



CAME Voice/Voix

Calling all Clerkship Directors!

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Organizing and running clerkships involves a complex mix of educational, administrative, and logistical planning and management. Supporting those who undertake this work can be challenging. We have developed a collegial solution to this problem. The AFMC Clerkship Group is a group of Clerkship Directors and Administrators from all 17 medical schools across Canada. We meet on a regular basis at the Canadian Conference on Medical Education and by teleconference throughout the year. Our goals are to share resources and ideas about clerkship issues, such as accreditation, duty hours, travel policies, assessment, OSCEs, and clerkship curricula.

Over the past year, the AFMC Clerkship Group has made significant progress towards its goal of engaging all Clerkship Directors and Clerkship Administrators from across Canada. We have also been successful in establishing valuable dialogue with the AFMC Electives Coordinators Group, the AFMC Distributed Medical Education Group and the Canadian Federation of Medical Students.

One of our most important activities involves putting together a yearly one-day Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program at CCME that is relevant to all clerkship leaders. The AFMC Clerkship Group CPD Planning Committee, currently chaired by Dr. Danny Panisko (UofT) and Sumitra Robertson (UofT), meets regularly to bring to life a high quality annual program of sessions geared towards clerkship directors and clerkship administrators. These sessions, open to all CCME attendees, are delivered in a variety of formats including plenaries, panels, small group “interactive cafes” and fast paced “short snappers” from content experts. Past topics have included technology, integrated clerkships, administrative best practices, and quality improvement. We have already started planning for CCME 2016 in Montreal!

Over the next few years, the AFMC Clerkship Group hopes to continue to build relationships and partnerships between its members and other AFMC groups. We believe that there is value in sharing ideas, best practices and resources as we face many of the same clerkship challenges across the country. In doing so we have been able to encourage and support each other in dealing with the unexpected, improbable, and occasionally strange challenges that go with running medical education clerkships. We continue to expand our horizons and to that end we are looking forward to having discussions around Entrustable Professional Activities, Milestones and CanMEDS 2015 in future sessions. We also want to develop our online presence through the CHEC-CESC website and social media. We have recently launched our twitter handle @clerkshipgroup. Please consider following us!