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WORKSHOP IN HEALTH ADMINISTRATION STUDIES

WINTER, 1989

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"New Data Bases on Medical Education at the AMA"

WORKSHOP PAPER

for

Thursday, January 26, 1989

Rosenwald 405

3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

AMA-FELLOWSHIP AND RESIDENCY ELECTRONIC
INTERACTIVE DATABASE ACCESS (AMA-FREIDA):
A Computerized Residency Selection Tool
Beverley D. Rowley, Ph.D.

Over the past several years medical educators and students have been expressing increasing concern about the selection process for graduate medical education programs. The senior year of medical school is a period of intense pressure when medical students must finalize a choice of specialty, select a graduate program and in some cases rehearse an internship.¹ Residents who have experienced that process have stated that they did not have enough information to make an informed choice.^{1,2,3}

Students seek information about graduate medical education programs from a variety of sources. However, fifty-two percent of residents in one study said they did not have available the information they needed to make a decision about a graduate medical education program.⁴ One study found the Directory of Graduate Medical Education Programs to be the single most important source of information.³ Another study found that residents consider published information to be the most important source, particularly program brochures.⁴

Respondents to one study suggested several types of information they would like to have available to them during the selection process, including information on call schedules and on duty time of the residents.³ Residents in two studies reported that the geographic location was the most important factor in selecting a graduate medical education program.^{2,3} Other considerations for selecting a program included such concerns as whether the program was affiliated with a university.³ One author concluded that quality of life issues may be playing a more significant role in the medical student's choice of a residency than the educational features of the program.²

Members of the Resident Physician Section of the American Medical Association feeling frustration with the graduate medical education program selection process petitioned the American Medical Association House of Delegates to institute a computerized information service on graduate medical education programs. The goal of this service was to have adequate information available to students to help in the choice of a graduate medical education program. As a result of the action of the House of Delegates the AMA-Fellowship and Residency Electronic Interactive Database Access (AMA-FREIDA) system is being developed.

The AMA-FREIDA system will significantly expand the information currently available in the Directory of Graduate Medical Education Programs. The developing system will allow information to be available through a computer database. Every graduate medical education program will be asked to provide the information necessary for its listing in the automated directory. Access to the database will be via a twice yearly updated software package available for purchase by medical schools, institutions, graduate medical education programs, and others.

The AMA-FREIDA system will contain approximately 116 data elements for each graduate medical education program including such information as: name, address, and telephone number of the program director; basic demographic information on the residents in the program and on the program faculty; call schedule information; research opportunities; features of the program such as night float coverage, stress management programs, career counseling, part time or shared positions; and salaries and leave policies.

In addition to the program data, there will be approximately 165 data elements on every institution associated with a program. Information on institutions will include basic demographic information on the medical staff; basic demographic information on the patient population and on the population of the county in which the institution is located; resources available in the institution such as ICU's, medical library services, transplant programs and 24 hour laboratory services; benefits available for residents such as major medical insurance and life insurance; features of the institution such as the availability of loan deferment status, on call quarters, housing allowance, house staff organization, and child care; and the cost of an apartment within walking distance of the institution.

These data will be organized into a user friendly computer system which will encourage the student to utilize a series of primary and secondary search criteria to narrow the field of potential program choices. The end result will be a list of programs most appropriate for the user's circumstances.

The goal of the AMA-FREIDA system is to provide general data that applies to most residencies and institutions in a uniform format. Students will be encouraged to correspond with programs from which they want further information. To facilitate that communication, the computer program will generate mailing labels for the user's final list of residencies. The benefit for the student will be fewer inquiries and more focused applications. Benefits to program directors will be fewer inquiries from more informed students and applicants who are more committed to seeking a position in the program.

The preliminary design stage for the AMA-FREIDA system was completed in early spring 1988. The technical design and implementation phases will begin in the summer of 1988. It is expected that the new computerized data gathering system will be operational in July, 1989. The first version of AMA-FREIDA, the automated Directory of Graduate of Medical Education Programs, will be available in the spring of 1990.

Questions about the system should be directed to the Office of Medical Education Information Analysis, American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610.

REFERENCES

1. Weinberg E, Casty F. Results of a survey concerning application for residency training. *J Med Educ*, 1987 Sep; 62(9):763-5
2. Sledge WH, Leaf PJ, Sacks, MH. Applicants' choice of a residency training program. *Am J Psychiatry*, 1987 Apr;144(4):501-3
3. Bunch WH, Chapman RG, Dvonch VM. The candidate's view of the orthopaedic residency selection process. *J Bone Joint Surg (AM)* 1986 Oct;68(8):1292-6
4. Taggart MP, Wartman SA, Wessen AF. Medical student's access to information in resources for the residency selection process. *J Med Educ* 1988, Jan;631:38-43

PROGRAM DATA SCREEN 1 OF 6

*** BASIC DATA ***

SPECIALTY NAME XX
 PROGRAM NAME XX
 PROGRAM NUMBER 999-99-99-999
 PROGRAM DIR. XX
 ADDRESS1 XX
 ADDRESS2 XX
 ADDRESS3 XX
 CITY XX
 STATE XX
 ZIP CODE 99999-9999

*** SUMMARY INSTITUTION DATA ***

SPONSORING INSTITUTION XX
 # OF HOSPITAL FACILITIES FOR REQUIRED ROTATIONS 99 # OF NON-HOSPITAL FACILITIES FOR REQUIRED ROTATIONS 99

(Institution Data, (R)Restart, (Q)Quit, (F1)Display Screen Handling Commands

PROGRAM DATA SCREEN 2 OF 6

*** PROGRAM COMPOSITION ***

OVERALL	RESIDENT	FACULTY
ACCREDITED LENGTH OF PROGRAM (YRS) 99	MALE 99.9 FEMALE 99.9	% MD/DO FACULTY 99.9 FULL-TIME(PAID) 99.9 PART-TIME(PAID) 99.9
# OF TOTAL BUDGETED POSITIONS Y1 99 Y5 99 Y2 99 Y6 99 Y3 99 Y7 99 Y4 99 Y8 99 TOTAL 999	GRADUATES OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS 99.9 GRADUATES OF FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS 99.9	VOLUNTARY 99.9 FEMALE (%) 99.9 FMG (%) 99.9
# OF POSITIONS OPEN TO GY-1 99	WHITE (NON HISPANIC) 99.9 BLACK (NON HISPANIC) 99.9 ASIAN OR PACIF ISLANDER 99.9 AM IND OR ALASK NATIVE 99.9 MEXICAN AMERICAN 99.9 PUERTO RICAN 99.9 OTHER HISPANIC 99.9	NON MD/DO FACULTY 99.9 FULL-TIME(PAID) 99.9 PART-TIME(PAID) 99.9 VOLUNTARY 99.9 FEMALE (%) 99.9 FOREIGN SCHOOL GRADUATES 99.9

(Institution Data, (R)Restart, (Q)Quit, (F1)Display Screen Handling Commands

PROGRAM DATA SCREEN 3 OF 6

*** WORK ENVIRONMENT ***

PRIMARY CARE TRACK AVAILABLE XXX
 RECD/FORMAL CONFERENCE/SEMINAR HRS/WEEK PER RESIDENT (Y1) 99.9
 MED STUDS WHICH GY-1 RESIDENT RESPONSIBLE 99
 MOON/LIGHTING ALLOWED XXX

AVG NIGHTS ON CALL
 Y1 999d Y4 999d
 Y2 999d Y3 999d
 Y3 999d Y6 999d

2ND LANGUAGE RECOMMENDED XXX
 FREQUENCY OF PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS/YR 99

% OF RESIDENTS IN LAST 5 YEARS WHO:
 HAVE BEEN ELIGIBLE TO SIT FOR SPECIALTY BOARD EXAMS 999.9
 HAVE PASSED SPECIALTY BOARD EXAMS 999.9
 HAVE ENTERED SUBSPECIALTY PROGRAMS 999.9

(Institution Data, (R)Restart, (Q)Quit, (F1)Display Screen Handling Commands

PROGRAM DATA SCREEN 4 OF 6

*** WORK ENVIRONMENT ***

AVG # OF HRS/MO ON DUTY (Y1) 999 # OF 24 HR PERIODS/MO OFF DUTY (Y1) 9
 RECD TOTAL WEEKS ON DUTY IN NON-HOSPITAL SETTING (LOP) 999 RESEARCH # OF WKS (LOP) XXXX
 MAX # OF CONSECUTIVE HRS PERMITTED ON DUTY (Y1) 999 ELECTIVES # OF WKS (LOP) 999

*** OTHER ***

NIGHT FLOAT CALL
 CROSS CALL COVERAGE
 REPRESENTATION ON MAJOR DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES
 REPRESENTATION ON MAJOR HOSPITAL COMMITTEES
 WRITT POLICY ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE/MENTAL HEALTH IMPAIRMENT APPLIC TO RESIDENTS
 WRITT POLICY ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE/MENTAL HEALTH IMPAIRMENT APPLIC TO MED STAFF
 WRITT POLICY ON HANDICAP IMPAIRMENT APPLIC TO RESIDENTS
 WRITT POLICY ON HANDICAP IMPAIRMENT APPLIC TO MED STAFF

(Institution Data, (R)Restart, (Q)Quit, (F1)Display Screen Handling Commands

PROGRAM DATA SCREEN 5 OF 6

****COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER PROGRAM FEATURES****

SALARY		PROGRAM FEATURES	
Y1 999.999	Y4 999.999	PART-TIME SHARED POSITIONS	
Y2 999.999	Y5 999.999	COMPUTERIZED LIBRARY SERVICES	
Y3 999.999	Y6 999.999	PERSONAL COMPUTER ACCESS	
		COMPUTERIZED SYST TO DOCUMENT RESID EXPERIENCE	
		PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS PAID	
		MENTOR/FACULTY ADVISOR	
		CAREER COUNSELING	
		ETHICS CURRICULUM	
		PRACTICE MANAGEMENT SEMINARS	
		STRESS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM(S)	

PAID LIABILITY INSURANCE
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

LEAVE POLICY

ANNUAL LEAVE (DAYS)		SICK LEAVE (DAYS)		OTHER	
Y1 999	Y4 999	Y1 999	Y4 999	MATERNITY	
Y2 999	Y5 999	Y2 999	Y5 999	PATERNITY	
Y3 999	Y6 999	Y3 999	Y6 999	EDUCAT W EXP REIMB	
				EDUCAT W.O EXP REIMB	

(Institution Data, (R)Restart, (Q)Quit, (F1)Display Screen Handling Commands

PROGRAM DATA SCREEN 6 OF 6

*** GENERAL ***

PROGRAM MATCH # 999999 999999 999999 999999
 PROGRAM START DATE
 JULY XXX
 JANUARY XXX
 NEGOTIABLE XXX

(Institution Data, (R)Restart, (Q)Quit, (F1)Display Screen Handling Commands

