Update and Vision for the Future

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WWAMI School of Medical Education
University of Alaska Anchorage

Alaska’s Medical School
What is WWAMI??

Partnership with U Washington School of Medicine*
Decentralized Medical Education Program

Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho

*UWSOM: Top 10 Medical School in the US
(Research and Primary Care)
#1 in US for Primary Care Graduates
Alaska WWAMI -
1971-1986: UAF – 5 students
1987-1988: Alaska students were at UWSOM
1989: UAA- 10 students
2007: Increased from 10-20 students/year
2013: 72 applications/42 interviewed/seated 20
2014: 92 applications/46 interviewed/seated 20

Pipeline development:
Annual PreMed Summit at UAA (200+ registered)
Outreach programs: urban and rural students
Della Keats summer enrichment program
(residential- rural/native/underrepresented students)
# Elements of the WWAMI Curriculum 2014-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Second Year</th>
<th>Third Year</th>
<th>Fourth Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Science Courses</strong></td>
<td><strong>Organ-Based System Courses</strong></td>
<td><strong>Required Clerkships</strong></td>
<td><strong>Required &amp; Elective Clerkships</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>ICM I</td>
<td>Taught in each WWAMI state</td>
<td>Taught in Seattle</td>
<td>WWAMI clerkship sites or state-based track</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Taught in each WWAMI state</strong></td>
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<td>Students may travel to WWAMI states and internationally</td>
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**Notes:**
- Students may travel to WWAMI states and internationally.
NEW CURRICULUM
FALL 2015

Enhanced integration, active learning, patient care focus

Three Phases

1. Foundations Phase at UAA Alaska WWAMI –18 months
   (equivalent of years 1 and 2)

2. Patient Care (clinical training-required clerkships)*

3. Exploration and Focus (advanced clinical training, research, residency prep)*

* Rotations in Alaska, Seattle, anywhere in WWAMI Land
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Integrated with Course Content</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 weeks</td>
<td>Molecular &amp; Cellular Basis of Disease</td>
<td>Invaders &amp; Defenders</td>
<td>Anatomy/Imaging(^a) Introduction to Anatomy Introduction to Histology</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>Population Health(^b)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 weeks</td>
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<td>Circulatory Systems</td>
<td>Population Health(^b)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 weeks</td>
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<td>Frontiers of Medicine(^c)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 week</td>
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<td>Winter Break (12/14 – 1/1)</td>
<td>Clinical Skills</td>
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<td>3 weeks</td>
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<td>Population Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 week</td>
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<td>Spring Break (3/21 – 3/25/16)</td>
<td>Frontiers of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>Population Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 weeks</td>
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<td>Frontiers of Medicine</td>
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**Academic Year 2015 – 2016**

**Fall and Spring Semesters**

- **Length**: 2 weeks from 9/7-10/23, 2015
- **Length**: 6 weeks from 10/26-12/4, 2015
- **Length**: 3 weeks from 1/4-3/11, 2016
- **Length**: 1 week from 3/28-4/15, 2016
- **Length**: 6 weeks from 4/18-5/27, 2016

**Block**

- **Molecular & Cellular Basis of Disease**
- **Invaders & Defenders**
- **Circulatory Systems**
- **Blood & Cancer**
- **Energetics & Homeostasis**

**Content**

- **Cell Physiology & Function**
- **Immune System**
- **Cardiovascular System**
- **Cancers**
- **Metabolism & Nutrition**

- **Genes, Molecules & Signaling**
- **Microbial Biology**
- **Respiratory System**
- **Heme/ Lymph**
- **Obesity & Diabetes**

- **Genetics**
- **Infectious Disease**
- **Renal-Urinary System**
- **Palliative Care**
- **Gastrointestinal Physiology**

- **Skin -Connective Tissue**
- **Skin -Connective Tissue**
- **Multisystem Fluid Balance**
- **Endocrinology**

- **Introduction to Pharm**
- **Introduction to Path**
- **Introduction to Path**
- **Histology Imaging**
- **Histology Imaging**

- **Anatomy/Imaging**
- **Thorax/Abdomen Histology**
- **Anatomy/Imaging Abdomen Histology**
- **Anatomy/Imaging Abdomen Histology**

**Integrated with Course Content**

- **Population Health\(^b\)**
- **Population Health**
- **Population Health**
- **Population Health**
- **Population Health**

- **Frontiers of Medicine\(^c\)**
- **Frontiers of Medicine**
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- **Frontiers of Medicine**

- **Clinical Skills**
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- **Clinical Skills**

**Credited Course All Quarters: PCC Clerkship**

**PCC Clerkship**

**PCC Clerkship**
### Academic Year 2016-2017

#### Fall Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>8-10 weeks TBD, 2016</th>
<th>9 weeks 9/5-11/4, 2016</th>
<th>5 weeks 11/7-12/9, 2016</th>
<th>1 wk</th>
<th>2 wks</th>
<th>12 Weeks 1/2-3/24, 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>Summer Experience</td>
<td>Mind, Brain &amp; Behavior</td>
<td>Lifecycle &amp; Reproduction</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6/13-8/19</td>
<td>• Neuroscience/Neurology</td>
<td>• Lifecycle</td>
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<td>4 wks RUOP or MSRT,</td>
<td>• Neurosurgery/Trauma</td>
<td>Reproductive System</td>
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<td>6 wks vacation OR</td>
<td>• Sensory Systems</td>
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<td>6 wks Global Health,</td>
<td>• Psychiatry</td>
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<td>2 wks vacation</td>
<td>• Anesthesia</td>
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<td>Break</td>
<td>(8/22 – 9/2, 2016)</td>
<td>Anatomy/Imaging</td>
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<td>Head &amp; Neck</td>
<td>Pelvis</td>
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<td>Neuroanatomy</td>
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<td>Transition to Clerkships</td>
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<td>Remediation (12/12-12/16, 2016) Non Required</td>
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<td>Winter Break (12/19, 2016 - 1/1, 2017)</td>
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**Fall Semesters:** 40 WWAMI medical students at UAA
We are not reinventing the wheel.................
75% of medical schools in the US have already undergone significant curriculum reform
Active learning rather than passive learning (lecture)
Integration of basic and clinical sciences
Earlier and more meaningful clinical experience

From this.........

To this.....................Active Learning
(Case based, Team Based Learning)
The Anatomage Table
Virtual dissection table

High Fidelity Simulation Center
Alaska WWAMI  
Alaska’s Medical School  

The future is bright!

2014-2015
• Create and establish new curriculum  
• Expand faculty numbers and expertise  
• Expand research activity and grant submissions  
  (4+ submissions 2014 – including Alaska WWAMI initiative for a MT/AK partnership – NIH CTR - American Indian/Alaskan Native Center for Clinical and Translational Research - Drs. Allen Harmsen PhD and Jay Butler MD, Co-Pis – submitted 10/14)

2017+
• Expand class size to 30 then 40  
• Establish new Graduate Medical Education Programs in Alaska