2017

Insights From a Dual Admission Family Medicine Scholars' Track

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Rationale

- Strong evidence exists for the need for primary care. There is a projected shortage of family physicians in the next decade is in the tens of thousands.
- VCU Department of Family Medicine was established in 1970 by the governor and General Assembly of the commonwealth and charged with the mission of preparing competent family physicians for the people of Virginia.
- Family Medicine interested students receive little support and sometimes direct challenge regarding career choice. fmSTAT is VCU’s initiative to promote a supportive culture to attract and produce family physician graduates.

Intervention

Family Medicine Scholars’ Training and Admissions Track

Goals
- Identify, support, and nurture fmScholars’ commitment to Family Medicine
- Provide specialized relevant curriculum and experiences

Dual admissions process to VCU and fmSTAT
- Strong family physician participation on SOM Admissions
- Personalized outreach to applicants throughout process
- Collaboration with Admissions Office and Academic Information Systems
- Supplemental fmSTAT application and interview
- Collaboration with Financial Aid Office for student scholarship potential

Social Support
- 1:1 faculty mentorship
- Max of 10 student per class with deli mixing of classes
- Team building
- Intentional grouping for HEART
- Optional peer socials

Curricular Methods
- Longitudinal curriculum organized by themes
- 2 seminars, 2 retreats per academic year
- Intentional preceptorships / clerkship placements
- Emphasis on experiential learning
- Fourth year electives
- Scholars project
- Optional summer experience
- Continuous program evaluation (content, mentorship, etc.)

Professional Development Methods
- Leveraging family medicine opportunities beyond VCU
- Support for leadership opportunities

Future directions

- Study impact of fmSTAT on increasing overall VCU FM match
- Maintain quality programming and relationships with all Family Medicine interested students
- Further recruit and develop community faculty participation
- Continued focus on program evaluation and outcomes
- Disseminate experiences

Experience

Application and Retention 2011-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Interviewed</th>
<th>Offered</th>
<th>Matric'ed</th>
<th>fmSTAT Match</th>
<th>VCU FM Match</th>
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</table>

Notes:
- 2016 – 1 withdrew; 1 matched other specialty
- 2017 – 3 withdrew; 1 matched other specialty
- 2018 – 1 withdrew; transferred
- All years – 3 on leave, 2 re-joined / re-classed, 1 pending

Selected literature

