X Marks the Spot

In White Hall on Wright State’s campus, medical education of students and residents is integral to the Boonshoft School of Medicine’s (BSOM) mission. During the pandemic, keeping everyone safe has become a primary factor of the educational experience. Since the beginning of this crisis, BSOM faculty and staff have vigilantly executed careful plans for student safety when the need for face-to-face training proves necessary. For BSOM Foundations of Clinical Practice students, most learning activities are virtual; however, the majority of clinical skills training needs to take place in person. Additionally, examinations are held in person.

Practice students, most learning activities are virtual; however, the majority of clinical skills training needs to take place in person. Additionally, examinations are held in person.

Staff, faculty, and training volunteers, led by Assistant Dean, Gregory Toussaint, M.D., alongside John Needles, Manager of MedOps, Karen Bertke, Manager of the Skills Assessment Training Center, Amanda Bell, M.D., Vice-Chair for the Doctoring Phase, and Teresa Kohlhepp, Assessment Program Coordinator, have put student health and safety first.

What does this mean?

Since June, individual testing of anyone coming into White Hall has been accomplished via temperature taking, signed and dated paper documentation on health-related questions, ensuring everyone wears a mask, and pre-set spacing. When a full class of 120 students needs to enter White Hall, some days are very labor intensive for staff and faculty to ensure safety. Prior to all scheduled activities, MedOps and Medical Education staff carefully go through the scheduling and spacing of every room to ensure everything is safe and ready for the upcoming...
curricular activity. Medical students are required to fill out a health disclaimer prior to coming for their staggered-access scheduled classroom activities. Student temperatures are taken, and masks and social distancing are required. Yes, X does mark the spot in White Hall! Students stand at marked points to enter the building for the mandated health checks and for entering classrooms and study spaces throughout the building. Six-foot spacing is required, although when learning clinical skills, that may not be possible; therefore, extra precautions are taken with gloving and using face shields. Faculty are available to assess students who answer yes to any of the screening questions, determining when students must return home and undergo further evaluation.

“The safety protocols we’ve mandated are working well thus far to keep our students, staff, and faculty healthy throughout this pandemic,” states Brenda Roman, M.D., Interim Dean and Chair of the Department of Medical Education. “The extremely detailed planning and execution of all curricular events takes a great deal of time and manpower. However, the health and safety of our students will continue to be our priority for the future. We appreciate the cooperation of our students in doing their part to stop the spread of COVID-19.”

In early 2020, the Wright State University Board of Trustees approved the creation for the Department of Medical Education, instead of simply having an Office of Medical Education. This change allows the department to offer curricular options for additional degrees and certificate programs, as well as opportunities for faculty status for positions that require terminal degrees.

In addition to the role of Associate Dean for Medical Education, Dr. Roman now serves as Chair of the Department of Medical Education. In order to mimic the structure of other departments and for greater role clarification, two new positions were created. Dr. Amanda Bell, who previously served as Director of Biomedical and Clinical Integration, now serves as Vice-Chair for the Doctoring Phase. In this role, she will work closely with clerkship directors in overseeing the Doctoring Phase. “Already, Dr. Bell’s work as Vice-Chair for Doctoring has proved invaluable for students who can reach out to her for any concerns that they may have during this phase,” states Dr. Roman. Dr. Bell remains as Co-Director of Clinical Medicine. Dr. Irina

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Overman, previously Director of the Foundations Phase, will now serve as Vice-Chair of Foundations of Clinical Practice. Dr. Roman comments, “Dr. Overman has done a phenomenal job in overseeing the Foundations curriculum, especially when she also serves as a director of two modules.”

Three staff positions have been reclassified as faculty, please congratulate the following faculty for becoming assistant professors in the Department of Medical Education:

- Colleen Hayden, Ed.D., Director, Medical Education & Accreditation
- Amber Todd, Ph.D., Director of Assessment & Evaluation
- Jeanette Manger, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Medical Education Research

**FACULTY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (FCC) 2020 HIGHLIGHTS**

**January 2020:**
Reviewed and approved the revised grade submission policy to ensure students receive feedback on their clinical medicine OSCEs within 6 weeks; allows for feedback and improvement before next OSCE.

**April 2020:**
**April 1st emergency meeting**
Reviewed and approved changes to emergency medicine and sub-I requirements for Class of 2020.

Reviewed and approved numerous non-clinical and clinical online electives for students to complete due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**May 2020:**
**May 5th emergency meeting**
Due to Prometric testing site closures, reviewed and approved change to Step 1 requirement to instead require “passing” of CBSE for Class of 2022 students to move into doctoring phase.

Reviewed and approved changes to advanced doctoring requirements for Class of 2021.

Reviewed and approved retroactive changes to clinical medicine doctoring grading schema.

**June 2020:**
Reviewed and approved COVID-19 “Return to Clerkships” policy and procedure.

Reviewed and approved academic progression plan for Class of 2022 who were still delayed in taking Step 1.

Reviewed and approved revised quartile policy due to COVID-19 impacts on curriculum.

Discussion of physician leadership certificate (now pathway) proposal.

**July 2020:**
Approval of physician leadership pathway proposal; to commence AY2020/21.

Discussed contingency plans for clerkship students who are absent due to COVID-19-related illness or quarantine.

**August 2020:**
Reviewed and approved the diversity in medical education curriculum development elective for advanced doctoring credit.

Reviewed and approved the parental leave elective for advanced doctoring.

Discussion of students self-monitoring when coming into White Hall.

Reviewed and approved changes to the foundations absence policy, with specific language about absences from virtual class sessions.
IN THE NEWS

From coordinating with healthcare providers in Africa, traveling to New Orleans and New York, providing virtual care for patients, to assisting with testing, Boonshoft School of Medicine students alumni and faculty are contributing time and effort, with a focus on helping the community, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Medical Students Aid Coronavirus Monitoring at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Two fourth-year students at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine have aided the effort to monitor the coronavirus at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Rinki Goswami, of Beavercreek, and Vishal Dasari, of Chennai, India, are working in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) set up to track the spread of the illness. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/32eVAwt.

Student Volunteers in New Orleans to Fight Coronavirus

After finishing his second year at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Kyle Henneke was looking forward to beginning rotations. But they were canceled, and he found himself staying at home trying to help flatten the curve. That is, until he joined a few COVID-19 health care provider groups on Facebook and learned about ways to volunteer in areas hit hard by coronavirus. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/35l3NBb.

Volunteering Services to Help Busy Providers

Students at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine started a coordination effort to aid health care providers in Dayton responding to the coronavirus pandemic. The effort paired physicians and health care providers with medical students available to babysit, dog walk, run errands or assist with eldercare. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/3m88KTR.

Department of Psychiatry Responds to Pandemic with Virtual Efforts

The Department of Psychiatry at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine began the use of telepsychiatry with a grant-funded, statewide resource in 2012, entitled Ohio's Telepsychiatry Project for Intellectual Disability. It was one of the first in the state and provides patient care to underserved and outlying counties with limited infrastructure and resources. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/32fXLq.

Alumni Work on Coronavirus Contact Tracing

When the economy in Ohio was preparing to reopen, new focus was being placed on contact tracing. The push is to keep track of people who have come into contact with those who have contracted the coronavirus. Alumni of the Wright State University Master of Public Health Program are busy at work. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/3m2MP0u.

Serving Patients at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital

After attending the Boonshoft School of Medicine, Aaron Patterson, M.D., ’09, specialized in psychiatry. He pioneered a program to provide mental health support to patients and hospital staff during COVID-19. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/32eCOFK.

Students Assist with COVID-19 Testing

Boonshoft School of Medicine students assisted with COVID-19 testing at pop-up clinics in June. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/3bHEXwv.

Medical Students Return to Care for Eswatini ‘Stateside’

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Boonshoft School of Medicine students were not able to travel abroad this past spring or summer. Being “stateside” didn’t stop them from serving the people in Eswatini. Read the full story at https://bit.ly/2R6WTHw.
Supporting Student Success

Below is a summary of what the Boonshoft School of Medicine is doing to support student academic success.

M1 students:
The Boonshoft School of Medicine academic support program continues to facilitate weekly review sessions for the M1 students. Each Saturday morning, students meet online to answer practice questions led by peer leaders modeling best practices for learning and review. Most first-year medical students attend the sessions and collegially discuss the material and support each other throughout their coursework.

Upcoming sessions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origins Part 2</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review 1</td>
<td>October 17, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review 2</td>
<td>November 1, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review 3</td>
<td>November 7, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review 4</td>
<td>November 14, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review 5</td>
<td>November 21, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review 6</td>
<td>December 5, 2020</td>
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| NBME Review      | Date TBD      |

Continued on page 6
M2 students:
In early October, the Step 1 Prep series begins. Each week students will focus on one topic and follow up with a review of that topic with peer leaders each Saturday.

Here is the tentative schedule for the Step Prep Series:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 1 Prep Series</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electrocardiogram (EKG)</td>
<td>October 10, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal (GI)</td>
<td>October 24, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 1 and Family Medicine</td>
<td>Week of October 28, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrinology and Reproductive</td>
<td>October 31, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>November 7, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biostats</td>
<td>Date TBD - November 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal</td>
<td>November 14, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory</td>
<td>November 21, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>December 6, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Practice exam over winter break</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hematology and Oncology</td>
<td>January 12, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurology</td>
<td>January 19, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
<td>January 26, 2021</td>
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</table>

M3 students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 2 CK, Informational</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 2 CK, Informational</td>
<td>October 23, 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

FOUNDATIONS

Class of 2024
The Class of 2024 has completed the first block of Origins and are almost through Human Architecture 1. Human Architecture is our anatomy course. Our anatomy professors worked hard to ensure dissection still occurred for the students while maintaining safety during these COVID-19 times. They are learning clinical skills on Fridays and adding to their medical tool box as they grow in becoming physicians.

Class of 2023
The Class of 2023 has completed Human Architecture 2, the anatomy course for the second year. Due to COVID-19 the course ran entirely online, however, the students worked hard and overcame these obstacles to continue to advance their medical knowledge. They are presently in the middle of Beginning to End, our endocrine, reproduction, and gastrointestinal disorder course. They are applying the knowledge they are learning and advancing their clinical skills every Friday as they tackle Clinical Medicine and work with standardized patients. This class is actively involved in making changes in our curriculum and advancing the equality and inclusivity for all people and students.
Help for student mental health needs

Medical school is a time of growth and challenge. It presents unique stressors, and at times, students find their coping strategies are overwhelmed. Students may be in contact with family and friends less often than previously, and the demands of medical school leave some abandoning healthy practices in order to study extra hours. This is rarely effective and may lead to worsening health.

When medical students have mental health needs, there are several options available to them which are low-cost or free of charge. Both the Psychiatry Resident Psychotherapy Clinic and the Wright State University Counseling & Wellness Center provide opportunities for therapy. Both programs are confidential and separate from the student’s academics. The Counseling & Wellness Center offers individual, family, and group therapy; psychological assessments; and a variety of support groups. More information can be found on their website at www.wright.edu or call at 937-775-3407. They also have a Crisis Line called Raider Cares: call 833-848-1765 or text “LISTEN” to 741-741.

The Resident Psychotherapy Clinic offers individual and family therapy, and a group designed for medical students called Peak Performance. There is also an option for psychiatric assessment and medication management available if needed. To connect to any of these options in the Department of Psychiatry or to discuss next steps, please contact kari.harper@wright.edu or 937-775-8124.

Here are a few tips for wellness in medical school and good rules for life!

DO!
• Stay in touch with family, friends, people who are not in medical school – they will keep you grounded
• Socialize and talk to people who are in medical school – they understand
• Get 7-8 hours of sleep
• Eat healthy meals
• Exercise
• Do things you enjoy
• Use good coping strategies
• Develop a good schedule, lists, calendars or other things that help you stay organized and on track
• Make time for appointments – if you need to go to your primary care physician, a specialist, the dentist, your therapist, etc., it is okay! Let your site coordinator and attending/resident know ahead of time if possible, or let someone know you need to miss class or leave early. You don’t have to tell them the details. Just don’t miss the same class or the same rotation all the time

DONT’!
• Use alcohol, nicotine, cannabis, opiates, or other substances in excess or as coping mechanisms
• Try to work and study more than your brain/body can handle. Medical school is difficult and demanding, but you are not made to study 14 hours per day or to read a medical textbook for hours on end without breaks
• Neglect your relationships
• Neglect your health
• Give up your hobbies
• Procrastinate
• Think you can catch up on all your sleep on the weekends (You can’t!)