TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE – November 2009

Upcoming Programs and Events:

November 16, 2009
Faculty/Resident Development Program
“Improving Communication as a Teacher”

Presenter: Hank Sakowski, MD, Department of Medicine
Time: Noon – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Morrison Seminar Room - CUMC

November 23, 2009
Advancing Clinical Teaching Series (All faculty and residents are welcome)
“Improving Handoffs”

Presenters: Mary Ann Danielson, Ph.D., Department of Communication Studies, and Anna Maio, M.D., Department of Medicine
Time: Noon – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Morrison Seminar Room - CUMC

Two-Minute Tutorial:  The 4 Cs of Effective Oral Presentations on Work Rounds

Looking for a different way to teach your students about effective oral presentations? Dr. Richard J. Simons at Penn State College of Medicine shares his formula for success, the 4 Cs: Coherent, Concise, Complete and Compelling.  For a description of each, and a handy 4 Cs pocket card, visit the resource page developed by the Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine (CDIM) for their Residents-as-Teachers curriculum.

Presentation:  
http://www.im.org/Resources/Education/Residents/Learning/InterpersonalCommunicationSkills/Pages/Residents-as-Teachers.aspx

Pocket Card:  
http://www.im.org/Resources/Education/Residents/Learning/InterpersonalCommunicationSkills/Documents/4CsCard.JPG

Resource of the Month:  Preparing for the Flexner Report Centenary

The year 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of the landmark study of American medical education, “A Report to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.”  Known commonly as “The Flexner Report,” the report chronicles the observations and recommendations of educator Abraham Flexner who visited all 155 U.S. medical schools over an 18 month period.  The AMA’s Council on Medical Education proposed a survey of medical education in 1908 to promote reform and standardization of medical education.  The CME turned to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching for assistance with the survey, and Carnegie Foundation president Henry Pritchett recruited Abraham Flexner to conduct the survey.  The report sparked many reforms, including tighter admissions standards, specialization, and increased emphasis on the biomedical sciences.  Critics of the report argue the AMA and Carnegie Foundation held too much influence and that the report had a disproportionate,
negative impact on rural and minority medical schools. Flexner’s proposed reconstruction called for the elimination of 120 schools, including 30 schools he felt could survive through merger, such as Tufts and Harvard, Vanderbilt and the University of Tennessee, and Creighton and the University of Nebraska.

**Flexner in Nebraska**

Flexner visited Nebraska in April 1909, stopping at the three medical schools operating at the time: John A. Creighton Medical College, Lincoln Medical College (Cotner University), and University of Nebraska, College of Medicine. At the time, Creighton Medical College enrolled 175 students and the estimated total income from fees was $17,850. In the report, Flexner notes the following concerns with medical education at Creighton: the over-emphasis of rote memorization; admission of 23 (of 56) first-year “defective” first-year candidates on certificates, rather than diplomas; a defective school skeleton and odds and ends of bones; and a small “outfit” for experimental physiology and pharmacology. Flexner also took issue with medical schools whose hospitals and clinical laboratory facilities were not in close proximity, noting “the students of the Creighton School and of the Los Angeles schools would thus have to transfer specimens of urine, feces, and gastric contents on the street cars across town.”

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**Need help writing lecture objectives or preparing a poster for presentation? Want to know more about MedEd Portal, a peer-reviewed repository and publication site for teaching materials?**

Please email or call for a consultation: [kathryn.huggett@creighton.edu](mailto:kathryn.huggett@creighton.edu)