

2017

Preparing M1 /M2 students for the surgical wards – An on call shadowing program

Adrian Diaz
VCU

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/med_edu

 Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

© The Author(s)

Downloaded from

http://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/med_edu/28

This Oral is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Medicine at VCU Scholars Compass. It has been accepted for inclusion in Medical Education Symposium by an authorized administrator of VCU Scholars Compass. For more information, please contact libcompass@vcu.edu.

Preparing M1/M2 students for the surgical wards – An on call shadowing program

**Adrian Diaz BS, Sidrah Khan MD, Salem N. Glenn BS,
Rahul J. Anand MD FACS**

**Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine Richmond, VA
University of Pittsburg Medical Center, Pittsburg, PA**



VCU School of Medicine

Barriers to surgical experience during pre-clinical years

- Pre-conceived notions
- Often logistically difficult
- Little exposure to surgery



Methods

- Electronic sign up for 1 of 3 weekend shifts
- Email reminder with instructions, directions, and do's & don'ts
 - Pre/Post Call Survey link also in email
- Encouraged you to shadow the **WHOLE TEAM** – M3's, residents, and attending
- Additional survey at the end of M3 year

M1 & M2 Shadowing Opportunities at VCU Surgery



Getting Started:

If you are interested in shadowing at VCU Surgery please attend our interest meeting at the beginning of the semester to receive our sign-up sheet.

Shadowing Common Sense

1. Please refrain from bringing bags or any valuables to the hospital; you will not have a safe place to store them. Feel free to store your belongings in the lockers in MMEC.
2. Surgical attendings you are working with are very happy to have you and welcome questions. Please try to gauge the right times for conversation, etc.
3. Surgical attendings may have periods of time where they just need to deal with administrative obligations when there is not much clinically happening. In this situation you may be assigned to a resident.
4. To enhance your experience it is recommended that you shadow the entire team not just the attending.
5. Since you will not have a pager. We encourage you to share your number with a resident and/or M3. However, it is not expected of them to call you. An alternative is to work closely with the M3 since they will have a pager.
6. Remember there are M3's on service. M3's get to scrub on cases, etc. You are a shadow.
7. Enjoy the experience.

Results

Demographics	No. (%)
Total Shifts	167
Surveys Completed	85 (50.8)
Current year in Medical School	
M1	141 (85.5)
M2	24 (14.5)
Previous trauma experience	85 (50.9)
Considering Surgery	132 (79)

Summary of experience	Mean (SD) [Range]
Trauma Alerts	6.39 (4.24)[0-20]
Operative cases	1.34 (1.43)[0-9]
Experience with:	
M3/M4	4.63(0.64)[2-5]
Intern	4.01(1.02)[1-5]
Resident	4.00(1.04)[1-5]
Attending	3.95(1.16)[1-5]

	Before	After
Interest in Surgery	3.38(0.86)	3.71(0.87)*



*(p<0.01)

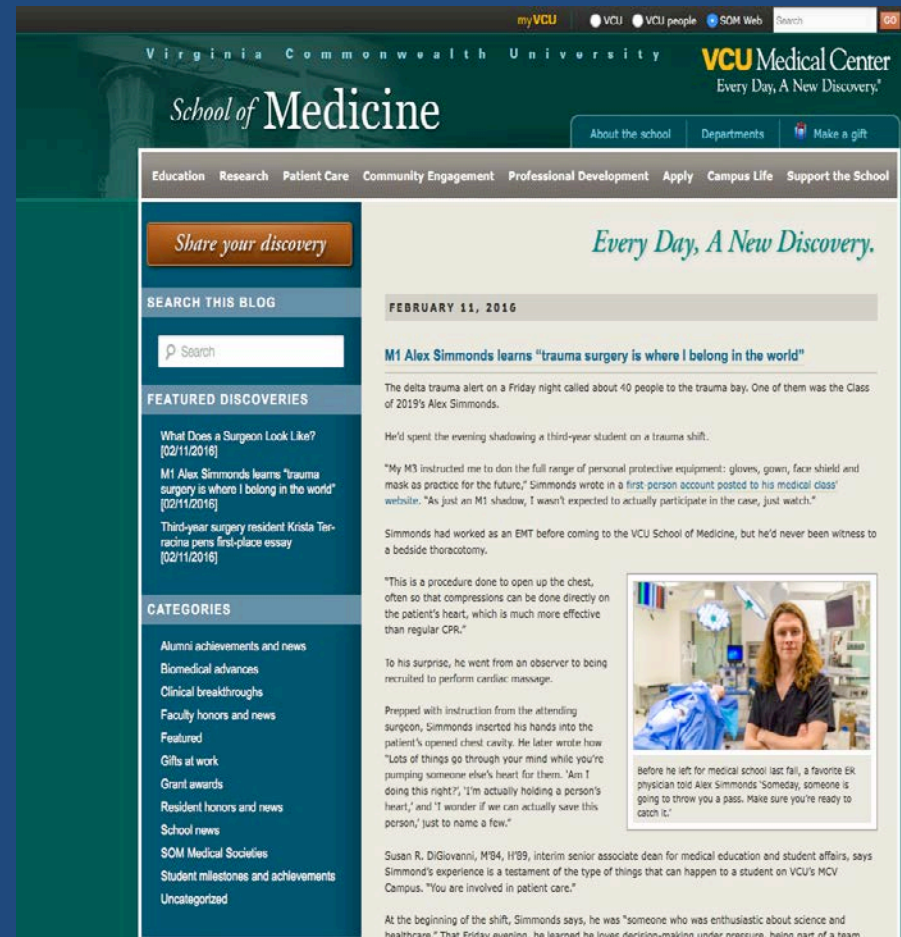
Unintended Benefits

- “...most important lesson from this experience is the ability to gauge what I should know and what skills I should have as a 3rd year student ...”
- “..gives me a solid goal to aim for, knowing that it is okay to still be learning...”
- “I did learn a lot about what will be expected of me as an M3 during clerkships”
- “...gave me better insight into what is expected of M3s, M4s...”



Conclusion

- Improved understanding of third year expectations
- 78% of shadows reported an improved perception of surgery and surgeons
- Other services have initiated similar program
- We will continue indefinitely



The screenshot shows the VCU School of Medicine website. The header includes the university name, the VCU Medical Center logo with the tagline "Every Day, A New Discovery," and navigation links for "About the school," "Departments," and "Make a gift." A secondary navigation bar lists "Education," "Research," "Patient Care," "Community Engagement," "Professional Development," "Apply," "Campus Life," and "Support the School." The main content area features a "Share your discovery" button, a search bar, and a "FEATURED DISCOVERIES" section. The featured article is titled "M1 Alex Simmonds learns 'trauma surgery is where I belong in the world'" and is dated February 11, 2016. The article text describes Alex Simmonds' experience shadowing a surgeon, including a quote from him: "My M3 instructed me to don the full range of personal protective equipment: gloves, gown, face shield and mask as practice for the future." A photo of Alex Simmonds in a hospital setting is included, along with a quote from Susan R. DiGiovanni, MEd, HB9, interim senior associate dean for medical education and student affairs, praising Simmonds' experience.

