



**Student Education Group  
12/1/15  
Minutes**

**Members unable to attend:** Will Manning, Sarah Johnson, Nicholas Fields, Rachel Carson, Reiko Sakai

**Members in attendance:** Caleb Seufert, Karl Kristiansen (lync), Dylan Hershkowitz (lync), Charlotte Hastings, Liz Carson, Brian Till, Tara Higgins (Clerkship), Curtis Gwilliam (MCC), Alexandra Miller, Chris Bernard, Marc Vecchio, Laura Director, Lawrence Leung

**Minutes by:** Brian Till

**Chairperson:** Caleb Seufert

**Guests:** Donna O'Malley, Alice Stokes, Gary Atwood

**Library Update (Donna O'Mally, Gary Atwood, Alice Stokes):**

- Alice said that the library is piloting a question bank program "USMLE Easy" that will be open to students through the 25<sup>th</sup> of December. It's open to all students, can be calibrated whether one is studying for step 1 or step 2, and can be organized by which particularly topic students want questions from (if they're in a given clerkship, for instance).
- SEG will plan to let students know via Facebook and minutes about this opportunity. Students can sign up here: <http://library.uvm.edu/dana/news/?p=4405>
- Feedback should be directed to [jlight@med.uvm.edu](mailto:jlight@med.uvm.edu), and should touch on:
  - (1) How compare other QBanks if students have used them
  - (2) Whether buying a subscription would be a good purchase for the library
  - (3) Overall ease of use
- The library staff also wants students know that they can take out white boards and shelf exam studying resources for two hour intervals. Over break can they can be taken for the entirety of the two weeks.
- Donna O'Malley was interested in whether there is a proper balance of tables, carrels, and quiet rooms. In general there was interest and support for adding more small conference rooms.
- Dean Jeffries noted that Lerner is a great place for group study and that each screen can be controlled from a laptop with an independent IP address. Charlotte and Lawrence are going to work with COMIS to try to get the instructions for this.
- Caleb expressed his appreciation of the various resources available for clerkship students from the library, both including physical resources and electronic tools.
- Brian expressed appreciation for all there of the librarians' help with research endeavors over the past few years. Gary urged SEG to spread the word about their availability to support research needs. He feels that people think they are "burdening" the librarians, which is entirely not the case. He noted that they welcome this aspect of this work, and it is not "cheating" to consult the librarians, and he worries that some students may feel this way.

- Liz asked whether the library offers any assistance with SPSS and other statistical support. Donna said that Alan Howard at the Davis Center is available to help students with this.
- Caleb asked about whether Dr. Howe can offer support with study design. Donna said that Dr. Howard is also terrifically helpful with this, and that he very much likes to be there at the beginning of study design. Tara noted that Dr. Howard had been extremely helpful for a study of hers with IRB language.
- Dean Jeffries asked Donna O'Malley to comment on the Anatomage Table that Dr. Larner donated. He noted that the radiology residents are using it extensively. The device is a full sized table that allows for virtual dissection. It allows students to toggle from cadaver anatomy to the MRI and CT. Per the library team, Students should reach out to Kate Bright if they're interested to use it. Online tutorials are available.
- Dean Jeffries suggested SEG members use this as a fourth year project to figure out how to integrate its use into the curriculum.

#### ***Clerkship (Tara Higgins):***

- Tara noted that at the last meeting spent a good deal of time discussing the GQ (an AMC survey of graduating medical students) and the issue of mistreatment during medical school. Tara noted that last year grand rounds in each specialty touched on the issue of mistreatment, a module for faculty and students was developed, and a number of other steps were taken to address the issue. There are concerns about the data but also hope that in the coming years the effect of this work will be reflected in the GQ. Brian noted that the AAMC reps will be presenting these data to the student body and anyone interested on 12/8.
- Tara was asked to report back to the committee on the makeup of student leadership on the LEAP committees. She will reach out to Dr. Adams, the director, and get back to SEG on the issue. She also noted that the GQ showed 98% of graduating seniors were satisfied with their medical education. That placed UVM above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile, as we have been at least since 2009, according to Dean Jeffries.

#### ***Course Evaluations:***

- Karl asked for an update regarding course evaluations.
- Dean Jeffries said this squarely is within the Teaching Academy now. Groups have been convened to review them and have students from SEG and outside of SEG represented in those groups. They will report to the academy director in March.
- Dr. Huggett is also implementing a near-peer evaluation system in which TA's will also be reviewing learning experiences.

#### ***Social Justice Coalition Update (Dean Jeffries):***

- Soraya Thura came to the last meeting on behalf of the social justice coalition and proposed a new evaluation that would poll students at regular intervals to see if instructors have made offensive remarks or otherwise failed to comply with our values for the learning space. As a result, Dr. Jeffries did two things: 1) he asked Dr. Huggett, the Director of the Teaching Academy, to appoint Soraya as a member of the Foundations Evaluations review committee. This is to ensure that there is 100% concordance between any efforts to identify issues in the Foundations learning environment and the new evaluations system, which is in development. 2) Dean Jeffries

brought the issue to the Foundations committee and noted that, regardless of what the faculty think, if students are feeling that this issue is not being handled appropriately at present, then the problem needs to be addressed.

- Dean Jeffries directed Foundations committee to bring a group together to address the issue. Their mandate is not to make new policies, but to figure out a system by which issues in the learning environment can be collaboratively addressed by mutual engagement of faculty and students. Students must be comfortable and able to bring these issues to course directors or administrators quickly so that they might be resolved appropriately and sensitively.
- Charlotte expressed her appreciation of how Dean Jeffries has moved the issue forward since the last SEG meeting and the administration's overall interest to find a system to deal with the issue, which, she noted, is a national one.
- Dean Jeffries stressed that he wants the plan to be developed by the faculty as he feels they are best suited to find solutions that will work and endure. He stressed to them the immediacy of the needed solutions, though, given the power of mass communication and the speed with which millennials converse.
- Tara noted that this is an issue in the Clerkships as well, and is likely more pronounced. Dean Jeffries agreed.
- Dean Jeffries noted that Office for Diversity and Inclusion in collaboration with the Teaching Academy, will be running faculty development programs around cultural sensitivity. These are proposed to start with course directors.

***SEG retreat (Brian):***

- Brian noted that other major student committees are weighing retreats to, among other things, rewrite their bylaws, which SEG has recently done.
- He asked whether the group would support such an activity.
- The group broadly agreed.
- Liz suggested the group consider inviting important stake holders, including Dr. Huggett and representative from the Foundations and Clerkship committees.
- Brian, Liz, Laura, and a fourth year to be named will start working on details for such a retreat.

The meeting was adjourned.