

Student Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2021
12:00 – 1:00 pm, HMEB 460

Attendance: Shelley Collins, Shireen Sims, Alejandro Albizu, CJ Arcalas, Mitsy Audante, Morgan Brazel, Morgan Dopp, Olivia Etienne, Jim Gorske, Eryk Hernandez, Asena Markal, Sonile Peck,

Recording: Renata Dolbier

Begin 12:00 pm

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Dr. Madani Sims is the new faculty advisor for the committee. Everyone introduces themselves. Dr. Collins reviewed the ground rule.
- Dr. Collins charged reps to remind classes that if they are not fully covid vaccinated, they will not be able to participate in clerkships/preceptorships.

2. MS 4th YR

Concerned there is lack of career advising, mentorship, and struggling to get letters of recommendations, where to apply, how many to apply to. Dr. Madani Sims has a plan to help with this. She is working with departments to identify a career specialist within and doing some faculty development. She will work on shadowing opportunities/career day. Alumni interview (mock interviews) are going very well.

3. BioMed

Recent challenge is centered around funding. They are negotiating for stipend increase and getting pushback. No increase has been awarded in 7yrs. Another concern is Fellowships, some don't cover the entire cost of education and it is put back on them. They have been working with Dr. Rowe. Dr. Collins will reach out. Moral is good and enjoying doing activities in-person.

4. PA 1st YR

Class is doing well and figuring out workload management. The representative questioned how to get feedback from classmates. MS2 and MS3 reps spoke to this sharing what works for them. Dr. Collins advised to set "office hours" and boundaries for class leadership.

5. MS 1st YR

Class is doing well; however, they have concerns with ALAC scheduling not being available until the day before. They are aware of some roadblocks and are trying to work with program to see if they can get the schedules out a little earlier. Some students expressed they are uncomfortable during student exams in ALAC due to lack of privacy. Dr. Sims will follow up. Some students expressed concern about religious holidays on exam days. There is a list of university holidays that are supposed to be considered when scheduling. The Exam Score policy has changed and students feel there is not clear communication as to why. Currently, due to technical issues, students cannot review their exams and they don't receive their scores a few days later and they are in limbo and stressed. Students are meeting with Dr. Harrell to work through this issue. The timing of the score is impacting the scheduled review session because students do not have their scores. These issues are being looked at. Dr. Collins brought up the discussion of how do we help student manage change and/or deal with things that don't meet their expectations. This is the responsibility of the class leadership. Dr. Collins reaffirmed

that it has been noted that there is a significant amount of card and looking out for each other.

6. MS 2nd YR

The class is receptive to change; however, they are concerned about clear communication of what's going to happen and what to expect or how it's going to affect them. There have been security issues using Canvas and we are working on moving to Examsoft which has some nicer features. Students prefer to have a raw score right away so they can see where they may lie rather than no score. Dr. Collins will follow up on timing of exams and scores. Class is in neuro and the decision to move anatomy to the spring is amazing. Neuro is hard but ow it's being ran by Dr. Robinson it is great. Students brought up that Whitecoat is on Mother's Day, staff is aware and plan to acknowledge it. Follow up - class photo will be at the reception. Students have expressed that some of the test proctors have been really rude to them. Class representative will work with Dr. Collins to follow up. Students are happy with the commuter lot extension. Student was concerned about how is professionalism address in CLG and is it applied consistently. First place to address an issue is with CLG leader. A session regarding Step 1 will be scheduled to talk about what to expect with the new scoring.

7. MS 3rd YR

A concern was brought up pertaining to lack communication in some of the Clerkship. Some individuals never received any evaluation to perform on residence or faculty and vice versa. Some students are concerned with grading transparency and would like to know if there is a possibility to see who is evaluating them or to recommend who evaluates them? Students feel like grades are taking a long time to receive. Dr. Collins informed that rotations have 6 weeks to submit grades. Geriatric clerkship seems unfruitful, and student would like to know if they could use that time for an elective. This is an ongoing discussion and Faculty/leadership are working on finding the right balance. There is certain need to meet LCME credit and patient presentations, etc. Dr. Sims asked what do the students think would be helpful to get a meaningful geriatric experience? Representative will follow up with a poll. Dr. Madani Sims will follow up with geriatric placements. Student concerned about getting pushback for medical leave. Students are to schedule appointments around there required activities. Exceptions are understandable.

Meeting adjourned: 1:12 pm