Resident Council

Resident physicians play a central role in both educational and clinical activities within the College and its affiliated institutions. A mechanism whereby residents can have a participatory voice in governance, management, and policy setting is considered crucial to providing enhanced educational experiences, good patient care, an emphasis on quality improvement, and successful working relationships between the College, its affiliated institutions, and its residents.

To accomplish these goals, the College of Medicine's GME Office in conjunction with OU MEDICAL CENTER and the VA Medical Center sponsors and supports a Resident Council that is charged with focusing on four main areas:

1. Education: Working with the College and clinical education sites on issues relating to the promotion of high quality educational experiences throughout those institutions.
2. Patient Care: (a) working with the College and its clinical education sites to assure the delivery of good patient care by all resident physicians working under the full supervision of faculty members, and (b) actively participating in the continual improvement of patient care services at those sites.
3. Relationship Building: (a) enhancing communication and good working relationships between the College, affiliated institutions and residents and, (b) enhancing and improving working relationships among the various residency programs and related hospital services.
4. Daily Living Experiences: Working with the College and its affiliated institutions to effectively address issues that affect the quality of work life and the work environment. This includes such issues as resident call quarters, access to information, meal availability, resources to reduce non-educational work, etc.

Resident Council members are peer selected each year from each residency program. The Council selects a Chair and a Chair Elect to lead Council activities. Other members are selected by the council as voting members on major hospital working committees. The Council Chair serves as a non-voting member of the OU MEDICAL CENTER Executive Committee. The Chair and another peer selected member serve as voting members of the GMEC.

The Resident Council also provides all residents with an independently operated Ombudsman Program which provides another avenue for residents to confidentially raise concerns related to their education or work environment. Lastly, in conjunction with the College and affiliated institutions, the Council is responsible for providing a general orientation for new residents.