



Student Education Group
1/3/16
Minutes

Members unable to attend: Caleb Seufert, William Manning

Members in attendance: Dylan Hershkowitz (Skype), Brian Till, Laura Director, Chris Bernard, Mark Vecchio, Ethan Witt, Lawrence Leung, Rachel Carlson (Skype), Elizabeth Carson (Skype), Chad Serels, Omer Ikizler (Skype), Laura Griesinger (Skype), Charlotte Hastings (Skype)

Minutes by: Daniel De Los Santos

Chairperson:

Guests: None

Attendance Policy:

- Laura started the meeting by bringing up her proposal regarding the attendance policy for SEG representatives. The discussion about the proposal started with the topic of what constitutes an excused absence.
- Laura mentioned that an absence could be considered excused if the SEG rep was on call, in a rotation, or in the OR.
- Chris mentioned that February during Step 1 dedicated studying could be an excused absence for 2nd-year students. No agreement was reached on this matter.
- Brian mentioned that he hopes it doesn't come to the point where we are debating on the legitimacy of an excused absence. He mentioned that it is most important to keep tally of where SEG reps are and why they're there, so in the case they meet the limit of unexcused absences, everybody will have a sense of if this SEG rep is contributing or not.
- Laura commented that attending 7 out of 11 meetings is rather an ambiguous number. She asked the members for additional opinions.
- Dylan chimed in saying he was still confused on what constituted as an excused absence. He brought up the difficulty of predicting locations of away rotations—where it's difficult to attend SEG meetings—and also during interview season.
- Brian agreed, but mentioned that it's easier in 4th year to contribute in other ways. Brian believes that it's less a question of "excused vs. unexcused", but more of a general sense of if a SEG rep is participating or not.
- Brian mentioned that an agreement on a solid number for attendance was needed. Brian suggested 6 total attendances out of 11 for the year.
- Chris agreed, reasoning that a SEG rep should make at least half the meetings for the year.
- Liz thought that an absence where SEG is notified about beforehand should be considered an excused absence. Omer and Dylan agreed.

- Brian mentioned that, if that was the case and only unexcused absences counted towards whether a SEG rep would be reviewed, then he would be in favor of changing the threshold point from 5 to something stricter.
- In response, Liz suggested that maybe any absence should count to the total.
- Brian summarized the 2 options: 1) All absences are counted towards this threshold number, and when reached, a vote will decide the continuation of that reps participation in SEG or 2) If reasons are given for absences, then when 3 unexcused absences are reached, a similar voting approach will be taken.
- Rachel agreed that confusion can arise from debating the excused vs unexcused topic. Rachel believed that there should be an expectation that a SEG rep should inform the group once they know they won't be able to attend. Also, she suggested that there should be a hard cutoff of 4 or 5 absences—either excused or unexcused—that once met, would warrant the conversation of that SEG reps continuation in SEG.
- In response to Rachel, Brian agreed with her proposal. Brian concluded that there should be an expectation that a SEG rep needs to inform the group of their absence and why, and once there is 4 absences within the year, the group will discuss if those are grounds for removal from SEG.
- Group discussion on when voting would take place resulted in postponing the vote until next month after the new proposal had been drafted.

Projects (First Year Doctoring Skills):

- Dylan opened up this topic by mentioning that a first-year student proposed the idea of incorporating more case presentations and having more subsequent feedback from SPs or other medical students during the first-year of Doctoring Skills.
- Marc mentioned that he thought Dr. Beatty was working on something similar. Marc remembered that, at the last Foundations meeting, Dr. Beatty talked about a program he was working on that was responsible for incorporating clinical aspects earlier in Foundations.
- Brian recommends to reach out to Dr. Beatty and see if he can come talk about it at a SEG meeting.
- Dylan explained that he found it beneficial to have physicians come into doctoring skills rooms and impart feedback to the first year students after clinical presentations.
- Rachel said that she would be able to work on this project.
- Brian suggested that, since Team 4 is responsible for clinical skills, it would be useful for their participation in this project. Brian suggested that, if this project leads to significant changes, a survey of pre-intervention and post-intervention regarding how comfortable students became with these clinical skills would be impactful.
- Liz agreed that we should be collecting data, but that we should be careful on inducing survey fatigue. Liz believes that this can negatively affect the response rate of students throughout first and second year, but believed response rate was still an important factor. Liz suggested getting the questions of interest put into the mandatory evaluations.
- Dylan said he will cc: Team 4 on the email for this project.

Projects (VSAS):

- Dylan suggested that our medical school could benefit from better resources on how to use VSAS. Dylan mentioned that he was hoping to put together an instruction manual and FAQs with answers. Dylan asked if anybody would be interested in working on this.
- Brian clarified to the group that VSAS is the portal to apply to away rotations and is a national resource that everyone uses.
- Liz asked if this information already existed.
- In response, Dylan mentioned that it's well organized and that VSAS has a FAQ, but it covers more of the finer points.
- Chris and Omer said they would be willing to work on this project.
- Liz suggested that after writing it, the group should get it published so everyone nationally could use this resource.
- Omer said there are resources like "How to use VSAS" and tips from other medical schools regarding this. Omer believes that a LCOM-specific resource would be valuable.
- Lawrence asked Dylan if this VSAS is more of a PDF or a video. If video, Lawrence recommended involving the teaching academy since they have experience with Camtasia.
- Dylan liked the idea. Dylan said the first step is getting everything in one place.
- Also, Dylan recommends that 3rd and 4th year members of SEG should edit the documents on COMET regarding different specialties that students can apply to. Dylan mentioned that Dr. Zehle was creating an informational website about understanding what is needed to apply to different specialties and advice about the process.

Update of Class of 2020 Grading System:

- Chad updated the group on the pass/fail grading system for the Class of 2020.
- Chad said there would be a retreat in February to discuss this matter, so administration decided on making Attacks & Defenses pass/fail until they can decide at the curriculum retreat on how to move forward.
- Liz recommended that as many SEG members that attend the curriculum retreat, the better.
- Brian wanted to do a survey over video-based learning and what is most important in those videos, like Camtasia videos. Brian said it would be useful to do a survey to see its strengths.
- Liz was unsure about Brian's suggestion. Liz mentioned that Dr. Leclair is doing a workshop during a retreat on how to create Camtasia videos. Liz suggested that Brian could work with her on that because she doesn't think a survey was the way to go about it.

SEG Responsibilities on Lecture Free Task Force.

- Liz was curious if any SEG members were on the lecture free task force.
- The group concluded that no one was on the task force.
- Liz suggested brainstorming on how we could have members of SEG on the task force, due to her worry of SEG becoming obsolete on the process of converting to a lecture-free curriculum.
- Dylan suggested asking Dr. Jeffries about sitting in on these meetings.
- Brian suggested bringing the leader of the committee and the student rep into SEG to inform us about their mandate.
- Charlotte said she'd be happy reaching out to Dr. Jeffries about it.
- Also, Dylan said 1st years should be on the email list serv within the next week.