

## Postgraduate Medical Education Advisory Committee (PGMEAC)

Friday, February 25, 2022

12:00 – 2:00 pm

Via Zoom

### MINUTES

**Present:** Meredith Giuliani (Chair), Caroline Abrahams, Patricia Houston, Mary Bell, Stacey Bernstein, Alis Xu, Paolo Campisi, Paul Tonin, Savannah Clancey, Richard Walker, Susan Done, Eric You-Ten, Andrea Bezjak, Giovanna Sirianni, Anne Davies, Stu Murdoch, Jeannette Goguen, Petal Abdool, Kevin Weingarten, Lisa St. Amant, Maureen Morris, Lisa Bevacqua, Lindsey Fechtig, Charlie Guiang, Jackie James, Janet Bodley, Heather Flett, Anne Matlow, Walter Tavares, Melissa Kennedy, Shannon Spencer, Mojgan Hodaie, Laura Leigh Murgaski, Charlene Sturge (Recorder)

**Guests:**

**Regrets:** Larry Erlick, Arno Kumagai, Reena Pattani, Adrienne Tan, Rachel Fleming, Alison Freeland, Karl Iglar, Adelle Atkinson, Michele Farrugia, Nicola Jones, Barry Pakes, John Lloyd

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#### 1. AGENDA/MINUTES

- a) M. Giuliani welcomed committee members to the meeting. The agenda was approved as written.
- b) Minutes of the Friday, January 28, 2022, meeting were accepted as circulated.

#### MATTERS ARISING/REGULAR UPDATES & FOLLOW-UP

#### 2. Resident Report

A. Xu provided an update on PARO activities:

##### **RDAW**

February 7-11 was Resident Doctor Appreciation Week and PARO reps provided treats to residents in hospital lounges. Between GC reps and outreach to chief residents and Program Administrators we were able to deliver treats to 17 hospital sites between February 8 and 10, including DME sites. Thank you to everyone who assisted with this initiative.

##### **Incoming Residents Orientation**

PARO is undertaking many initiatives to welcome incoming PGY1s:

##### 1) Touchstone Institute Presentations

As part of the PARO Transition into Residency initiative, PARO reps will present at the Touchstone Institute to welcome incoming IMG residents. This will include a broad-based presentation on PARO and a Q&A discussion. The IMG participants will then be divided by their university into breakout rooms where PARO reps can meet them and provide site specific information. The sessions are scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2022, and Monday, May 30, 2022, from 1-3pm.

### **Medical Student Presentation**

On April 7, at 12-1 pm PARO reps will host a PARO presentation for 4<sup>th</sup> year medical students, to introduce ourselves and inform medical students of the specific services and supports that PARO offers.

### **Assist with the PGME PGY1 Welcome Reception on June 29 at 3-5pm.**

We understand more information is to come on this format.

Mail call kits to all hospital sites to be distributed to incoming PGY1s.

### **Plan a PARO PGY1 Welcome Social**

We are currently planning this and there will be more information to come.

### **3. PAAC Report**

S. Clancey reported on recent PAAC activities:

PAAC is in full swing planning the remaining sessions for the academic year. The planned February Wellness session will be rescheduled to a time in March. There was a session held today on integrating MS Office Suite Apps within our daily workflow with about 58 participants. This was one of the highest attended sessions since the pandemic.

#### **Upcoming Sessions:**

- Tips and Tricks for Resident Onboarding – April TBC
- PA Appreciation Event - May 4
- Topic TBC - May 24
- Career Development Workshop - June 7

### **4. COFM**

COVID based requests for redeployment is winding down at the hospitals with the hope for a continued downward trend. A number of hospitals have suspended their central coordination for calls for redeployment and MRRP volunteers. The MRRP is currently active until March 31, 2022.

#### **HUEC**

A document has been created by a coordinated effort from the hospital sites around return to in-person activities and other activities that have been paused such as shadowing, including room capacity, etc. This is being endorsed by all the hospitals to make the implementation of these recommendations consistent across sites. Final version will be circulated once received.

If you're looking to restart in-person activities, please connect with your individual hospital.

Resident electives are going ahead nationally and for international electives. The PGME website will be updated for international electives that as long as the program is supportive of it, they can proceed. Abiding by the government travel recommendations is a continued requirement.

### **5. Accreditation Follow Up and IRC Update (see attachment)**

L. Murgaski provided an update on accreditation follow up and IRC activities, which included:

- Continuing the focus on work with Action Plans and 3-Year follow-up for programs based on the outcomes from the November 2020 review.
- IRC is reviewing the plans of those programs required to submit an action plan outcome report in November 2023. The committee is now reviewing them and providing input and feedback to them.

- PGME has reached out to the programs that require an action plan outcome report or an internal review, to see if they would like an extension of their submission based on the pandemic surge. The extension is not guaranteed to be granted, but PG is reaching to programs to see how they are doing and if they'd be interested in requesting the extension.

## 6. Office of Learner Affairs (OLA) Update *(see attachment)*

C. Guiang provided information from the Office of Learner Affairs (OLA):

- OLA is developing a new website and will be transferring most information from the current wellness website to the new website
- There is a section where learners can book an appointment directly through the new website
- Website: [Book an appointment](#)
- Coordinators are also available to book an appointment for learners and can email [ola.reception@utoronto.ca](mailto:ola.reception@utoronto.ca)
- An in-depth OLA update will be presented at the next PGMEAC
- An accommodation for a disability presentation will be given at the April PGMEAC
- Career counselling is also available within OLA
- Assistance with leaves of absences is available at OLA, as well as supporting learners in return to work
- OLA supports learners as well as PDs, FDs, Site Leads

## 7. MD Program Update

S. Bernstein shared key updates from the MD Program including:

- Fourth year students begin CaRMS interviews next week
- For those students who did not secure interviews, they are making room for extra electives to give them exposure to programs – and prepare them for the second iteration as well as align with their career interests
- Renewal of transition to residency period that includes selectives and campus week
- March Break is coming for third year students
- Visiting electives for the current third year class will be cancelled
- International electives are closed until January 2023
- EPA pilot on hold until March 2023
- Home school electives for third year students are in May and June – exciting opportunity for early career exploration

## 8. COVID Updates

Thank you to N. Chin, L. Fechtig and the redeployment team who continue to collect the data from the hospitals. Majority of activities were MRRP. A summary will be provided at the next PGMEAC as well as disseminating the data to the participating programs.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 9. Wellness Survey

H. Flett introduced an Environmental Scan that she is leading in her Wellness role to understand the wellness initiatives and curricula across the Undergraduate and Postgraduate continuum. A survey will be sent to medical education leads and student leaders in the coming weeks.

There is a group working on a task analysis where they are looking at the specific skills and capacities to support learner wellness conceptualizing the role and the key skills/supports and governance that are needed in these roles to be effective. More details about the template for the role description will be announced in the future.

## 10. PGMEAC Survey

As part of our commitment to continuous quality improvement, we will be asking all committee members to complete a short PGMEAC Self-Assessment Survey. This survey, which we plan to deploy annually, is one of the tools we will use to monitor and improve PGME governance on an ongoing basis. The survey will be disseminated after the meeting today. Completion request for March 7, 2022.

## 11. Charles Mickle Fellowship Award

M. Hynes provided an update on a change to the nomination process for this prestigious award. The Charles Mickle Fellowship Award is given to one person each year in the medical profession anywhere in the world who has demonstrated the advancement and promotion of sound knowledge of practical kind in medical art and science. This award is given out at the spring All PDs each year. This year, PGME extended the call for nominations to all programs, and the recipient will be selected by the PG Executive. Submission deadline is **Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>**.

## 12. PEAP: Recognition Toward Training

Discussion of the Pre Entry Assessment Period for Sponsored PGY1 residents being accepted as accredited training time towards RCPSC certification is underway at PG COFM. PG Deans were asked for input to the proposed change in consideration of:

- the impact this would have on both the program and resident;
- any unintended consequences for residents or programs;
- benefits that may be gained; and
- additional financial considerations (sponsored residents do receive salaries and benefits during PEAP time)

PG Deans have also asked CPSO to consider if this is possible as these individuals currently hold a PEAP certificate of registration with specific restrictions in place.

The committee discussed the considerations and provided the following recommendations, which will be sent to the COU on behalf of PGME:

- all members in full agreement of proposed considerations
- will allow sponsored residents to progress with their peers
- creates equity among groups
- provides coverage under the PARO contract immediately

## 13. Pandemic Impact to Program Directors

There is limited literature on the impact of program directors during the pandemic. The proposal is to survey programs directors on what lived experiences did they have, how to interpret it, and ways to prepare for the future and create a scholarly project. More details to follow in the near future.

**Next Meeting | Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm via Zoom**