

Motion to mandate the CFMS to create a working group and advocate for an improved AFMC Student Portal

Whereas, Canadian medical students must go through the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) Student Portal to book electives at other schools.

Whereas, over the past few years, students have expressed dissatisfaction with the AFMC Student Portal.

Whereas, current issues with the AFMC Student Portal include but are not limited to the high cost of applying for electives; the inconsistency of application costs across schools; the inconsistency of refund policies should an elective not be available; the variable requirements set by each school; the turnover time for responses to students; and the unethical use of alternative (“backdoor”) pathways outside the Student Portal to book electives.

Whereas, a fair, homogenized, and inclusive process to book electives is essential to make clerkship opportunities, and, by extension, CaRMS processes, equitable across Canada.

Whereas, the CFMS, from its privileged position as a national organization, must lead change on the issues their members deem to be of high priority and provide them with timely updates on these changes.

Whereas, this has been a continual topic of discussion at multiples roundtables, including Presidents’ and VP Academics’, who have identified this as an issue of high priority.

Whereas, the AFMC Student Portal Steering Committee only has one student representative and meets only twice each year; once at the Canadian Conference on Medical Education (April) and once in October.

Be it resolved, that the Director of Education of the CFMS be mandated to create a working group on the AFMC Student Portal (hereinafter, “The Working Group”) composed of VP Academics, Presidents, and other relevant parties.

Be it further resolved, that The Working Group be mandated to: identify any other student concerns regarding the AFMC Student Portal; collect sufficient student feedback on its current shortcomings; engage in consultative processes with other relevant stakeholders; propose remediating steps, a timeline of action and deliverables, and a list of relevant stakeholders who will be necessary for a coordinated resolution of these issues such that these actions would address the AFMC Student Portal shortcomings in a timely fashion.

Be it further resolved, that The Working Group provide a report of its findings and tangible advocacy recommendations before or during AGM 2019.

Be it further resolved, that the CFMS, and particularly the Director of Education and Education Attaché, advocate to the AFMC and all other institutions deemed relevant by the CFMS Board for timely implementation of changes based on The Working Group's report.

Be it further resolved, that the CFMS, and particularly the Director of Education and Education Attaché, ensure improved accountability from the AFMC Student Portal Steering Committee as well as increased transparency and communication of the tangible changes being made.

Moved by: Léanne Roncière (McGill), on behalf of the Presidents' Roundtable (PRT)

Seconded by: Eleanor Crawford (University of Alberta)