---------------|-------------------|

Decision: The Explore & Focus Phase Committee approved Neurology's clerkship changes for the 2023-2024 clinical year