

Indiana University School of Medicine
Committee Report Template
May 2016-April 2017

Committee Name: Student Promotions Committee

Committee Chair Name: Patricia Treadwell, MD and Emily Machogu, MD (April 2017)

Committee Chair Email: ptreadwe@iu.edu and ecpearce@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 or may be requested to appear before the committee to discuss their academic or professional issues. The committee will determine if a student has completed their remediation plan and may be removed from academic probation. The committee also determines if a student is fit to continue their medical education or should recommend for dismissal to the dean.

At the start of the year, the committee consisted of twenty-one members. That included thirteen (13) appointed faculty members, four (4) elective faculty members, four (4) appointed fourth year medical students, and the committee chair (1). During the year, one of the appointed members retired and his status was changed to ex-officio for the remainder of the year. Additional ex-officio members included an assistant dean, the executive associate dean for education affairs, a co-chair of the admissions committee, and an emeritus faculty member. Members represent various campuses as well as various basic and clinical sciences. They elected members serve two-year terms whereas the appointed student serve one year

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

The Committee had regularly scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday of every month and twice in January and June. From May 2016 – April 2017 the Committee met a total of fourteen times. Because of on-going LCME accreditation, the Committee implemented two changes at the urging of the Dean. First, all participants in the meeting were required to sign a “Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality” statement to ensure that the School is adhering to LCME Standard 9.9 regarding the Student Advancement and Appeal Process. Additionally, an ad-hoc appeals committee was formed in December 2016. At this point, the School’s “Guidelines for Promotion, Suspension, Dismissal, and Withdrawal” were updated to differentiate between the student’s rights to request reconsideration and the right to appeal a recommendation for dismissal. The Committee was used on two occasions as part of the review of students recommended for dismissal.

The committee reviews students with failing course, clerkship, or elective grades or failing scores on any of the required Step exams. The committee also reviews the academic progress of students who receive isolated deficiencies (various reasons). At the completion of each meeting, Dr. Reeser is responsible to notify students of committee decisions. This past year, Dr. Reeser also enhanced the pre-meeting opportunities with students required to appeal to allow them to include other participants (e.g., Lead Advisors, faculty mentors). In general, students are typically placed on academic probation with a specific remediation. Multiple academic difficulties can lead to the recommendation to repeat an entire year or for dismissal.

The following chart provides a view of committee's activity in the past three years and certain academic difficulties that the committee tracks:

Timeframe	Students Appearing	Recommended Dismissal	Required to Repeat (all years)	Failed Step 1	Failed Step 2 CK	Failed Step 2 CS
May – April 16-17	75	10	17	11	17	19
May – April 15-16	73	16	16	5	13	11
May – April 14-15	44	3	15*	6	26	15

*Information from May-April 2014-15 only shows those repeating first year of medical school.

A recommendation for dismissal can lead to many outcomes. For the past two years, here are the outcomes of those students:

Outcomes	May – April 16-17	May – April 15-16
Reinstated	1	4
Withdrew	7	11
Appeal Granted	1	1
Dismissed	1	0
Total	10	16

This past year saw a similar number of students appearing before the Committee, but with fewer recommendations for dismissal. The number of students allowed (required) to repeat was similar to the prior year. There was an increase of the number of failing USMLE Step Exam scores.

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 is appreciative of the work that is going on in the Student Learning and Success Advisory Committee and would like to work with the Office of Admissions this year to determine if there are factors that the School could look at to drop the number of students facing academic difficulties. We envision launching a longitudinal study that looks at future issues that students who have been allowed to repeat have during the remainder of the training and to see if they have later issues with any USMLE Step Exam and in securing a residency position. The Committee works closely with Medical Student Education to ensure that students who appear before the Committee get appropriate help from their Lead Advisors and the Learning Specialist to assist students who have multiple academic deficiencies. We are pleased with changes implemented the prior year that allow students with an isolated deficiency to not automatically be placed on academic probation. Since this status must be included on the student's MSPE letter, a closer review of the circumstances now ensures that students with one or two isolated issues might not be hampered during the residency search process. This also assists in external factors related to reporting good standing (e.g., away rotations, scholarships).