

DRIVEN

TO IMPROVE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE



MEDICAL SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Driven to Discover®

YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED!

We heard from our medical students and we've listened! In January 2019, 84% of the student body responded to the Independent Student Analysis (ISA) as part of the UMMS' accreditation self-study process to evaluate the educational program. The results were compiled into an Executive Summary in the fall of 2019, which included recommendations believed to be critical to improving the student experience. Since that time, UMMS leaders have been hard at work to address the recommendations. This included working closely with the Student Council to update the original 15 high priority recommendations into 30 clear, measurable, and achievable goals with a target of completing 75% of them by December 31, 2020.

Although 2020 proved to be a uniquely challenging year for our community, progress on the ISA recommendations has continued unabated. The result is 91% of the revised high priority recommendations are either completed or are in progress and on target for completion!

For more information about the various recommendations and their current status, visit the ISA Dashboard, linked from the ISA website [here](#).

In the meantime, here are some highlights:

ISA Recommendation

Classroom renovations on the Duluth Campus complete for classes entering in Fall 2021.

Secure locker space within UMMC or HSEC to meet the needs of students rotating at UMMC.

Secure specialty-specific mentors for each residency program.

Develop elective recommendations resource based on specialty mentor input and post online.

Results

Renovation has been approved to move forward, the construction team has been identified, and work is currently in progress. Project expected to be completed in spring 2021.

A new construction project in UMMC, to be completed by March, is creating a new, student-accessible call room suite. The suite contains lockers, an exercise room, a small break area, men's and women's restrooms with showers and a single use restroom with a shower.

Specialty specific experts have been identified for all specialties and shared with students. An annual process has been established by the Career & Residency Match Coordinator for updating [the list](#).

Academic Advisors (Twin Cities) established a list of recommended electives for each specialty. The list is reviewed by each specialty and shared with students prior to Year 4 elective scheduling.

ISA Recommendation

Academic Advisors will review all Year 4 schedules for alignment with specialty recommendations.

Hire one full-time mental health admin by June 30, 2020.

Secure psychiatric services for DU and RPAP for AY20-21.

Ensure Faculty advisors routinely review specialty specific mentor list with students in meetings designated for career counseling.

Develop a core set of course objectives for year 1 and 2 courses across both campuses to optimally prepare students for clinical practice and taking into account USMLE exam content.

Purchase UWorld for the AY 20-21.

All site and clerkship directors trained on how to complete the standard form. Include statements reminding evaluators of implicit biases on the form.

Establish standard ILT requirements across all preclerkship courses on TC and DU campuses.

Results

Beginning spring 2021, Academic Advisors review the schedules and work with students on adjustments to ensure alignment with specialties planning for residency. Academic Advisors review the schedules and work with students on adjustments as needed.

Maryanne Reilly-Spong, PhD was hired full-time in the 2019-2020 AY in the Confidential Bridging Counseling (CBC) program in the Twin Cities. A second position, consisting of a Doctoral Fellow, is also approved and will be filled in spring 2021. Interviews for the position are currently underway.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between the College of Pharmacy, the Medical School, and Boynton Health Services to offer tele-psychiatry to students.

The [specialty specific mentor lists](#) are maintained by Maija Braaten, Career and Residency Match Coordinator and is updated annually. The list is part of the [Career Development Toolkit](#) and students are regularly reminded about the list by Faculty Advisors, through the *Vital Signs* Newsletter, and linked from the *Student Station* website.

Work continues on developing a single, core set of approximately 200 preclerkship course learning objectives. Done through the Curriculum and Assessment Renewal Taskforce (CART), the work includes reaching an 80% alignment in curriculum on both campuses. The finalized content and design will be completed June 2021.

Subscriptions to the UWorld Question Bank are provided to all students as a subscription voucher or reimbursement and are included in each medical student's financial aid packages for AY 20-21.

Clerkship Directors and assessors have been trained on the Global Rating Scale (GRS) including identifying assessment biases. The statement on implicit bias is in the training materials and will be added to the assessment instruments by May 2021. The training will be done via ongoing workshops with new assessors being trained as needed.

In July 2020 Education Council approved the [Academic Workload in Pre-Clerkship Courses Policy](#) setting explicit standards for workload and ILT. Compliance with the policy is monitored through a variety of ways.

Pulse Survey data from September of 2020 shows an average work week between 40-50 hours for all students from both campuses, with average ILT > 12 hours.