

Advisory Graduate Medical Education Council (AGMEC)
Wednesday, March 4, 2009
10:00 am
Room 3101, Child Health Institute
New Brunswick, NJ

Voting Members Present:

Thomas Bojko, MD, MS, Chairperson
Emmanuel Ashong, MD, Public Member (via telephone)
Ronald Lockman, Public Member (via telephone)
Betsy Ryan, President & CEO, New Jersey Hospital Association (via telephone)
Rick Scott, MD, President of the Medical Society of NJ (via telephone)
Dr. Sensakovic, representative of Dr. B. Shulman, Seton Hall University, School of GME (via telephone)
Susan Volpicella-Levy, DO, President of NJ Assoc. of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons

Non-Voting Members Present:

Stanley Schiff, DO, Commissioner of Human Services designee (via telephone)

Non-Voting Members Absent/Excused:

Cynthia Kirchner, NJ Dept. of Health & Senior Services
Sindy Paul, MD, President of the State Board of Medical Examiners
Kyla Scarponi, DO

Voting Members Absent/Excused:

Richard Goldstein, MD, NJ Council of Teaching Hospitals
Robert Johnson, MD, Interim Dean, UMDNJ-NJMS
Brian Little, MD, President, Assoc. of Hospital Directors of Medical Education of NJ

Staff Members Present:

Peter Falk, UMDNJ
Carol Socha, UMDNJ
John Franzini, Esq. Deputy Attorney General
Marguerite Beardsley, Commission on Higher Education

Guest

Edward C. Kulesa, Northeast Regional Director
American University of the Caribbean

Dr. Bojko, AGMEC chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He announced that the meeting was called in accordance with the regulations of the State of New Jersey with regard to public meetings. Introductions were made around the table and via telephone of AGMEC members, staff and of those attending as guests. There was a quorum of voting members present, either in person or via teleconferencing.

A motion was made by Ms. Ryan to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2008 meeting, motion seconded by Dr. Ashong. Motion approved unanimously by the committee.

Dr. Bojko said that the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine is interested in applying for clinical clerkships in New Jersey; he explained that they are aware that the council is currently developing an application and approval process.

Dr. Bojko thanked Ms. Beardsley for developing a draft framework for clinical clerkship approval.

Dr. Bojko suggested that two workgroups be formed. One workgroup would develop a draft of a process for accreditation and the maintenance of accreditation as “alternatively accredited medical schools” for non-LCME accredited schools, and the other workgroup would develop process and regulations pertaining to approving specific clerkships in NJ teaching hospitals for “alternatively accredited medical schools”. Dr. Bojko asked Dr. Johnson to chair the workgroup on accreditation of schools, and Dr. Goldstein to chair the workgroup addressing clerkship approvals; both agreed to chair these workgroups. Dr. Bojko asked that anyone interested in serving on the workgroups contact him or the chairmen directly.

A motion was made by Dr. Ashong to elect Drs. Johnson and Goldstein chairs of the above noted workgroups, seconded by Ms. Ryan. Motion approved unanimously by the committee.

Ms. Ryan stated her concern that the draft provided by Ms. Beardsley places the entire responsibility of the costs associated with accreditation and approval on the institution applying for the accreditation and approval. Mr. Franzini noted that the legislation provides that the costs are to be borne by the applicant; further, Ms. Beardsley noted that there is precedence for making the applicant responsible for all costs.

Dr. Bojko opened the meeting for public comment. Mr. Kulesa of the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine introduced himself; he stated that his institution is looking forward to working with the council and provide the council with any information they require in the accreditation process.

Dr. Schiff asked if we know how the approval process will impact the needs of New Jersey residents for clinical clerkship spots. Dr. Bojko reminded the council that the current state regulations allow for preference to students from New Jersey medical schools; he also noted his hope that the workgroups would address this issue in their discussions. Dr. Volpicella-Levy said that the increase in class size at UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine, and the possibility of a Touro School of Medicine in northern NJ could impact the competition for clinical placements in New Jersey.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.