

Utah Medical Education Council (UMEC)

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Multi-agency State Office Building (MASOB)

1:30- 2:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Council Members Present (virtual): Dr. Sam Finlayson, Dr. Mark Harris, Dr. Mark Greenwood, Dr. Frank Powers, Dr. Camille Collett , and Dr. Marc Babitz.

Staff Present: Ashley Moretz, Kendyl Brockman, and Michelle Geller

Council Members Absent: Dr. Karyn Springer and Dr. Collin Lash

This meeting was recorded per the Open Public Meetings Act.

Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions and Approval of Meeting Minutes- Dr. Sam Finlayson

Dr. Finlayson opened the meeting with a welcome roll call and asked for a motion to open the meeting and did roll call. Dr. Finlayson also mentioned that the intention of this ad hoc meeting is to hear updates from program representatives, then discuss and vote on specific funding amounts to be included in their current contracts.

Medical residency grant program representatives:

- Community Health Centers: Dr. Frank Powers
- Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine: Dr. Michael Rhodes
- Intermountain Health: Dr. Karyn Springer and John Stuligross
- University of Utah: Dr. Caroline Milne, Dr. Vidya Gopinath and Enrique Gonzalez

Dr. Finlayson also shared that these funds are contingent upon legislature approval.

Brief updates from graduate medical education programs- Program representatives

The group first heard from Dr. Frank Powers with Community Health Centers (CHC). CHC's residency program is Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited, they are developing the curriculum for students and will have 4 residents starting in July 2025.

Then they heard from Dr. Michael Rhodes with Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine (NoordaCOM). NoordaCOM hired a program director, have a residency coordinator in place. This program will be 12 months and starting with 2 residents in 2026.

From there the group heard from John Stuligross with Intermountain Healthcare. Intermountain's program will primarily be located in Logan, Utah and have started to develop a pro forma with stakeholders. Although Intermountain residency programs are all ACGME accredited, they are seeking sponsoring institution accreditation. Intermountain hopes to have residents by 2026.

Finally, the group heard from Dr. Caroline Milne, Dr. Vidya Gopinath and Enrique Gonzalez with the University of Utah. The University of Utah is working hard to spread the word about the importance of internal medicine/ primary care track. At full capacity this program will host 15 residents but they will start with 5 residents in July 2025.

UMEC discussion on funding amounts- UMEC members

UMEC currently has \$1.5M in ongoing funding for the 26B-4-711. Residency grant program that needs to be spent down by the end of Fiscal Year 25.

Dr. Finlayson started by asking UMEC members for any recommendations or suggestions on how best to distribute the available funding. Dr. Babitz suggested that all 4 programs are doing a wonderful job but ultimately suggested that the two programs (Community Health Centers and the University of Utah) who are going to have residents starting this year each receive a third of the total available funds, with the remaining third to be split between the other two organizations (Intermountain Health and NoordaCOM). Sue Wilkey suggested that UMEC look back at the original requested amounts and then do a proportional split of the remainder based on the original allocation. Dr. Powers suggested potentially splitting the funds in fourths so all four organizations would receive an additional \$250,000. Dr. Harris recommended that UMEC prioritizes those organizations that are on the threshold of having residents in the door.

Dr. Marc Babitz made a motion to distribute \$500,000 to each University of Utah and Community Health Centers and \$250,000 to Intermountain Healthcare and Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Mark Greenwood seconded, there was no additional discussion and all in favor.

Motion passed to distribute \$500,000 to each University of Utah and Community Health Centers and \$250,000 to Intermountain Healthcare and Noorda College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Staff will begin to amend the current contracts to include the additional funding.

Wrap Up

There was no further discussion and the next UMEC meeting will be on Thursday, February 13, 2025 from 9:00 – 10:00am.

Dr. Finlayson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kendyl Brockman