



## Review of Strategic Plan - Goal #2

*By: Chosang Tendhar, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.S.*

The strategic plan of Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine (HMSOM) has six key goals: (1) Community; (2) Active Learning; (3) Lifelong Learning and Problem Solving; (4) Interprofessional Education; (5) Our Graduates' Professional Attributes; and (6) Diversity and Equity. The strategic plan was developed through a holistic and inclusive process wherein a number of different stakeholders contributed to its development and identified relevant outcomes for each key goal and appropriate data sources for each outcome.

Different outcomes of select key goals are reviewed quarterly at the Institutional Quality Improvement (IQI) committee meeting. The same presentation, including recommendations from the IQI committee, are presented to the Dean's cabinet the following month. Key goals #2 and #5 were discussed at the June 2022 IQI committee meeting. This article presents the results of outcomes associated with goal #2.

**Goal #2 – Active Learning:** Utilize active learning and evidence-based pedagogical methods. Of several outcomes associated with this goal, two outcomes reviewed were: (1) Students will utilize higher order cognitive processes such as application, synthesis, and integration of knowledge as demonstrated on summative assessments and PPPC performance; and (2) Students are satisfied with the types and frequency of feedback.

Knowledge for Practice is assessed by eight items and it is one of the data sources for the first outcome. This construct is a part of the Patient Presentation Problem-Based-Learning (PPPC) facilitator evaluation of students. Each item is assessed with a four-point frequency scale with “Rarely or Never” and “Mostly or Always” as the two ends of the spectrum. Some of the example items include, “Show appropriate links between science content in their concept maps and case discussions” and “Identify new information relevant to the cases--

## 2022 GQ Results Received

*By Kyle G. Featherston, Ph.D.*

The Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine (HMSOM) was recently provided with the results from the 2022 Graduation Questionnaire (GQ) from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The 2022 GQ Survey was sent directly to medical school graduates by the AAMC. HMSOM had a response rate of 76.2% (48 respondents out of a potential 63 eligible graduates from the 2018 and 2019 P3R Cohort). The 2022 GQ represents the second report that HMSOM has received and the first report based on the responses from a full graduating class.

The questionnaire's purpose is to identify and address issues critical to the future of medical education and the wellbeing of medical students. The questions on the questionnaire address all aspects of the medical education including ratings of the basic science education, clinical experiences, electives, student affairs and school services, and the overall educational environment.

The GQ is used by medical schools for benchmarking purposes and for improving medical education programs. The results of the survey are being analyzed by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment (OIEA) and will be presented at the next meeting of the Institutional Quality Improvement (IQI) committee. HMSOM was rated very highly in many areas by the recent graduates. Over 80% agreed or strongly agreed that they were satisfied with the quality of their medical education. Just as importantly, many areas of growth and improvement can be identified from the results. The HMSOM will use the results of the survey to identify these areas for continuous improvement of the medical education program and enact evidence-based changes.

and present the information in concise and appropriate format.” The percentage of students that were assigned ratings of “Often” or “Mostly or Always” on the eight Knowledge for Practice items ranged from 98% to 100%. The results clearly indicated that we adequately achieved that outcome.

Other data sources for the first outcome include Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA) 1.4 (History and Physical Exam - Synthesis), 2.2 (Prioritization DDX - Prioritization and Synthesis), and 3.2 (Diagnostic Tests - Interpretation and Action). We assess EPAs using a robust rubric called Clinical Evaluation Tool (CET) during the core clerkships. Each EPA has four different performance levels and description of each performance level varies depending on the nature of the EPA. However, a rating of three is considered as an acceptable performance standard.

Based on the 2018 and 2019 cohorts’ clerkship data, the percentage of students that were assigned a rating of 3 or higher on EPA 1.4 ranged from 96.30% to 100% and 81.86% to 100%, respectively. An overwhelming majority of students attained the goal of EPA 1.4. Students’ performances on EPA 2.2 and 3.2 were consistent with that of EPA 1.4, indicating that the outcome number one for key goal #2 was adequately met.

The other outcome indicator identified for key goal #2 was “Students are satisfied with the types and frequency of feedback.” Students’ perceptions of two items in the end-of-clerkship evaluation were used as the data source. Those two items are “I am satisfied with the amount and quality of feedback received from faculty” and “I am satisfied with the amount and quality of feedback received from residents.” Those two items were assessed using a five-point agreement scale. The percentage of students who endorsed “Agree or Strongly Agree” to the “faculty” item ranged from 65.2% to 89.3%. Similarly, the percentage of students that endorsed “Agree or Strongly Agree” to the “residents” item ranged from 60.0% to 90.1%.

There are a few additional outcomes associated with key goal #2. Overall, based on multiple data sources that were reviewed, all the evidence demonstrated that we met key goal #2 of our Strategic Plan adequately.

## HDIO 2022 Welcomes New Students

*By: The Office of Student Affairs and Wellbeing*

This past July we welcomed 167 new students into our Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine (HMSOM) community on Monday, July 11th at the start of their Human Dimension and Immersion Orientation (HDIO). Given that this was our first opportunity to host HDIO in person since the pandemic began, Student Affairs and

Wellbeing wanted to solicit feedback from previous cohorts regarding what was important and would be beneficial to include in HDIO this year. The feedback trend was that students wanted more opportunity to connect with each other and upperclassmen.

With that in mind, we focused on providing students as many opportunities as possible to connect with fellow students as well as faculty, and staff. We wanted students to start the school year and their medical student journey with a strong sense of community, belonging, and support. To accomplish this we provided more opportunities for communal meals, created events and programs like a student boat ride around Manhattan for all four cohorts, a team competition to build children's bikes for a local charity, a departmental meet and greet, and an HMSOM carnival for everyone to enjoy. We also created strategically placed wellness moments throughout the two weeks to help students recenter during stressful periods, as well as yoga sessions to allow students to wind down and relax on the last day of HDIO.

During the two weeks of HDIO we received a lot of positive feedback from students who felt the programs were beneficial and informative. Most importantly, they expressed gratitude for the moments they were able to connect with each other both in social settings and in small groups as part of their curriculum. We are still receiving great feedback from students and will continue assessing responses to expand on what we accomplished this past HDIO.

## HMSOM enters last phase of LCME Accreditation

*By: Tamiera Whitten, M.P.A.*

In September, the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine (HMSOM) took another critical step towards our goal of full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). In this last phase, HMSOM leaders will review and comment on factual errors or bias in the report from the LCME survey team, and then we will wait for the LCME to review our submission during their February 2023 meeting.

