To: First Year Curriculum Committee  
From: Alan Cross  
Subject: Professionalism – Vision, Expectations and Assessment  
Date: November 12, 2006

Colleagues,

As most of you know, the committee that formed last spring to review class attendance morphed into a committee to address professionalism in the pre-clinical years. A similar faculty group for the clinical years met in the spring and produced a report with an instrument to assess professionalism in students in the clinical venues. A small group is now meeting to combine these two committee reports into one plan for all four years. Our major agenda item for this Tuesday’s CC-1 meeting will be to discuss the evolving pieces of this process toward creating and assessing our “professionalism curriculum”. I have attached several documents which I hope you will read before our meeting. I will explain each document below.

The clinical professionalism task force created a student assessment form with five domains of professionalism and 1 – 3 items under each domain. For each item there was a 5 point scale with the ideal falling in the middle and inadequate performance falling on either side of that middle point (too much or too little of the item). Steve Chaney modified this document to be more suitable for the pre-clinical years and that is attached (Prof Assessment Draft FINAL SGC Edits.doc). The pre-clinical committee also approved a report that is attached (Professionalism in the First two Yrs 10-24 drft3.doc).

Cherri’s initial hope was that the clinical year assessment form would easily serve both pre-clinical and clinical students with minor modifications. I protested that we first needed to create a vision statement and set of expectations for professionalism for all students before we could even consider how we would assess and identify those in need of assistance. To that end I and Barry Saunders and Terry Holt created a 1 pg vision statement which was approved by the pre-clinical group and then further modified to fit with the school’s Core Competencies. This vision statement is also attached with the relevant sections from the Core Competencies appended to it for comparison’s sake (Professionalism - UNC Vision & Core Comps 11-8.doc).

To take the next step toward assessment, I created a set of expectations and standards of performance for both the clinical years and pre-clinical years, listing 1-4 items under each of the seven domains of professionalism in the vision statement and then created a form that might be used for assessing students. I have attached this as well (Professionalism in Yrs 1&2 - Stand&Examp.doc).