

More than Money: Student Focus Group Outcomes & Future Directions

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(with Linda Cragin as note taker)*



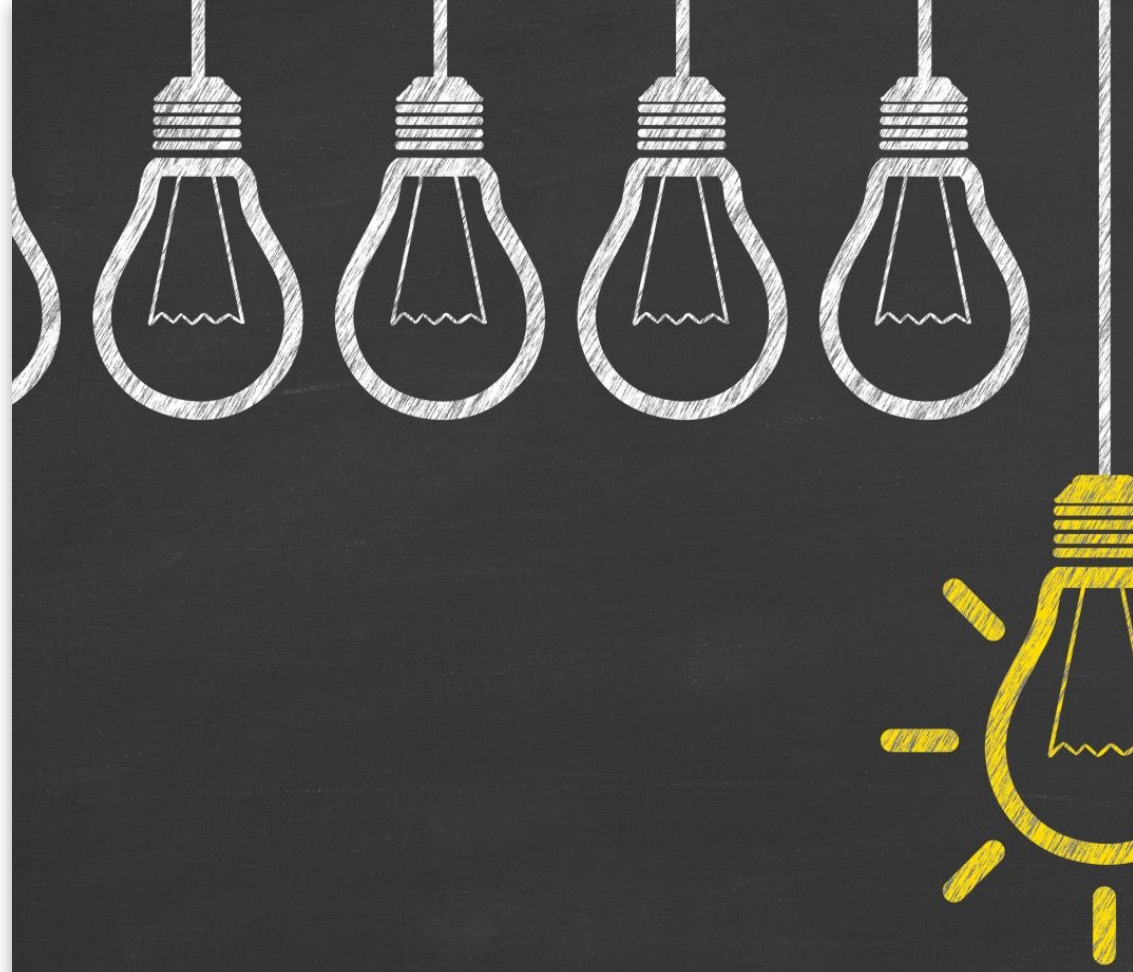
Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation participants will be able to:

1. Understand outcomes from a recent focus group of MS III and IV FMIG students.
2. Look for new approaches to off build on this momentum.
3. Consider our “Brand” and what could further improve our specialty to medical students.

Purpose

Discuss NEW and novel ideas to build on current uptick in student FM interest.



Focus Group

January 17, 2024

(18) 4th year and (8) 3rd year students attended

Led by Philip Day, PhD

Notetaker: Linda Cragin

Initial Intentions:

- Family Medicine – 6
- Medicine – including cardio – 1
- Peds – 2
- Ob/Gyn – 2
- Other responses – Ortho, EM, Oncology



Why Family Medicine Themes

Lifestyle

“I want to enjoy medicine as a job, not my life.”

Flexibility – in type of work, location, schedule

Advice Night and faculty panels were helpful to discuss and gain understanding of FM lifestyle

Serve the Community

“I found out that FM is the advocacy specialty.”

SDOH, Gender Issues, Serving Underserved

AHEC Rural and Urban Health Scholars – “The best decision I made.”

Role Models

Saw physicians *“like I want to be”, “are the colleagues I want”*

Scope of Practice

Didn't know re: specialize – sports, palliative, MCH, addiction, HIV, Ob

“I want to work with my hands.”

Negatives

LPP made her “hate” FM

Lots of bias against FM from other specialties/discipline

Seen as not as prestigious (***“How Can I work on Papers with Faculty”***)

PURCH clerkship not equipped for students, lots of burnout, staff coverage issues

FQHC in Springfield heavy with the busy work, stereotypic: lot of paperwork, *“boring”*

Benedict – no residents, saw only 1 child and no pregnant people

Takeaways

Themes:

Lifestyle #1, Advocacy, Role Models, Scope of Practice

Dominant positive influences:
seeing FM docs “in action”

Dominant negative influences:
Narrow understanding of FM

Not Prestigious



**MassAHEC
Network**

*Department of Family Medicine
and Community Health*



ML, KB

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UMass Family Medicine



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clinicians to serve all communities.

Student Ideas to Address Increasing FM Interest:

- FMIG: Several did not know it existed, what NEW to do beyond dinners? (sporting events, hikes, etc.)
- More opportunities for exposure:
 - Urban and Rural Health Scholars
 - 3rd YR clerkships offer range of learning opportunities that you can select
 - Opportunities to volunteer, advocacy, More sub-internships
- Practice skills – more workshops with FM faculty (Sports/injection, IUD/Suture)
- Work with a social worker – this was “an amazing day”

Faculty Suggestions

 **UMass Memorial** Health

 **UMass Chan**
MEDICAL SCHOOL

FD

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50 FAMILY
MEDICINE
PROUD!

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