

Medical Student Senate  
Minutes  
April 24, 2012

In attendance:

President: Audrey Butcher MD'13  
Vice President: Jimmy Rotenburg MD'13  
Treasurer: Alexis Mancini MD'14  
Secretary: Stephanie Le MD'14

MD'13 PLME Advisory Committee: Julia Heneghan  
Rory Meritt MD'13  
MD'14 Class Representative: Jordan Sack  
MD'14 Curriculum Committee: Sheela Krishnan  
MD'14 Class Representative: Shreyus Kulkarni  
IT Representative: Rahul Banerjee MD'14  
MD'15 PLME Representative: Emily Li  
Green Academy Representative: Olivier Van Houtte MD'15  
Blue Academy Representative: Honora Burnett MD'15  
MD '15 Curriculum Committee: Aron Mohan

Guest speaker: Dean Gruppuso

Start: 6:34 PM

Dean Gruppuso

- History of AOA at Brown.
  - Initially no support
  - 2005- Dean Eli Adashi wanted to activate chapter. Town hall meeting- decided to activate chapter but induct students after the match. AOA says we can't have fully active chapter if students aren't inducted earlier and can be more involved.
  - Dean Wing supports inducting before the match.
  - AOA is part of AOA national. Not funded by med school. AOA provides resources and funding for some things.
  - AOA wants top quartile of class. Criteria that we use: 30% Step 1, 70% number of honors in core clerkships. Students must agree to have Dean's letters forwarded.
- Seems there is a much lower response rate from students this year than when it was first proposed a few years ago
- Faculty feel very strongly that we should induct students earlier in the year- want to have student members.
- The majority of medical schools have had AOA chapters active for a long time.
- AOA not at odds with values of the school
  - Service and scholarly activities important
  - Many students not focused on traditional research

- Student question: will students even be able to participate once inducted given the schedule of fourth year?
  - Uncertain
- Some residencies use AOA membership as a screen if the student doesn't have honors in their core clerkship
- Student question: do you think AOA induction will change the feeling of the medical school and make it more competitive?
  - Answer: we've had more interest lately in fields that are not highly compensated. The source of competition in medical school is more that students are asked why they want to do primary care if they have good grades. Generally the culture is that the way to get honors is to take good care of patients and work well with the medical team. AOA should not change competitive very much. The way we recruit students is different- PLME, post bac students. What we're looking for is not really high scores. It's about the culture that we want to create at Brown.
- We had a few students who were closed out of highly competitive internal medicine residencies because of AOA.
- Probably generally a wash in terms of whether it will be helpful or hurtful.
- Do students want to change the criteria for induction?
  - We had Step 1 added because students formerly felt that there was too much variation between course exams for them to be valid.
  - Would it be better to use course grades, doctoring grades?
- Student comment: changing to using grades from first two years may increase competitiveness.
- Dean Gruppuso was inducted to AOA this year (nominated by students), but declined because he's part of the decision committee.
- If there is a student who has professionalism issues they would be removed from consideration for AOA (top 25% given to AOA)
- **Any other considerations/concerns students come up with- email to Audrey Butcher within the next two weeks.**

Constitution committee has been working on changes. For the next meeting we will review changes and vote on them. If there are any changes or concerns you would like discussed, email Jimmy Rotenburg.

Next meeting May 22.

Elections happening soon. Think about if you're interested in running for a position next year.

- Do have to re-run for positions.
- PLME representatives- not currently reading applications, but will have them liason with undergrads.

End: 7:35 PM