Upcoming Events:

Save The Dates!
LCME Virtual Mock Site Visit February 28-March 2, 2021

In preparation for our Fall 2021 LCME Site Visit (Sept. 26-29), consultants will be visiting Baylor College of Medicine from Feb. 28-March 2, 2021 to conduct a Mock Site Visit. This visit is meant to mirror the actual site visit as closely as possible and to prepare students, residents, staff, and faculty for what to expect during the Fall site visit.

Mock Site Visit Team:

Robert H. Eaglen, Ph.D.

Dr. Eaglen has held a variety of positions in medical education and accreditation during his professional career, including service at various institutions as an associate dean for academic affairs, executive director of faculty and learning services. His experience spans a variety of academic areas, including curriculum management and implementation, faculty affairs, and library services. He is also a periodic reviewer for the journal Academic Medicine. Dr. Eaglen is probably best known in his former role as an associate vice president at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) in Washington, DC. He continues to serve as the secretary on LCME accreditation survey teams, and he has also participated in accreditation surveys of law schools. Dr. Eaglen received his Ph.D. degree in biological anthropology from Duke University in 1980.

John Mahoney, M.D.

John F. Mahoney, M.D. is Associate Dean for Medical Student Education and an adjunct professor in emergency medicine. He also practices as an attending physician in the emergency department and Vice President of Medical Education for ScholarRx, which helps medical students prepare for the boards using digital learning on a multi-competency curricular platform. Dr. Mahoney is a noted expert in medical education and curriculum development and helped design Pittsburgh’s integrated clerkships. Dr. Mahoney earned his MD at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Lois Margaret Nora, M.D., J.D, M.B.A.

Dr. Lois Margaret Nora is Professor of Neurology, President Emeritus, and Dean of Medicine Emeritus at Northeast Ohio Medical University. She also serves as Principal of the Medical School Advisory Group. Dr. Nora currently serves on the Steering Committee of the National Academy of Medicine’s Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-being and Resilience and the Board of Visitors of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy. Dr. Nora received her medical degree from Rush Medical College, a law degree and certificate in clinical medical ethics from the University of Chicago, and a Master of Business and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Kentucky.
Elements of the Month

- Element 11.1 — Academic Advising
- Element 11.2 — Career Advising

Element 11.1 — Academic Advising

Element 11.1 states that a medical school has an effective system of academic advising in place for medical students that integrates the efforts of faculty members, course and clerkship directors, and student affairs staff with its counseling and tutorial services and ensures that medical students can obtain academic counseling from individuals who have no role in making assessment or promotion decisions about them.

Academic advising/counseling provides support for the academic growth and progression of all Baylor students. Faculty and academic advisors assist Baylor students with understanding the options and opportunities available within their academic programs of study. Academic advising is largely directed from within the schools, and targeted advising and counseling is available for students with disabilities.

How are students informed of available Academic Advising resources?

During orientation every matriculating student is made aware of the academic advising resources available through the Academic Success Center and the Office of Student Affairs. All students are also informed through Blackboard, the Student Handbook, Learning Community Advisor biannual meetings, scheduled Dean’s hours, and through weekly newsletters. Faculty and academic advisors assist medical students with understanding the options and opportunities available through BCM and within their academic programs of study.

What services are available to medical students?

In response to student feedback, over the 3 years preceding the self-study there have been numerous changes and additions. Examples of initiatives that have been implemented during this time that were aimed to improve awareness, access and quality of academic advising include:

- Mandatory MS1-student affairs deans meetings in MS1 fall
- Creation of a systematic shadowing and research program tracked and facilitated by the Office of Student Affairs
- Mandatory student-LC advisor meetings in MS2 year
- Creation of Advisor Handbook and advisor checklist that includes a listing of resources
- Development of Advisor training to increase their awareness of resources and improve their advising skills
- Review sessions and facilitated study groups led by the BCM AOA student chapter
- Standardized emails to any student who scores below 70% on an exam that includes both general academic resources and specific resources pertinent to the time (e.g. facilitated Zoom study groups during remote learning due to COVID-19).
...Continuation of Elements 11.1— Academic Advising

Institutional Level:
The Office of Student Services collaborates with all of Baylor College of Medicine’s education programs to provide the resources students need to promote academic excellence. These include:

- Academic Success Center
- Student Ed-Tech Resources
- Simulation Program
- Texas Medical Center Library
- Disability Services
- Pre-entry Program

The medical school ensures that medical students have the option to obtain academic counseling from individuals who have no role in assessment or advancement decisions by setting a standard that faculty advisors and course directors who may serve as committee members, are required to recuse themselves in decisions regarding assessment and advancement.

To view School of Medicine Academic Advising and Counseling page, please click here.

Element 11.2 — Career Advising

Element 11.2 states that a medical school has an effective career advising system in place that integrates the efforts of faculty members, clerkship directors, and student affairs staff to assist medical students in choosing elective courses, evaluating career options, and applying to residency programs.

Student opportunities for career counseling occur both within the School of Medicine (SOM) and at the institutional level. Career advising helps identify students’ goals and equip students with the tools and knowledge to help them discover the most appropriate career trajectory. Similar to academic advising, career counseling can be dual faceted to include: 1) educational/academic planning, and 2) career/life planning.

School of Medicine Level

Student Affairs Deans - Student Affairs deans manage the SOM level career advising programming which includes the Learning Community Advisor and Specialty Specific Mentor programs. Student Affairs deans provide oversight for career counseling as well as direct student counseling and work collaboratively with services provided at the Institutional Level.

AAMC’s Careers in Medicine (CiM) - This is a four-phase program that begins the first year of medical school and continues through the fourth year with residency planning. It is designed to empower students to make informed decisions about their lives and careers.
...Continuation of Elements 11.2—Career Advising

Learning Community Advisors - These advisors provide 1:1 counseling with their squad students guided by a checklist.

Specialty Specific Mentors - These faculty members offer counseling specific to their specialty, geared toward educating students about the specialty, advising on how to be competitive for the specialty, high yield electives for the specialty, and residency applications.

Clinical Course Directors - Clinical Course directors are expected to serve as first line specialty specific mentors for students, helping them identify faculty that can offer them further specialty specific experiences and advice in addition to the assigned Specialty Specific Mentor.

Residency Programs - They serve as another first line specialty specific mentor and are able to further guide students to faculty in their field.

Institutional Level

Office of Student Services Career Development Center - Baylor College of Medicine’s Career Development Center is a centralized service that supports the career and professional development needs of Baylor College of Medicine students and trainees. Offering individual appointments, walk-in availability, and group events, the Center provides a variety of services including workshops, seminars and individual career counseling.

The Student Affairs Blackboard Organization hosts numerous resources for career planning that is continually updated as new information is collected. Students are informed of these resources during their annual “orientation” dean’s hours.

To view School of Medicine Career Advising page, please click here.

In our next LCME Newsletter...
In the March newsletter we will look at Elements 3.3 and 7.5. You will also be provided with any other LCME information as it pertains to our upcoming site visit. For more information please visit our LCME website at www.bcm.edu/lcme.

Resources

Accreditation Contacts
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For general inquiries or concerns please email-SOM-LCME@bcm.edu

BCM Self-Study Website:
www.bcm.edu/lcme

LCME: https://lcme.org/

Policies & Procedures: (intranet)

SOM Student Handbook
https://www.bcm.edu/education/schools/medical-school/md-program/student-handbook

SOM Teaching Faculty Handbook: https://www.bcm.edu/education/school-of-medicine/m-d-program/teaching-faculty-resources