

Developing Physician Advocates: A Longitudinal Advocacy Curriculum for Preclinical Medical Students

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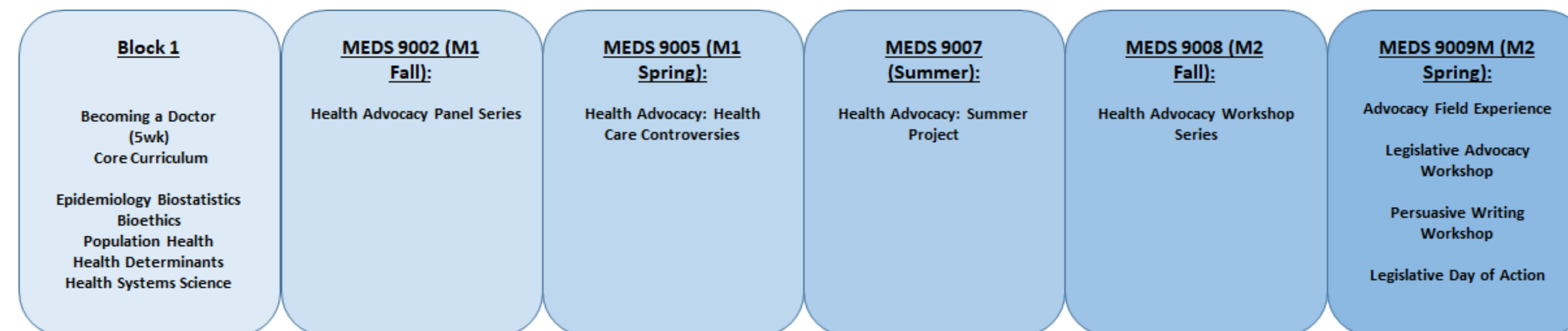
HAO's Goals

- Support, develop, and sustain students' professional commitment to advocacy
- Create collaborative, interprofessional electives to develop students' advocacy knowledge and skills
- Establish partnerships with community organizations to provide hands-on experiences

Framework

- Student-Driven, Faculty-Mentored
- Multi-Center, Multi-School Collaboration
- Community-Partnered
- Interprofessional and Experiential Learning
- Electives Based on CWRU SOM's Competency Based Milestones

Longitudinal Advocacy Curriculum



- MEDS 9002 (Panel Series): Students are introduced to ten different health advocacy topics by experts engaged in work in a lecture style classroom setting. Students also learn to integrate research and the policy methodology through assignments. Topics include drug pricing, reproductive health, lead safety, etc.
- MEDS 9005 (Healthcare Controversies): Coordinated with the School of Law, students learn from a series of debates from two experts with opposing viewpoints on specific topics. Students develop policy memos and defend their argument through oral presentations.
- MEDS 9007 (Summer Advocacy Project): Students define an injustice correlated to a health disparity, propose an advocacy response, and engage with a community partner to develop a framework for evaluation.
- MEDS 9008 (Workshop Series): In collaboration with the CWRU Social Justice Institute, students are introduced to a specific campaign by expert panelists and participate in interactive breakout sessions to develop advocacy skills (e.g. communication, power mapping, op-ed writing, etc.)
- MEDS 9009 (Field Experiences): Students work directly with community partners to complete an advocacy task/project as indicated by the partner. Students complete an Advocacy Portfolio, documenting their advocacy work.

Successes

- 123 student connections in 2020
- 23 community partners
- IRB-approved survey
- National recognition:
 - Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (2020); Doctors for America (2020); American Public Health Association (2020)
- Op-ed workshop with 5+ student publications
- Voter registration

Challenges

- Weekly administrative workload for student and faculty volunteers
- Inconsistent funding
- Frequent turnover of student leadership