POLICY ON MEDICAL STUDENTS WORKLOAD

Purpose:

The San Juan Bautista School of Medicine Curriculum Committee has developed and implemented this policy taking into account the effects of fatigue and sleep deprivation on students learning, clinical activities, as well as their own and patients health and safety.

A. Biomedical Sciences (1st /2nd year)

Medical students in the first two years shall have 34 weeks of instruction per year. Lectures, conferences and most traditional didactic activities shall be conducted preferably during the morning hours, allowing for time to be dedicated to self-directed study and workshops.

The first and second year curriculum committees must closely monitor the academic workload of students within and across individual courses, to prevent or minimize fatigue and sleep deprivation.

Students representatives in each course shall have the responsibility and the opportunity of direct communication with course coordinators. Class representatives shall discuss concerns brought forth their peers, regarding real or perceived excessive academic workload. The course coordinator shall promptly present the issue to the Year Committee Chairperson for further action who will then notify the Associate Dean for Biomedical Sciences.

B. Clinical Years (3rd /4th year)

Each clinical rotation and clerkship shall establish the duty and call hours using as baseline the ACGME regulations.

Third year students on-call requirements shall not extend beyond midnight.

Call duty shall not be more frequent than every third night.

Clerkship directors must monitor compliance with these regulations. Violations shall be reported by the student to the clerkship director, who will then notify the Associate Dean for Clinical Sciences.

Approved by Curriculum Committee

Effectively:

The dispositions contain in this Executive Order will be effective immediately.

YOCASTA BRUGAL, MD President/Dean

Approved: August 3, 2011