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A Word from the Academy Director

In the past several months, plans have been developed at the Undergraduate Medical Education Curriculum Committee table which will see a transformation of the undergraduate curriculum in the coming years. With a successful undergraduate accreditation by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) behind us, we now have the opportunity to look to the future and to make substantive changes to the curriculum. This will involve innovative pilot programs of new education models and studying the process and outcomes of these changes. Much of the change in curriculum delivery is being fueled by the need to constantly improve the experience for our learners and prepare them for the challenges of being residents and physicians of the future in the best possible way. Changes are also necessary in response to feedback from our medical students, a highly talented pool of motivated and “professional” learners, who now learn in different ways than their predecessors.

One of the major trends in medical education is attempting to integrate the learning of content knowledge with skill acquisition and attainment of professional competencies. Because the learning of basic science concepts and clinical medicine is often separated into different courses for delivery, students can fail to make the connection between the two. They often ask us for more clinical time earlier in the curriculum to begin their understanding of the work that they will do as clinicians. Many of us who trained in medical school before with dawn of the internet will remember spending hours trying to memorize facts so that these facts could be at the tip of our tongue when needed. Now the reality is that many of these



ACADEMY CHALLENGE – Historic Lead for WB!

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ever changing facts are at our finger tips, literally, anywhere with just a tap or stoke of the screen at hand. The time spent in traditional lectures may be better spent in active learning or pursuing interests which complement development of skills. At the same time, as medical educators, we recognize the absolute necessity that physicians understand the relevant basic principles of human biology and disease pathogenesis in order to be able to create and apply an ever evolving set of diagnostic and management tools to patient care.

Technology has also clearly changed the way in which we learn. The classic lecture hall is arguably no longer a necessity for transfer of information in the digital age. Videos, e-Learning modules and interactive on line methods which are accessible to the learner in a flexible manner, has meant that a flipped classroom is possible. Students who do on line pre-work in a topic, then self-assess their understanding, can now come together with their tutors for a richer, more



*Jackie James
MED MED FRCPC, Editor
Wightman-Berris Academy
Director*

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interactive discussion with reinforcement of what is meant to be learned, challenged and applied.

There are two very important pilots occurring in the 2014-15 academic year, and we are busy at present in preparing for these. The first is in the Preclerkship in Year 1, whereby instead of Structure and Function, ASCM and DOCH being run as separate courses, a block of time in the fall will be dedicated to integrating basic science learning about the cardiovascular system and disease in a pilot for the new TOPIC (Theme-based Online Patient-centred Integrated Curriculum). On line materials will be anchored by tutorials and team based learning and Integrated Clinical Experiences (ICE) will run concurrently to underpin the clinical application of the material. This pilot will involve all academies and all students. We will need to provide enhanced faculty development for our tutors at Wightman-Berris as this form of tutoring will be new to most.

The second important pilot will be the Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship in which eight students at the Fitzgerald Academy (St. Michael's Hospital) will be enrolled. This group of students will have longitudinal ambulatory experiences with supervisors over the clerkship year in Family Medicine Clinics, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Psychiatry and other specialties along with inpatient experiences on Medical and Surgical wards and Emergency Care. Students will follow their patients as they move through the entirety of their health care experience and develop longitudinal relationships with those in their patient panel over the course of the year. It is anticipated that by 2015-16, all academies, including WB will provide an integrated clerkship experience for those who select it. I am looking forward to meeting with faculty and students in the coming months to determine how best to organize this exciting new initiative within the context of our large network of clinical sites and potential experiences.

News

Maureen Appleton Retires

In the fall of 2013, Maureen Appleton, beloved Education Coordinator at MedEd West retired. Maureen worked for over 30 years at Toronto General and Toronto Western Hospitals. In 2000 she joined the Wightman-Berris Academy and coordinated registration and teaching sessions for hundreds of adoring students, residents and faculty at the Western. Her cheerful, caring and nurturing disposition will definitely be missed. We wish Maureen all the best in her retirement, although most of us think she looks too young to be retired!



Welcome Becka Soyka

We welcomed Becka Soyka to the Medical Education team in the fall to coordinate MedEd West. Becka has been a great addition to the team, bringing her expertise in multitasking from the Coronary and CV Intensive Care Units at UHN. She certainly has the ability to deal with any learning environment from her experiences as an early childhood educator and a cruise line director! Becka welcomes your input on ways of improving the educational experience for students and teachers at TWH.

Rebecka.Soyka@uhn.ca



News

91 members of the Class of 1T6 were welcomed in the fall.



The Annual Wightman-Berris Holiday Party 2013

The Annual Holiday Party was held on December 5. Entertainment was provided by Sarah Whynot and Venus Valbuena. Students, faculty and staff mingled to ring in the holiday season with some great food provided by Rob and Five Star crew at Mount Sinai Hospital.



Golden Stethoscope Awards 2012-13

At the Holiday Party, the 2013 Golden Stethoscope Awards are presented to students nominated by their third year clerkship supervisors for admirable physician qualities exemplified by compassion, caring, altruism, academic excellence and the ability to go above and beyond. These seven are the recipients of the Awards and are the kind of people you would most want to walk into your room if you were a patient:

Laura Erdman - Great sense of self-directed learning, patient- centred, always upbeat!

Ryan Figuera - Outstanding communication skills with family health team, colleagues and supervisors.

Anthony LaDelfa - Humble, approachable, with high emotional intelligence, and great capacity to work with others.

Fashad Nassiri - Very effective in developing rapport with patients and has the ability to make them feel at ease.

Russell Rasquinha - Never satisfied to do just what is needed to be done, seeking out more for the team and his patients.

Linda Wong - Compassionate demeanor, with a tremendous sense of integrity and ability to advocate for her patients.

Ahmad Zaheem - Advocated on their behalf, especially when patients unable to do it for themselves.

Dr. Jackie James presented her greetings to WB in the form of an **Original WB Holiday Poem**

As I reflect on the year,
As the end of 2013 draws near
Seems like just yesterday 1T7 was to start
To face their first fear
In a dissection they would have to take part!
But now surely you are pros
At the names of every bone, even in the nose
At the Structure and Function of the heart
Where all veins and arteries anastomose
And with that with the Science of Medicine
comes Art.
At what about you in 1T6
Are you happy about your Picks?

For the research of DOCH2
Or do you still need some tricks
To withstand the ethics review?
And has PBL kept its promise
To encourage you not to miss
The chance to learn Triple M-D
In this method though shalt not dis
And go beyond the search of google MD!
And a shout out to CC3s
'Cause apparently you're all too busy as bees
Are any of you about?
Strange that you both work and pay fees
Reflect in Portfolio, And still study your brains out.

As it is at WB, the pride of the Academies
The graduating class of 1T4 are often overseas
As they set their sights on the prize
Of the crème de la crème residencies
And a career that fits just the right size.
So this time of year
It's time to share come good cheer
With staff, friends and relations
Some close and some dear
As join in some sweet Celebrations.

November



Upcoming Events

Doc Talks

The next Doc Talks will take place on Wednesday February 26 at 5 PM in Helliwell Centre. 2nd and 3rd year students meet with a few faculty members to engage in discussion over a light dinner about career choices and lifestyles.

WB Clerkship Information Night

On Monday Feb 24 in the Helliwell Centre, second year students will learn about the rotation options for WB students in third year from Faculty and Clerks. Details to follow by email.

Daffydil 2014

Now entering its 103rd year of production. Daffydil is one of the longest-standing traditions at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine. Many WB students are involved in this year's production which runs February 19 – 22, 2014.

Visit www.daffydil2014.com for more information.

Of Note!

Nominate your Third Year Clerk (2013-14) for A Golden Stethoscope Award

The Golden Stethoscope Awards are given to recognize clinical clerks for being "the kind of student that you would wish to walk into your room if you were a patient". These Awards recognize students' caring approach and excellent clinical skills during their 3rd year rotations.

Supervisors are asked to nominate students for their performance in Third Year and should send nominations to Anne Marie Holmes. Find the nomination form on our website

Deadline for Nominations August 30, 2014!

Nominate an outstanding Teacher for a Wightman-Berris Teaching Award

Individual Teaching Awards

Students should nominate outstanding tutors and supervisors they have for these all important awards. Any faculty member who teaches on behalf of the Wightman-Berris Academy including MSH, UHN, TEGH, HRRH, CAMH, Baycrest and Sick Kids is eligible. Two students

are required to nominate teachers of medical students or residents. One student is required to nominate an Allied Health preceptor. Nomination Forms are available in all our Med Ed Offices or online. Descriptions of qualities to include in the nomination:

1. The ability to enhance learning
2. The ability to teach effectively
3. The ability to stimulate critical thinking
4. Leadership, mentoring and role-modeling
5. The ability to encourage scholarly activities

Anderson Awards

These highest level awards require greater documentation. Nominations may come from faculty and learners. CV's, evidence of teaching impact or educational leadership etc, generally required. See our website for details.

Deadline for Nominations: April 1, 2014!

Academy Challenge

January 10, 2014 Standings

WB takes a historic lead in the annual Academy Challenge!

1st place	WB	292 points
2nd place	PB	249 points
3rd place	MAM	225 points
4th place	Fitz	164 points



The Challenge is a collegial competition between the academies in which each academy scores points for participation in activities and raises money for charity. WB had a very strong showing in the Movember Challenge with some outstanding photographs and work of creative minds from both the first and second year WBers. Second year students Marc Dagher, Keith Gunaratne and Eric Coomes would definitely pursue careers in fashion, photography and design! First year pic are by submissions by Eli Kisilevsky and Andrea Copeland. The size of the WB Academy has been somewhat of a disadvantage to us in the past, as point are pro-rated per student, but with the great spirit of the preclerkship classes and support by our WB reps, including Dale Conner, WB is rising to its potential to the be best! WB finished first in the Tug-of-War and Admissions Video Challenges advancing the unprecedented lead.

Go Team WB!



Visit our Website: wbacademy.utoronto.ca

For more information about the Academy and past editions of the newsletter, nomination forms etc.

Contact

To submit an article, notice or comments contact: Anne Marie Holmes, annemarie.holmes@uhn.ca

