Committee Name: Student Promotions Committee

Committee Chair Name: Patricia Treadwell, MD

Committee Chair Email: ptreadwe@iu.edu

Meeting Frequency: Once a month on Monday afternoons for 2-3 hours. Two meetings are held in January and June (following grade submissions)

What is the mission of your committee?

This committee reviews the academic progress and professional standards of our students and determines academic standing. For students that have academic or professional difficulties, the committee determines whether the student requires remediation. A student may be placed on academic probation and required to remediate their difficulty or may be requested to appear before the committee to discuss their academic or professional challenges. The committee will determine if student has successfully completed their remediation plan and may be removed from academic probation. The committee also determines whether a student is fit to continue their medical education or should be recommend for dismissal to the dean.

What has your committee accomplished this year? (250 words)

The committee meets on the 3rd Monday of every month and twice in January and June. An additional meeting was added in February to address overflow from the end of the fall term. The committee met a total of fifteen times between May 2015 and April 2016.

During the past year, the former Office of Medical Student Affairs was reorganized to create a combined student/curricular affairs unit called Medical Student Education. Within Medical Student Education, Dr. Marti Reeser, Assistant Dean of Academic Records and Promotion, was given administrative oversight to work with the committee and identify students who are having academic or professional difficulty. The committee reviews all students with a failing course, clerkship, or elective grade, failing score on any of the required Step exams or any isolated deficiency (ID). Students who have failed more than one course, fail more than one required clerkship or who have more than one ID are asked to appear before the committee for a progress hearing. The students that appear explain why they believe they are having academic difficulties and discuss their plan for improvement. The goal of the progress hearing is to determine if the student should be allowed to remediate deficiencies or be dismissed from school. In general, most students are placed on academic probation with a specific plan for remediation. Multiple academic difficulties or significant professionalism concerns can lead to the recommendation to repeat an entire year or for dismissal. This past year, the committee also voted to approve the waiver of the OSCE graduation requirement for one student.
The following chart provides a view of committee’s activity in the past three years and certain academic difficulties that the committee tracks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Students Appearing</th>
<th>Recommended Dismissal</th>
<th>Required to Repeat (all years)</th>
<th>Failed Step 1</th>
<th>Failed Step 2 CK</th>
<th>Failed Step 2 CS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May – April 15-16</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May – April 14-15</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15*</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May – April 13-14</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22*</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Information from prior years only showed those repeating first year of medical school

This past year saw a significant number in the increase of students recommended for dismissal. Of those recommended for dismissal, two were reinstated by the committee, one was reinstated by the Dean, nine withdrew, and four are still pending as of May 1, 2016. A partial explanation for the increase in dismissals was that quite a few had significant academic deficiencies over the past two to three years that came to final disposition during the past academic year.

**What goals does your committee have for the next academic year? How can the Faculty Steering Committee help you to accomplish those goals? (150 words)**

The Committee will continue to review students who are having academic difficulty and ask students with more than one isolated deficiency or failure to appear before the committee. The committee will continue to work with Medical Student Education to ensure the process is consistent.

The School’s student promotions committee policy is being updated with anticipated plan for implementation by July 1, 2016. The most significant change would be that students with isolated deficiencies would no longer automatically be placed on academic probation. Instead, the committee will take into consideration the student’s entire prior academic record before voting whether to place the student on probation. The committee and School’s administration have found that other medical schools do not consider isolated deficiencies significant enough to warrant academic probation. Since this status must be included on the student’s MSPE letter, a closer review of the circumstances will ensure that students with one or two isolated issues are not hindered during the residency search process. The new policy will also allow students to be administratively removed from academic probation between meetings once remediation of the isolated deficiency is successfully completed. This will assist in external factors related to reporting good standing (e.g., away rotations, scholarships).