This message is sent on behalf of Drs. Larry Gruppen and Steven Kasten to include the Academy of Medical Educators.

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce the restructuring of the GME Innovations Program at the University of Michigan to prepare our programs to face the challenges that GME faces in the years to come. Our goal is to transform the GME programs by inspiring and promoting work that improves the effectiveness and efficiency of GME through disruptive innovation for the benefit of healthcare, and that demonstrates the true value proposition of GME.

Rather than an annual grant cycle with time-defined projects, applications to the new Innovations Program will be continuous and iterative. We are looking for innovative ideas that will be further developed in partnership with the GME Innovations Core Lab Group to develop a final proposal and budget prior to implementation. Final approval for funding and administrative support will be by the GME Innovations Core Advisory Board, which includes leaders from GME, nursing administration, hospital administration, clinical affairs and the public.

Funding provided is expected to be more for faculty salary support than research assistants/supplies, given as % effort in an ongoing, renewable fashion (vs. a lump sum payment), assuming continued progress as judged by GME Innovations Core and ultimately the Advisory Board. There will also be support for travel for dissemination of results.

Supported innovators will be required to participate in monthly “lab” meetings to further develop their proposals, report on progress, obtain counsel on necessary changes during implementation and to assist in the development of other innovators’ projects.

Attributes of an acceptable proposal:

- Addresses a current major GME issue
- Provides data to demonstrate value proposition and/or effectiveness of GME. Priority will be given to those projects that are linked to better care (i.e. education interventions that can at least eventually be measured in terms of impact on patients).
- Significant departure from current practice
- Applicability to broader GME
• Recruitment of subject matter experts outside GME (bringing a fresh approach, new model, etc.)

Initial submissions should be 1-2 pages stating the basic idea behind the innovation and the core GME principle or problem it addresses, e.g., competency-based education. Submissions will be accepted on an ongoing basis and reviewed on a regular cycle. Submissions must be received by November 30, 2015 to be considered for the initial cycle, to start in January, 2016.

Proposals should be submitted via email to Steve Kasten (skasten@med.umich.edu) and Larry Gruppen (lgruppen@med.umich.edu) and questions about the Innovations Program and submission process may be directed to the same.

Sincerely,

Larry Gruppen, PhD
Professor of Learning Health Sciences

Steven Kasten, MD
Associate Professor of Plastic Surgery

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