TITLE OF POLICY
Separation of Assessment and Student Advocacy /Family Roles

PURPOSE AND SCOPE
The purpose of this policy is to establish mechanisms for ensuring that faculty who serve as student advocates do not assess their students and do not play a role in their promotion.

RESPONSIBLE PARTY AND REVIEW CYCLE
The Office of Student Affairs will review the policy on an as-needed basis and the Education Committee will review and approve it.

LCME REFERENCE(S)
LCME 9.9: Student Advancement and Appeal Process
LCME 11.1: Separation of Assessment and Student Advocacy Roles
LCME 11.2: Career Advising

HISTORY OF APPROVALS AND UPDATES
Approved by Education Committee on October 21, 2019

DEFINITION(S)
NA

POLICY
Faculty, including Student Affairs Deans, in advisory roles cannot evaluate the academic performance of any student for whom they advise, and cannot play a role in the student’s promotion. To assure that this does not occur, the MD Program at UNC SOM has established a formal advising system, the Advisory College, wherein each student is assigned an advisor who cannot provide evaluations of their work. In addition, members of the Advisory College may not serve as members of the Student Progress Committee. UNC medical students have access to and can obtain academic counseling from individuals who have no roles in making assessment or promotion decisions about them.

In addition to students using the advising system, students may also receive advice from the Associate and Assistant Deans of Student Affairs. The Associate and Assistant Deans for Student Affairs do not serve as course directors, evaluate students, or make decisions regarding the promotion of students. They serve as ex officio members of the Student Progress Committee. In addition, the Associate and Assistant Deans for Student Affairs do not sign student MSPEs. MSPEs are primarily signed by the Senior Associate Dean for Medical Student Education but may be signed by the Associate Dean for Curriculum or the Assistant Dean for Clinical Education, at the student’s request.

Family members cannot evaluate the academic performance of any student to whom they are related by blood or marriage, nor can they play a role in the student’s promotion. Faculty members or Students should come forward if they are aware of a conflict, and the course director will make alternative arrangements.
PROCEDURE(S)
See the Policy on Student Progress Committee Functions