

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

**June 10, 2010**

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

1. Dr. Berns called the meeting to order. He welcomed the house staff representatives to the first Council meeting. All of the residents had been peer selected in their programs or departments to serve on the Council. The representatives introduced themselves.
2. Dr. Barnett provided background information regarding the creation of the Council. It was noted that a resident forum had not existed at Mount Sinai for decades. Dr. Barnett expressed his thanks to the group for their efforts to make the Council a productive forum for all concerns related to residency and fellowship training.
3. Dr. Berns provided an overview of planning for the Council. A core group of residents led by Dr. Annemarie Stroustrup, a Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine fellow, had advocated for

salary increases within the last several years. There was also a meeting of house staff organized by the GME Office and facilitated by Dr. Stroustrup in November 2009; at this meeting residents showed interest in developing a forum that met regularly. Mount Sinai also received a citation in its most recent Institutional Review when the ACGME determined that Mount Sinai did not maintain an effective resident forum. Since that time, planning for an established Council had been undertaken by a small working group composed of residents in consultation with Dr. Barnett and Mr. Johnson. The present meeting represented a continuation of those efforts, and it was anticipated that the Council would begin to set its agenda upon the election of an Executive Committee.

4. Dr. Berns presented the proposed bylaws, which included a description of the Council structure and subcommittees. The working group proposed that the Council should meet every two months, and that the subcommittees should meet in the off-months. The Council representatives agreed by consensus that the bylaws and proposed schedule were appropriate.
5. It was agreed that the election of an Executive Committee would be postponed for a future meeting so that representatives may consider their interest in serving and may make informed decisions about Council leadership.
6. There was a discussion of the roles of the subcommittees, and a sign-up sheet was distributed for residents interested in serving on these subcommittees. Dr. Yang expressed concern about the New York State budget and the possible impact on residency education, including support for residents, and suggested that this might be considered by a Resources Subcommittee. Dr. Galjour discussed the implementation of the EPIC medical record as an area for review by the Work Environment and Quality Committee. Dr. Berns mentioned that the Council could assist institution-wide groups working on EPIC, ensuring that resident concerns are represented in the process. Dr. Shah suggested that the Education Committee could discuss professional development for residents, and Dr. Galjour added that the Council could seek to provide assistance for residents who wish to pursue various practice options after residency. Residents also expressed that transport issues in the Hospital could be addressed by the Work Environment and Quality Committee. It was also noted that the Education Committee could look into increased institutional or departmental support for licensure and certification costs.
7. There was a discussion regarding proposed changes to ACGME Program Requirements for duty hours, which were to be released in July for review and comment. The Council reviewed the potential impact of shorter shifts and other changes on residency training, and agreed that this should be a topic at a future meeting.
8. Mr. Johnson reviewed the relationship between the Council, the GME Office, and the GME Committee for the Mount Sinai Consortium. It was expected that Council representatives chosen to serve on the GME Committee would make regular reports on Council activities. Dr. Coakley, Dr. Barghash, Dr. Siefferman, Dr. Sicular, Dr. Galjour, and Dr. O'Connor nominated themselves and the Council agreed that the residents should be selected to serve on the GME Committee for the 2010-2011 Academic Year.
9. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting was to be scheduled for August 2010, with further details to follow from the GME Office.