INTRODUCTION

New this month

Winter is coming and, with it, the promise of public rollout of multiple coronavirus vaccines. In the meantime, we are all doing our best to nurture distanced connections, get our work done, and find new ways to honor holiday traditions. In addition to our regular features, we have included some tips on staying focused and well. Remember that the newsletter includes a link that you can use to provide feedback on how we can make this newsletter better!

Our next newsletter will be delivered on February 1, 2021. In the meantime, stay safe, stay healthy, and stay connected.

“Together we can beat this - COVID-19” by Tim Dennell is licensed with CC BY-NC 2.0.

eMedley Tips: Submitting Homework

Because a number of students have asked for reminders about how to submit homework assignments, that is this month’s tip. To submit homework assignments, do the following after logging into eMedley:

1. Go to educate.
2. Filter for homework assignments by typing Homework into the search bar.
3. This will show you all of the homework assignments. Scroll to the one you want and click on the plus sign beside the name of the assignment to open it.
4. Click on the “View Homework” link. This will open a window that allows you to upload your homework file.
5. In the new window, use the “Attach” button to choose the document(s) that you want to submit.
6. After you have uploaded your file, click “Submit” in the bottom right of the screen.
Keep Focused and Carry on Studying!

Study Tips for Uncertain Times

These study tips are adapted from a guide published by the University of Michigan’s Center for Academic Innovation. The full guide can be found at: https://lsa.umich.edu/content/dam/rll-assets/rll-docs/Study%20Habits.pdf.

In these uncertain times it may be more difficult than usual to concentrate on your studies. Here are some suggestions for actions you can take to stay focused.

1. Stay organized - With fewer demands to be on campus, it may be more difficult to keep to a schedule. Consider participating in lectures in real time in order to avoid falling behind.
2. Avoid multitasking - Switching between tasks requires not only additional time, but it is also fatiguing and can lead to poorer retention of material and a greater number of errors in work.
3. Set a schedule—If you are not already doing so, consider using a calendar to plan and track your daily activities. With less structure dictated by outside demands, the added structure of a personal calendar may be helpful.
4. Swap study schedules - If you miss your old study locations, try recreating the atmosphere at home—study at a table rather than a desk or use quiet music to recreate background noise if you find it helpful.
5. Stay connected - Be sure to take time to stay in touch with your classmates, friends, and family. Call or video chat with those who may be feeling isolated. Invite them to reach out to you as well.

Reminders for Year 1 & 2!

- Remember to review the email regarding remote testing expectations!
- If you choose to leave Lewisburg, make sure you take with you anything you may need to continue your studies if we have to go to streaming content after the first of the year. We do have a contingency plan to defer labs and deliver didactic content if necessary (hopefully not). You need to make sure you’re prepared as well.

"West Virginia Winter" by Marc Tomik is licensed under CC BY-NC-SA 2.0
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1-11, 2020</td>
<td><strong>Year 3 Students:</strong> Year 3 OSCEs held in CEC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| December 7, 2020   | **Year 3 Students:** NBOME Presentation  
You must preregister: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tUBzQS6pQh24prez3IudMA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tUBzQS6pQh24prez3IudMA) |
| December 8, 2020   | Deadline to submit abstract for oral and poster presentations for IAMSE 2021 Conference                                                         |
| December 9, 2020   | **Year 1 Students:** Board Prep Series with ASPIRE ([final mandatory session](#))                                                                |
| December 10, 2020  | **Year 2 Students:** Mandatory COMLEX Orientation                                                                                                  |
| December 16, 2020  | **Year 2 Students:** December COMSAE                                                                                                               |
| December 17, 2020  | **Years 1 & 2 Students:** Mandatory NBOME presentation  
You must preregister: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XuIKk2UvQbGM7FLTVhGHvA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XuIKk2UvQbGM7FLTVhGHvA) |
| December 8, 2020   | Military Match                                                                                                                                       |
| January 2021       | San Francisco, Urology Residency and Military Match results are available.                                                                       |
| January 31, 2021   | NRMP Match registration deadline                                                                                                                   |
| February 1, 2021   | NRMP Rank Order List opens                                                                                                                        |
| March 3, 2021      | NRMP ROL deadline 9 p.m. ET                                                                                                                       |
| March 15, 2021     | Students receive Match/Unmatch status 10:30 a.m. ET; Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP®) begins at 11 a.m. ET                        |
| March 19, 2021     | National Resident Matching Program (NRMP®) main residency match results will be available at 1 p.m. ET.                                             |
| April 16, 2021     | Deadline for students to complete GME/Alumni information sheet.                                                                                     |
| May 31, 2021       | ERAS 2021 season ends: MyERAS closes at 5 p.m. ET.                                                                                               |
Survey Data—Who Uses It?

Sometimes it may seem that every time you turn around someone is asking (or requiring) you to complete another survey. For instance, at the conclusion of each academic year, every student must complete the WVSOM Exit Survey. The purpose of the Exit Survey is to provide a chance for you to give feedback to departments, committees and offices on campus so that they can identify what is working well and what could be improved. Your responses to these surveys are valued. Every response is read and incorporated into reports that are shared with the appropriate stakeholders. To date, data from the 2019-2020 Exit Surveys have been shared with the Registrar Office, Financial Aid, Business Office, ASPIRE, IT, Educational Development, the Curriculum Committee, the Diversity Committee, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Office of National Boards and Testing Center, OPP Department, CEC, RHI, Student Affairs, ECE, Anatomy Department, Peer Mentoring, Faculty Coaching, SWC, Library, Clinical Skills 2, and GME!

Survey fatigue is real and that is why, whenever possible, survey data are gathered through either the Exit Surveys or the Services Evaluations. Although this type of aggregated data collection makes these surveys longer, it limits the number of surveys that you are asked to complete each year. The OAED works to keep the surveys as short as possible while still providing the opportunity to share your experiences and suggestions.

“Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken.”
—Oscar Wilde

Ongoing Services

Tutoring Services
First year students--- be sure to check out the peer tutoring offerings! We have trained tutors who are second year students ready to assist first year students with questions, study tips and review sessions. Sessions take place on TEAMS on the Tutor Team. The schedule for each upcoming week is posted on the general Tutor Teams page under the “files” tab. Tutor Hailee Peterson will be sending out reminder emails on Fridays, so look for those as well. You can chat in the tutors’ channels to let them know topics that you would like to cover and ask questions. Please take advantage of this great service to make your first year more enjoyable and more successful! If you have any questions, contact Kelley Sills, tutor coordinator, at ksills@osteo.wvsom.edu.
Conferences & Events

December 16, 2020—AAFP State Legislative Conference Presentation
Presentation on Administrative Burden. From the website: “States recognize the administrative challenges facing physicians and are implementing policies to relieve these costly and time-intensive burdens. Hear from experts on policy proposals to put physicians back in front of patients.” To register, go to: https://www.aafp.org/events/slc/html

June 12-15 2021—IAMSE Meeting
The decision has been made to move the conference, which was slated to be held in Cancun, to a virtual event. The change of venue makes attendance much more accessible. The deadline to submit an abstract for a poster or oral presentation has been moved to December 8, 2020. For more information go to: http://iamse.org/annual-conference/

Other Opportunities

Work Study Positions
If you are interested in a work study job, available positions are posted on the WVSOM website at https://www.wvsom.edu/OMS/work-study

Research
Remember that there are resources for students interested in participating in Research and Scholarly Activity projects. Information on upcoming abstract submission due dates, conference presentations, and summer externships is available on this page: https://www.wvsom.edu/ORSP/Research-Students. Also available on this web page is information on how to do literature reviews, case reports, and how to get a project approved by WVSOM. Remember that all projects must be approved in advance of undertaking the project.

Finally, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs often gets asked about how to start a research project or how to find a research mentor. The best plan for finding a research mentor is to reach out to faculty, with whom you have similar interests. Check out the faculty interests on this page: https://www.wvsom.edu/ORSP/faculty Clinicians who do not have a webpage presence may still be willing to work with you on a case report. Reach out to faculty directly.

"Gastroenterology" from xkcd.com
Meet: Office of National Boards and Exam Center (ONBEC)

The Office of National Boards and Exam Center (ONBEC) is a small, but mighty, office! ONBEC is part of the Office of Assessment and Educational Development and the team works closely with both faculty and administrators on campus. The Office is responsible for helping faculty create exams in years 1 and 2 and supporting students as they prepare for and complete their licensure exams and required testing in years 3 and 4. The Office is comprised of three individuals - The Director (Dr. Carrier), the Exam Administrator (Kathy Hoke) and the Exam Coordinator (Debra Hanson).

Dr. Carrier oversees all exam creation, administration, and reporting. In this role, she helps faculty create exam items and course assessments. She also advises students on study strategies for course exams and COMLEX/USMLE and coaches them on how to navigate ExamN. Dr. Carrier is also trained in both COMLEX and USMLE item writing and test development. She serves as NBOME National Faculty and currently chairs the Pharmacology group responsible for the Foundational Biomedical Sciences (FBS) COMAT exam.

As Exam Administrator, Kathy Hoke coordinates all NBOME exams (COMSAEs, COMATs, and COMLEX eligibility). Her primary roles are to support 3rd and 4th year students on their licensure path including tracking of scheduling and passage of all COMLEX and USMLE exams. She is often the first point of contact for students working through Prep Tracks and Kathy serves as the liaison between ONBEC and the Statewide Campus. She also helps with testing in 1st and 2nd year by compiling faculty exam items and proctoring exams, quizzes, and TBLs.

Deb Hanson’s role as Exam Coordinator involves working primarily with Years 1 and 2 class curriculum. She coordinates efforts with the faculty and course directors to create exams in Years 1 and 2. The behind-the-scenes actions related to test development and administration are quite numerous! She communicates with students each week regarding exam expectations and is often the person to help troubleshoot exam issues and provide any ExamN support you’ll need. You may also recognize her as the face you see in the anatomy lab during practical exams.

Both Deb and Kathy host students in the Exam Center for assessment reviews. They love seeing you, so keep coming up for your reviews! The ONBEC team is here to support faculty, staff, and especially students on the testing journey. If we can help in any way, please don’t hesitate to reach out. In years 1 and 2 – email examcenter@osteo.wvsom.edu and in years 3 and 4 email nationalboards@osteo.wvsom.edu.

“Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”
—Theodore Roosevelt
The Class of 2023 Site Selection was held over a three week period in October and November of 2020. The first phase placed 9 RHI students at several rural base sites. The second phase (Hometown Site Selection phase) allowed approximately 50 students to choose base sites within 50 miles of their hometown address on matriculation to WVSOM. The last phase (General Site Selection phase) completed the selections for the 190 students eligible in the class. Statistically 83% got their first choice, 13% got their second choice and 4% (5 students) got a variety of their ranked choices. This was the first year for a Hometown portion and the first year to be completely electronic. Students met virtually with their new regional staff on November 17, 2020.

- Third Year OSCEs are currently scheduled in the CEC from December 1-11, 2020.
- Class of 2021 students are doing well during residency recruitment season and appear to be having more interview invitations (all virtual) than in previous years.
- The SWC Regional Assistant Deans will be conducting Portfolio Coach meetings with the Class of 2023 students who matched into their regions between January 4, 2021 and February 12, 2021.

We want your feedback and ideas! We want your feedback! Please use the link or QR code to let us know how we can make this newsletter more useful and to make suggestions for future topics.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XXGMXG6

Have a wonderful break!

("Christmas Presents" from xkcd.com)
Resources for Students and Alumni Participating in The Match

**WVSOM GME website**
- Video resources
- WVSOM GME Guide to the Match
- WVSOM Match Data
  - Residency Roundtable held virtually the first Tuesday of the month (for all WVSOM students)

**AAMC residency resource website**

**NRMP Match resource website:** www.nrmp.org

---

![Image of comic strip](comic.png)

*The vaccine won’t make you invincible, even if it feels that way!*  
("Flu Shot" from xkcd.com)