Article 2 Guiding Principles

2.01 Primary Goal

(1) Our goal is to admit culturally and experientially diverse medical students who have the personal qualities and record of academic excellence that predict a successful career in medicine.

2.02 Guiding Principles of the Educational Program

(1) It is the mission of the School of Medicine to train competent and caring physicians for the state of North Carolina. The school also understands that the process of becoming a physician is a life-long pursuit forged through experience and continued education that does not end after four years of formal education. As a corollary, the curriculum cannot expect to incorporate all of those skills that a competent practicing physician will acquire during a lifetime of practice and learning. The purpose of the medical school curriculum should be to educate students in the biology, evaluation, and management of those under their care as a foundation on which to build the social, communal, and political understandings that make a complete physician. Our curriculum must also provide the student with an understanding of informatics and the motivation for ceaseless self-development, so that our future physicians can enrich this basic knowledge throughout their careers and provide service to our patients and to society.

The school is committed to the following actions to achieve our educational goals:

1) Encourage student responsibility for learning; promote critical thinking and in-depth scholarly pursuit

2) Face the challenges of the ever expanding knowledge base; identify the basic concepts and principles that are most important to learn

3) Create a balanced curriculum that prepares students to pursue general and sub-specialist careers, responding to the needs of the state and nation

4) Integrate into the curriculum the population perspective and a sense of responsibility for the health of the public in general

5) Incorporate experiences in all four years that teach students about the concepts of health promotion and disease prevention

6) Provide continuity of experiences with patients, particularly in the Area Health Education Center community settings, beginning in the first year

7) Target curriculum content that is basic to the study and practice of medicine

8) Integrate essential basic science content across disciplines and departments, throughout the four year continuum, using a variety of teaching methods
9) Enhance and encourage diversity

10) Visualize medical education as part of a continuum from undergraduate preparation to practice

11) Develop skills and knowledge in information and computer technologies

12) Develop multiple methods of student evaluation consistent with desired learning outcomes (See Article 3 and Article 6)

13) Build institutional support for the role of faculty as teachers, organizers and managers of the educational process

14) Devise a system of documentation and evaluation of teaching effort

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