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Subject: Happy Wednesday! - Wednesday Weekly Wonders

Wednesday Weekly Wonders

Dear Students,

Happy Wednesday! Included please find this week's highlights, general information, class specific information and some FAQs.

- **Clinical** (as of Tuesday May 19, 2020)
 - o 1 COVID Positive at UVMMC; 3 total in the Network
 - o First full day of elective surgeries at the main campus - 15 rooms running.
 - o ED has sustained high acuity
 - o Working on uniform approach to 1) testing asymptomatic healthcare workers to meet the State's expectations and 2) healthcare workers who go out of state or move to the state etc.
 - o Went 48 days between hospital onset C diff cases, which is unprecedented for our organization.
- **Education**
 - o Visiting Student Learning Opportunities (VSLO) announced updates on the Visiting Student Application Service (VSAS). Students will now have VSAS access on Wednesday, May 27, at 9:00 a.m. ET.
- **Research**
 - o Phase 1 (May 18-31) in progress – Only approved essential research faculty, staff, and graduate and postdoctoral trainees, as well as physicians with offices in MEDPLEX, and medical education essential personnel.
 - o Summer Research Fellowships have been awarded with the recommendation that students work with their mentors to conduct as much of their research as possible remotely. Congratulations to all our students who received a Summer Research Fellowship!

Class of 2020:

- CONGRATULATIONS DOCTORS! – We miss you already!
- Last week's attachment with a special [message from an LCOM alumnus, Michael Ohkura '18](#), was defective so including it again this week.
- [AMA Tribute to the Medical School Class of 2020 virtual event](#) – **Tonight May 20th at 6 pm CT.** Remember that tonight the AMA is hosting a special graduation for the class of 2020 with leaders in medicine including Dr. Fauci and Dr. Atul Gawande, America's favorite TV doctors from Grey's Anatomy, SCRUBS, The Good Doctor and Dr. Quinn, Celebrity guests including Dr. Ken Jeong and Drew Carey, and Musical performance by Zach Heckendorf.
Location: [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#)

Class of 2021

- We remain hopeful that we can begin our Advanced Integration clinical activities on June 1, 2020 and are working closely with our clinical affiliate sites. Physical distancing, space capacity and PPE have raised some challenges that we are actively trying to navigate.
- The Medical Curriculum Committee approved the following curriculum modifications at their meeting yesterday, May 19, 2020.
 - o Motion to temporarily reduce the required four-week emergency medicine rotation to two weeks to ensure all students can meet this requirement within our health network and affiliate sites.
 - o Motion to approve the 2-week Emergency Medicine Course.
 - o Motion to temporarily deliver a shortened EOC CSE that would replace the previously cancelled EOC CSE, ensuring all programmatic objectives are met, to serve as an end of Clerkship clinical assessment

and prepare students for the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills Exam if still required in order to meet public health guidelines. The EOC CSE is currently planned for June.

- The Coalition for Physician Accountability, of which AAMC is a member, released recommendations for away rotations that we will be implementing at our institution. See recommendations [here](#). This includes:
 - o limiting away rotations to learners who have a specialty interest and do not have access to a clinical experience with a residency program in that specialty at their institution.
 - o recommendations for all interviews to be virtual
 - o delayed opening of Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) and delayed release of the medical student performance evaluation (MSPE)
- The [USMLE](#) has issued two new updates (May 15th and May 19th) regarding Step 1 and Step 2 exams.
- The National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) decided to modify the Rank Order List (ROL) timeline. See [NRMP COVID-19 FAQs](#) for more information.
 - o The ROL Open, when applicants and programs can begin entering their ROLs, had been January 15, 2021. **The ROL Open will move to February 1, 2021.**
 - o The ROL Certification Deadline, when applicants and programs must finalize and certify their ROLs for use when the matching algorithm is processed, had been February 24, 2021. **The ROL Certification Deadline will move to March 3, 2021 at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.**
 - o **Match Week and SOAP dates will remain as scheduled for March 15-18, with Match Day on March 19, 2021**
- Information about specialty specific guidelines, including newly added urology guidelines, can be found on the [AAMC Specialty Response to COVID-19](#) webpage.
- **What training will be required?**
 - o We are working locally and nationally on a clinical re-entry checklist. More information will be provided in the next 1-2 weeks. The national working group on clinical re-entry is meeting this week.
- **What if I am in the Class of 2021 and still need to complete a clerkship?**
 - o The 1-week Cognitive Clerkship Curriculum corresponding to the clerkship you need to complete will be linked with your 5-week clinical clerkship to create a 6-week block. This allows you to take a 2 or 4-week Advanced Integration course before or after your clerkship. It is not, however, important that your enrollment in the necessary cognitive component of the make-up clerkship be scheduled during the corresponding content block schedule listed above. You may schedule the needed week of MD-630 when it best fits in your fourth year schedule (such as gap weeks.) Please reach out to [Jacqueline Drouin](#) for assistance scheduling your remaining clerkship(s), including the cognitive portion.

Class of 2022

- We remain hopeful that we can begin our Clerkship clinical activities on July 13th. Alternative options include:
 - o needing to assign students originally assigned to other affiliate sites to Vermont
 - St. Mary's Hospital in West Palm Beach is uncertain if/when they will allow learners in their clinical environment
 - Connecticut continues to address PPE resource shortages
 - o additional non-clinical clerkship course work and a late August start for clinical activities.
- Please [see our co2022 FAQ document for additional information](#).
- The Medical Curriculum Committee approved the following curriculum modifications at their meeting yesterday, May 19, 2020.
 - o Motion to temporarily have the NBME subject exam and/or the clerkship exam be pass/fail for the Class of 2022. The exam score will not be used to determine an honors cut off. The exam will not be used to determine an honors grade.
 - o Motion to temporarily allow the Clerkship Clinical Skills Exam to be limited to a maximum of 3 cases for the Class of 2022.
 - o Motion to temporarily allow the Clerkship Clinical Skills Exam to be ungraded (formative) for the Class of 2022. Exam will not be used to determine the clerkship grade.

- Motion to temporarily allow the Clerkship to be graded Pass/Fail for the Class of 2022. There will be no Honors grades in the Clerkship for this class.
- Motion to deliver the Integrated Interdisciplinary Inter-Professional Cognitive Clerkship Curriculum (IC3C) to allow for non-clinical coursework to occur prior to the clinical coursework providing additional time before students enter the clinical environment
- Motion to start the clinical clerkship activities on Monday, July 13, 2020.

Class of 2023

- 4 weeks till summer – you can do it!
- Students are in the second block of Med Neuro called the Transition block.
- They have an exam on Friday – so senior students send them notes of encouragement and support (you all remember what it is like in May of your first year of medical school 😊)
- We are actively planning for the fall and anticipate some type of hybrid between in-person and remote. You will receive a survey from the curriculum team, likely next week to get your input on what works well for remote instruction.

Recruitment

- Closer Look Day needed to be canceled and the Admissions Team quickly developed a program called LCOMmunity Conversations for accepted students to participate in. These conversations were well received and included student ambassadors, the Dean, the Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education, the Director of Active Learning and other members of our community.

All students

- Quarantine update – Both Vermont and Connecticut have a 14-day quarantine order in place. The Vermont Health department has established different guidelines; however, the VT Governor has decided to continue with the 14-day expectation. We are working closely with Dr. Carney to determine recommendations for our students. <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/HAN-COVID-19-ChangetoQuarantine.pdf>.
 - For students returning from out-of-state clerkships to UVM for a rotation or an AI, the Wellness Committee would like to remind you that we are here as a resource. If a quarantine is necessary for you, Wellness can assist you as you navigate the difficulties such as obtaining groceries, etc., through platforms like Instacart or by direct committee assistance. We are happy to help with any practical (or psychological) needs that you may have in your transition back to Vermont. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your committee representatives or any Wellness member.
- Additional information is located on the [Medical Student COVID-19 Information](#) web site
- Volunteer opportunities are listed on the [LCOMCares Service Corps](#) web site including a link to UVM Student Volunteer Opportunities which is a google document that lists volunteer opportunities and associated student leaders
- [LCOM](#) and [UVM Health Network](#) Wellness resources.
- [Current Activity In Vermont](#) - Vermont Department of Health information
- A few attachments:
 - [Global COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
 - [PPE Guide](#)

I encourage you to get out and enjoy the nice weather! It is important to attend to your health and wellbeing during these uncertain times. We miss you and remain grateful to you for your patience and understanding during this stressful and challenging time. Stay safe, healthy and connected to your friends and family. Wishing you a wonderful week!

With gratitude,
Christa Zehle and our amazing OMSE team!