

UGMS Committee

Minutes

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DATE & TIME: Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Professional Development and Conferencing Services Boardroom

PRESENT: Dr. G. Farrell (Acting Chair), Drs. D.W. McKay, A. Dorward, S. Murphy, S. Moffatt, S. Shah, A. Goodridge, N. Bandrauk, T. Adey, Ms. S. Ackerman, Mr. S. Pennell, Ms. E. Hillman, Mr. G. Beckett, Mr. J. Thorburn (Student Representative) and Mr. N. Sowers (Student Representative)

APOLOGIES: Ms. L. Glynn, Drs. C. Donovan, M. Hogan and M. Wells

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Review of Minutes of January 7, 2009

DORWARD/BECKETT

THAT the minutes be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes of January 7.

New Business

**Policy for RNC Checks for Students**

Members were asked to review the draft policy provided prior to the meeting and it was noted that the policy needs to be passed by this Committee today in order to bring it back to Faculty Council.

It was noted that the Faculty of Medicine does not determine the professional requirements for those who practice in this province. This is a decision of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of NL. As well, students need to be aware that while the Faculty of Medicine does not require a background check, some agencies that they may encounter during their medical training will require it, by law.

It was pointed out that the wording used in the draft policy will not require administrative involvement to keep track of who is required to obtain a certificate and who isn't, while still advising the students that it may be required.

Members were advised that this is similar policy in the School of Pharmacy and it is likely that the School of Social Work and the School of Nursing will also something similar. It has only been slightly changed to meet the needs of the Faculty of Medicine.

As there was no further discussion, the following motion was made:

HILLMAN/BECKETT

THAT the document be accepted as it is currently presented.

CARRIED

### **Students with Disabilities and Creation of Ad Hoc Committee**

During the last accreditation process, a policy in place that would outline certain criteria that students must meet in order to gain entry into medical school. Students with disabilities can currently be admitted, however, there is no policy to deal with the issues related to these students.

The Chair asked for a small group of volunteers to form an Ad Hoc Committee to create such a policy which would then be reviewed by Student Affairs and the Blunden Centre.

Dr. McKay, Dr. Murphy and Mr. Thorburn volunteered.

It was suggested that the Ad Hoc Committee should review the current university policy regarding students with disabilities and decide where the medical school should deviate to meet its purposes. Ms. Hillman will forward the link for the current policy to the volunteers.

### **Invigilation Policy**

It was discovered that the new version of this policy was not available to members for their review prior to the meeting. It will be e-mailed to Ms. Moss for posting to the homepage prior to the next meeting.

Some members felt that the new policy is highly directive and doesn't deal with principles as much as it deals with the smaller details. This may leave open the possibility for further criticism. It was felt the policy should be in more general terms and those involved with invigilation could be provided with ways that they might be able to ensure procedures are being followed as opposed to dictating the precise requirements.

It was pointed out that this document is an attempt to deal with issues that have already been brought up and is descriptive in order to better deal specifically with these issues.

It was suggested that an option may be to have someone assigned who will know the policies so that the policy will be uniformly implemented.

Ms. Ackerman agreed to take on this role but it was noted that this responsibility may be transferred to the assessment person in the UGME Office once the hiring takes place.

After some further discussion, it was decided that suggestions for additions, etc. would be forwarded to Dr. Farrell to be incorporated into the document and a new version will be posted for discussion at the next meeting before a vote takes place.

### **Pedagogy Review Group Report**

Members agreed that there should be a dedicated meeting to discuss the pedagogy to gain clarification on some of the issues. The review group will be invited to a future meeting.

### **Student Assessment Review Group Report**

Members were advised that the report will be provided to the Student Assessment Review Group to bring suggestions to this Committee.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

G. Farrell, MD  
Acting Chair  
Assistant Dean

GF/mjm