

## ADNSA Meeting Minutes – May 14, 2018

**Chair:** Mitchell Zeifman *Associate Dean of Clinical Education*

**Attended by:** LaToya Lewis, *January class rep*; Tadecher Ellis, *January class rep*; Max Crispo, *Year 4 class rep*; Cindy Beernink, *Academic Coordinator and Project Manager*

Meeting called to order, no quorum to approve previous meeting's minutes.

### ***January class updates***

Physiology still a concern. Class reps report that slides are still confusing (no logical introduction of concepts, no definition of terms, lacking logical flow, some information would be presented better in chart format). Labs have improved, with TAs being more helpful, and asking and answering questions so more teaching and learning is occurring there. Concerns raised about a perceived disconnect between what is taught in the course, the course objectives, and what is being assessed in the exams (assertion that what is being taught is not being tested and what is being tested is not taught). Class reps asked for assurances that instructor is continuing to be supported and that lessons learned will be applied to the Clinical Physiology I course for future iterations.

Some students had expressed distress that TAs were asking them for the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease processes they were studying. Meeting attendees agreed that this was most likely a nomenclature issue, and that students were a bit thrown by the word and didn't realize that it was what they were studying in the course.

Class reps to meet with instructor this week to continue to provide feedback.

**Action item:** CB to verify with Drs. Lumsden and Tokiwa that they are continuing to work with Dr. Shapoval to address issues with the course.

Also noted: administration response to student struggles with basic science courses at CCNM often includes mention of students' lack of science backgrounds. This is not grounds for not offering support. Diversity includes diverse backgrounds and if students have met all prerequisites for admission, a lack of science background should not be "held against" them.

Request to include announcements re. advanced standing and accommodations in orientation and in the Year-at-a-Glance. Students were not aware of the deadlines to submit their applications and in some cases assumed that they would automatically be considered for advanced standing and withdrawn from all applicable classes. CB explained that every attempt is made to minimize announcements in orientation, as there are key deliverables (e.g., community building, inspiration, discussion of topics like leadership and professionalism) that we don't spend enough time on elsewhere in the program. However, with the recent IMG orientation, we did implement a new session ("Information Scavenger

Hunt”) to walk students through locating information on Moodle and elsewhere. This seemed to work well, and there is no way that the administration can tell students everything that they need to know before students will stop paying attention; they need to be able to find key information for themselves.

TE reported that she was advised by a Student Services Officer that if she was granted advanced standing in enough courses to drop below 76% course load, part of her student loan would be refunded back to the U.S. government. However, CB recalled Simone Philogene stating that advanced standing did not affect course load.

**Action item:** CB to verify whether advanced standing affects tuition and whether information about advanced standing could be sent to students in the “package” they receive before they start the program.

### ***NMSA social media competition for Naturopathic Medicine Week***

NMSA chapters from CCNM and Boucher are competing to drive up social media posts for Naturopathic Medicine Week. All are encouraged to contribute social media posts with the hashtags #nmwccnm2018 and #naturopathicmedicineweek.

**Action item:** CB to follow up with OAA re. posting of announcement to Moodle.

### ***Expedited reviews***

CB had been contacted by a student who expressed concern that expedited reviews were occurring too late and didn't provide enough time for supplemental exams. Between allowing students three business days to sign up for expedited reviews and the OAA requiring a couple of days to finalize arrangements, the timing of expedited reviews can't really be moved forward in a significant way. Students will still have over a week from their meeting with their instructor and the last possible date for their exam; they must direct themselves in analyzing their knowledge gaps, studying, and preparing good questions for their meeting with faculty. It is not reasonable for students to expect faculty to help them understand in a single meeting why they were not successful in an entire course.

### ***Clinic update***

Class of 2018 has graduated and Class of 2019 has moved into the clinic. All going well.

**Meeting adjourned.**