

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

June 25, 2004

04-05:17

TO: Provost and President-Designate Simon
University Curriculum Committee
Deans Council

FROM: Curriculum Committee, College of Human Medicine
(A. Sousa, G. Fink, D. Murman, C. Slomski, C. Reznich, J. Scheid,
M. Noel, R. Schnuth, R. Stephenson, B. Worley, B. Turnock)

RE: College of Osteopathic Medicine Proposed Class Size Changes

The Curriculum Committee of the College of Human Medicine is very concerned by the proposed changes in the COM class size. We have specific concerns as discussed below, and we believe these changes should not be enacted without significant input from colleges that will be impacted by increasing the size of the COM class. Clearly CHM is especially impacted by this decision because the students of both medical schools share a curriculum, the intellectual energy of faculty, and a collegial and professional relationship with each other. Any change to one college impacts the other – they are conjoined. Likewise the departments and colleges whose faculty teach medical students will be impacted by changes in teaching loads, student preparedness, and student expectations.



COLLEGE OF
HUMAN MEDICINE

Office of the Dean

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The incipient increase the College of Osteopathic class size to 200 per year will outpace the physical and intellectual resources of the physician education community at MSU. Challenges include:

- laboratory space for anatomy and microbiology
- teaching capacity for histology
- teaching capacity and student help in biochemistry, pharmacology, physiology
- clerkship resources for year 3 and 4 students in campuses across the state
- increased need for remediation effort from faculty to help a larger and broader range of students

These obstacles can be overcome given enough time and resources, but the proposed bolus of extra students in the 2005 matriculation year puts at risk:

- the quality of education in COM and CHM
- the accreditation of CHM
- the time available for faculty to work in curriculum development and basic science research
- the quality of physicians produced by COM and CHM

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So far, we have not been made aware of allocation of any additional resources or relief of personnel to do these duties without bias to their current research, teaching or clinical duties. If indeed, the intent holds to expand the COM class as rapidly as proposed, we would appreciate a quick consideration of the financial and personnel plans for such an expansion for us to review and work with. Without such a plan, we believe the obstacles listed above will stretch faculty and put the reputation of both COM and CHM at risk.

AS/msm

cc: President Peter McPherson
Deans CHM and COM
Associate Deans for Academic Affairs, CHM and COM
Dean, CNS

Endorsed by:

Dele Davies, M.D., Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Shelagh Ferguson-Miller, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Mary Nettleman, M.D., Chair, Department of Medicine
Harold Sauer, M.D., Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Carol Slomski, M.D., Chair, Department of Surgery
William Spielman, Ph.D., Chair Department of Physiology
Tom Tomlinson, Ph.D., Director, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences
William Wadland, M.D., Chair, Department of Family Practice

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

September 14, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Professor Folu Ogundimu, UCAP Chairperson
Professor Merry Morash, UGC Chairperson

FROM: Jon Sticklen, Chairperson
Executive Committee of Academic Council

SUBJECT: Memo fr: College of Human Medicine Curriculum Committee
Re: College of Osteopathic Medicine Proposed Class Size Changes

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OFFICE OF THE
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FOR ACADEMIC
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The Executive Committee of Academic Council met today and agreed to forward the attached memorandum with reference to the College of Osteopathic Medicine Proposed Class Size Changes on to your committees for review and ask that you report back to the Executive Committee at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.