

Overview

Mission: To provide clarity to UMKCSOM career advising processes and to promote cooperation and collaboration between the various groups engaged in career advising.

The Student Career Advising Service (CAS) was developed in response to students' need for formal and structured guidance in the process of medical specialty selection. CAS was formed in July 2010 and became fully operational by September 2010. The CAS office is located within the Office of Student Affairs and is comprised of two staff members, Robyn Burky (administrative assistant) and Connie Beachler, MA (counselor) and a member of the School of Medicine Faculty, Felix Okah, MD, MS (Professor of Pediatrics and Assistant Dean).

The primary function of CAS involves skill building that prepares the medical student and facilitates the processes required for their self-discovery and selection of an appropriate career. CAS will achieve this objective by helping students recognize the career that matches their skill set, life goals, and temperament – helping separate aspirations (dreams they can realize) from fantasies (dreams they will never realize). Specifically, CAS will

- i. Work with students as they navigate the CIM resources
- ii. Identify and facilitate access to additional career advising resources
- iii. Facilitate and help develop the mentoring skills of members of the faculty, especially docents, through regular interactions that provide opportunities for feedback about students and shared perspectives for how best to support the mentoring process

Collaborators in the process of successful career advising include

- i. Administrative Assistants - prepare Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) for each medical student, starting in Y3, in OASIS)
- ii. Educational Team Coordinator
 - a. Provide counseling regarding clinical rotations and selection of electives
 - b. Facilitate career advising through planning class meetings
 - c. Participate in and encourage student participation in the mock interview sessions
 - d. For year 1 and 2 ETC, increase collaboration with the UMKC Career Services
- iii. Connie Beachler, MA – Counselor
 - a. Provide direct student counseling
 - b. Make presentations at class meetings, in collaboration with the ETC and Assistant Dean, on career advising
 - c. Promote student use of resources on the CiM® website

iv. Robyn Burky – Administrative Assistant

- a. Provide administrative support for career advising activities
- b. Coordinate the construction of the student application packages - putting together the elements of the complete application package in a timely manner
- c. Facilitate registration and processing of residency application materials through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS)
- d. Participate (with Counselor and Assistant Dean) in the development and execution of workshops (program directors' forum, career fairs, and mock interviews)
- e. Provide administrative support for a workshop to facilitate verification of training for state licensure

v. Felix Okah, MD. – Assistant Dean

- a. Provide general oversight for Career Advising Services
- b. Provide oversight of the counseling activities and learning activities for career advising, including the implementation of AAMC Careers in Medicine program
- c. Provide training of students, advisors, and docents in the use of the AAMC Careers in Medicine tools
- d. Provide oversight to the MSPE preparation process
- e. Provide individual counseling as indicated