SUNY Downstate Career and Residency Exploration Program (C.A.R.E.)

Effort to coordinate all career services offered by the following departments:

- Office for Medical Student Career Advisement
  - Dr. Frank Lucente, Director
- Office for Student Affairs
- Clinical Departments
- Alumni Office
CARE 301

- Senior Schedule Planning Seminars
- Career Month – Residency program directors and departmental specialty advisors give workshops (*February 2015*)
- Student-to-Student Residency Forum (*Peer advice after Match day*)
- Nuts and Bolts of Residency Application Process Seminar
  - CV and Personal Statement Writing
  - ERAS completion guidance
- Specialty advisor assistance with program application selection

- *Practical Opportunities*
  - Four weeks of Core electives for career exploration
Meetings for seniors having difficulty making a final decision on specialty.

- Interviewing Seminar
- Rank Order Strategies
- Review of individual rank order lists
Careers in Medicine

- www.aamc.org/careersinmedicine
- Valuable resource which includes:
  - Self-Assessment Tools
  - Decision Process
  - Specialty Profiles

Use AAMC user name / password
Coming Up!

- Jan 22: Overview of Senior Year
- Feb 3: Composing Senior Schedule & VSAS (Away Electives)
  - Includes reviewing some sample senior schedules
- Mar 3: Away Electives and VSAS
- June 10, July 15 or July 28: Nuts and Bolts Residency App Process
- Ongoing: Q & A seminars throughout summer
Today’s Meeting Agenda

1. Role of the Clinical Assistant Dean and explanation of the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE)
2. Clinical Requirements for Graduation
3. Overview of the next few months and things to consider as you construct your senior schedule
4. Scheduling and Registration of Core Clerkships, Primary Care 2, Subinternship, Selectives and Electives
Role of Clinical Assistant Dean

- Academic advising in clinical years
- General advisement and signing off on senior schedule
- Career advisement and residency guidance
- Personal matters or issues concerning clerkships
- Writing your Medical Student Performance Evaluation M.S.P.E. (a.k.a. Dean’s Letter)
The M.S.P.E.

- Template follows a national guideline.
- It is a letter of evaluation, it is NOT a letter of recommendation.
- Includes the comments from your clerkships and elective evaluations received by Aug 15
  - Reminder to check clinical evaluations after each rotation – only have one month to initiate a grade or evaluation discrepancy
The M.S.P.E.

- Sections of M.S.P.E. *(following National AAMC template)*
  - Identifying Information
  - Unique Characteristics
    - "Significant" involvement in medical school campus or community (i.e. leadership positions) Research (year off, MD/PhD etc.)
  - Academic History (dates, etc)
    - Gaps in medical school education are required to be included.
  - Academic Progress
    - Any repeated courses, tests, years, etc are required to be mentioned.
    - Clinical Rotations- Comments used from evaluations with MINIMAL editing. Negative comments cannot be removed.
  - Summary
    - Class Grouping – where you stand in the class (Top 10, 20 25%, Top 1/3, Middle Third, At the Mean, etc…)
    - Summary comments
Clinical Requirements for Graduation - Class of 2016

- **Core Third Year**
  - Trans. to Clerkships
  - Medicine - 8 wk
  - Primary Care I - 4 wk
  - Surgery - 8 wk
  - Anesthesiology - 2wk

- **Clerkships and Core Elective(s)**
  - Women’s Health - 5 wk
  - Pediatrics - 5 wk
  - Psychiatry - 6 wk
  - Neurology - 4 wk
  - Core Yr (MS3) Electives – 2 or 4 weeks
Clinical Requirements for Graduation - Class of 2016

- **Advanced Clinical Year**
  - **Primary Care 2 - 4 wk**
    - Geriatrics/Palliative Care
  - **Subinternship – 1 month**
    - Medicine or Pediatrics
    - Subinternships in other specialties count as elective credit
  - **Emerg Med Clerkship – 2 wk**
  - *Any Core Clerkships not completed in third year must be completed by Nov 2015.*

- **Selective(s) – 4 wk or Two 2 wk**
  - Select from Critical Care, Diagnostic Radiology, (Additional) Emer Med., or Translational Sciences

- **Electives – 16 weeks**
  - Check distribution requirements for subspecialties, research, and extramural electives
  - Students are permitted to do as many electives as their schedule will allow
Overview of Calendar

- **Spring Semester (Jan thru May)**
  - Career planning, Meet Clinical Dean, Attend Departmental Meetings, Register for senior schedule, apply for away electives, Register for Step 2 CK/CS. Have you started a CV?

- **June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct (Nov – for away electives)**
  - Take Step 2 CK/CS
  - Exploring and Decision Making
  - Take subinternship or electives departmental advisors have suggested taking
  - Letters of recommendation - 3 required
  - Submitting residency applications, writing personal statement
  - **ERAS MUST be submitted by September 15th**
    - Students are able to apply to more than one specialty
Overview of Calendar

Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan - Interviews
February – Submit Rank Order List
March – Match Day!
May – Graduation! May 24, 2016!!
Things to Consider when Designing your Senior Schedule

✓ YOU will create your schedule, in consultation with your Dean
✓ Downstate electives in field(s) you are considering
✓ Possible off-campus electives dates
  ✓ July not a good idea... Do Downstate elective first
✓ Summer Reexaminations (if applicable)
  ✓ Most scheduled in June; Schedule will be published in February

✓ When to take Step 2CK and CS
✓ Subinternship – Fall or Spring?
✓ Research electives?
✓ Electives of interest
✓ Interviews usually require one month off
  ✓ Early Match – November or December
  ✓ Regular Match – November, December or January
✓ Health Care in Dev Countries - April/May
USMLE Step 2

- Step 2 has two parts: Step 2 CK (Clinical Knowledge) and Step 2 CS (Clinical Skills)
- Taking Step 2 CK & CS is a graduation requirement.
- All students are required to register and schedule both Step 2 CK & Step 2 CS by November 1, 2015.
- All students are required to take both Step 2 CK & Step 2 CS by January 31, 2016.
- Cost can be included in the senior year Financial Aid/Student Loan package - once.
Step 2 Clinical Skills Exam

- Cost of Step 2 CS 2015: $1,250
- Score: Pass/Fail
- Register through NBME
- Registration for exam will begin this month
- Closest site: Philadelphia
- Required Standardized Pt experience - May
  - Office of Academic Affairs will e-mail assignments
Step 2 CK (Written) Timing Issues

- Cost of Step 2 CK 2015: $590.
- Students not satisfied with their performance on Step 1 should take Step 2 CK early, as should those who want to get it done and out of the way.
- Benefit of taking it early - close to MS3 shelf exams.
- Students generally take 2 weeks to 1 month off to study, or study during a light elective.
- To include Step 2 CK with the screening of your application, take by July 29.
Step 2 Timing Issues

- To have Step 2CK considered during the residency program determinations (ranking) Step 2 must be taken by December 31, December 1 for early programs.

- To be able to have the option to view your Step 2CK score prior to sending to programs, do not take the exam prior to 3 weeks of sending out your ERAS application.  *(September 15)*

- It is highly recommended students take Step 2CS by October 31 in order for results to be in by program rank order.
Letters of Recommendation

- LOR file is set up in College of Medicine Dean’s Office in June.
- Most residency programs require 3 letters.
- MSPE Guidelines indicate residency program directors do not want letters dated prior to May of third year.
- Although YOUR ERAS application is sent out Sept 15, LOR’s can be sent in by program deadlines which can be as late as 11/1.
Course Scheduling & Registration
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- Remaining Core Clerkships
  - Pediatrics, Women’s Health, Psychiatry, Neurology clerkships have been scheduled for you. *Check your schedule on-line.*
  
  - If you have special issues or concerns, make an appointment with Ms. Shonbrun or Dean Christoforou
Course Scheduling & Registration

March 2015

Registration for:
- Primary Care II
- Emergency Medicine Clerkship
- Medicine or Pediatric Subinternship
- Elective/Selective
Course Scheduling & Registration

- Registration is not complete until a Clinical Schedule Planner is signed off on by your Clinical Assistant Dean and submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

- Summer remediation dates will be posted in February.
Need Help?

- Assistance with your individual senior schedule, some resources:
  - Your Clinical Assistant Dean
  - Specialty Advisors
  - Any of us?
  - Upperclass students