

**Minutes of the House Staff Council
Mount Sinai School of Medicine**

August 26, 2010

Present:	Dr. M. Barghash	Excused:	Dr. S. Abramowitz
	Dr. A. Bird		Dr. J. Chase
	Dr. B. Coakley		Dr. S. Cohen
	Dr. M. Crochet		Dr. L. Friedman
	Dr. G. David-West		Dr. J. Galjour
	Dr. L. Doyon		Dr. K. Gestuvo
	Dr. B. Ferguson		Dr. C. Halverstam
	Dr. J. Gonzalez		Dr. M. Jiang
	Dr. R. Guarino		Dr. K. Kemp
	Dr. A. Ikeako		Dr. M. Luttrull
	Dr. E. Ko		Dr. D. Maman
	Dr. H. Koncicki		Dr. R. Meyer
	Dr. A. Lim		Dr. E. Morency
	Dr. A. Malbari		Dr. S. Motivala
	Dr. R. Panara		Dr. K. O'Connor
	Dr. J. Park		Dr. M. Rocco
	Dr. R. Park		Dr. M. Shimonova
	Dr. R. Patel		Dr. A. Sim
	Dr. A. Pawale		Dr. N. Sun
	Dr. M. Pilapil		Dr. A. Thomas
	Dr. B. Shah		Dr. P. Vaishnava
	Dr. S. Sicular		Dr. M. Walkup
	Dr. J. Siefferman		Dr. A. Yang
	Dr. S. Yang		
By Invitation:	Dr. S. Berns		
	Dr. J. Chow		
	Mr. P. Johnson		
	Dr. A. Strohl		
	Mr. P. Williams		

1. Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order. (Dr. Berns was presenting at a departmental conference and would join the meeting 15 minutes late.) Mr. Johnson welcomed the house staff representatives to the second Council meeting.
2. Dr. Siefferman provided an update on the Resources Subcommittee of the Council, which held a meeting on August 13, 2010. Human Resources has initiated a review of resident and fellow salaries, including a comparison of Mount Sinai salaries with local and competitive institutions. It is anticipated that the results of this review will be available by the October Council meeting. The Subcommittee discussed daycare options, which are not expected to improve in the near future because of a lack of space. There was a discussion of resources made available to residents, such as meal, book, and travel allowances and support for

Board certification and licensure. There is some variation in available resources between departments. The Subcommittee agreed to conduct a survey of Council members to study the departmental benefits provided to residents, and would share the results with the GME Office and Human Resources. Dr. Siefferman was asked to recommend resident members for the institutional Housing Committee, and asked Council members to contact him if they were interested in serving. The Subcommittee is also reviewing concerns related to educational debt support, institutional resources for occupational health training, and standardizing the use of text pagers (as opposed to numeric pagers) between departments.

3. Dr. Barghash provided an update on the Work Environment and Quality Subcommittee of the Council, which held a meeting on August 24, 2010. Dr. Barghash recommended that this Subcommittee should offer resident perspectives as the institution begins to plan for implementation of new ACGME work hours requirements. The Subcommittee will also review issues related to residents' service obligations and clinical support, including laboratory services and patient transport. Dr. Joseph Kannry and Dr. Bruce Darrow, who are involved in the implementation of the Epic software for inpatient medical records. To date, resident representation on Epic committees has been poor, and Dr. Kannry and Dr. Darrow are interested in receiving input in the upcoming phases of implementation. These include validation sessions and training design. The Subcommittee also wishes to review program-level results for the ACGME Resident Survey with the aim of providing constructive input to the institution in areas of noncompliance.
4. Dr. Shah provided an update on the Education Subcommittee of the Council, which held a meeting on July 28, 2010. The Subcommittee discussed the funding and frequency of courses for ACLS recertification, and agreed that the courses should be more frequent and that there should be consistent financial support for recertification. The Subcommittee also identified a need to provide additional support for residents to obtain Board certification, including Board preparation resources and a book fund. The group also felt that it could assist departments in developing greater interdisciplinary teaching resources, and planned to generate a list of speakers and topics and to publicize this list and the availability of these resources. There was also interest in increasing residents' and fellows' availability to attend or to provide conferences and rounds across disciplines.
5. Dr. Coakley provided an update on the activities of the Graduate Medical Education Committee, on which he serves as a resident representative. Among the recent discussions of the Committee was the proposal to create an Intern Oath Ceremony in which incoming residents would discuss professional ethics and then would develop an oath. The activity would culminate in the Oath Ceremony. Dr. Coakley reviewed recent discussions of duty hours monitoring, and reminded residents of the importance of accuracy in creating their New Innovations duty hours logs, which are validated by cross-reference with other Hospital systems. He also reviewed the GMCEC's discussions regarding the ACGME Resident Survey, and encouraged residents to view the Survey as just one of the tools available to residents for providing feedback on their programs.
6. Dr. Berns discussed the process for elections to the Executive Committee and called for nominations. He explained the roles associated with the Council positions. In addition to leading the Council, the Executive Committee would serve as a liaison to the GMCEC, the GME Office, the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, and other offices within the Hospital and School. The Council members who were nominated for office addressed

the Council regarding their interest in the respective positions. The following officers were then elected:

President:

Serge Sicular, Radiology, PGY-3

Vice President:

Gizelka David-West, Obstetrics and Gynecology, PGY-3

Secretary:

Holly Koncicki, Internal Medicine, PGY-3

Chair, Education Committee:

Brijen Shan, Gastroenterology, PGY-7

Chair, Resources Committee:

Jason Siefferman, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, PGY-3

Chair, Work Environment and Quality Committee:

Maya Barghash, Internal Medicine, PGY-2

7. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting was to be scheduled for October 2010, with further details to follow from the GME Office.