

Inform - Involve - Enable

# Medical Education Research Scholars Program

Program Description  
& Requirements

2011 - 2012

## Background and Need for Education Research

Society places a large emphasis on education, yet understanding the basic science of teaching and learning is neglected. That is, research exploring the effectiveness of curriculum, teaching, and learning strategies on student outcomes, has not been a priority in medical education. To train students and residents for the practice of medicine in the 21st century, we must continue to be innovative in our curriculum and teaching, stay current with new technology and be able to demonstrate the effectiveness of our programs through the practice of medical education research. To address this issue Wayne State University School of Medicine has developed a Medical Education Research Scholars Program (MERSP). The program will provide financial support to departments for faculty and academic staff interested in establishing a career or furthering their career in medical education research.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Medical Education Research Scholars Program (MERSP) is to further enhance the expertise of faculty and academic staff in the area of medical education research and improve the science of teaching, learning and evaluation at Wayne State University School of Medicine. Specifically, the objectives of the program are as follows:

**1. Develop knowledge and skills in the principles of medical education research.**

Scholars will acquire the knowledge, skills, and learn processes associated with medical education research, including methods to evaluate the education literature, qualitative and quantitative methods, statistics, survey development, data management and program evaluation strategies.

**2. Develop the knowledge and skills in the area educational theory to enhance teaching and student learning.**

Scholars will learn the underlying methods of educational theory, including theories of learning, teaching, and psychometric principals.

**3. Strengthen academic leadership in medical education research at the medical school.**

Gain insight into techniques which can enhance personal skills in providing leadership in medical education research for their department and the medical school.

**4. Advance the medical education research agenda of the medical school administration, basic science and clinical departments.**

Scholars will be responsible for completing a medical education research project. The project will be conducted in conjunction with a member of the Education Research Leadership Committee and focus on the Scholars career goals in medical education, as well as the needs of the medical school or the Scholars department.

## Program Summary

The program will provide \$10,000 of financial support for up to four faculty or academic staff to participate in a one year medical education research program. Scholars will attend a series of education seminars, two-half days per month dedicated toward topics in educational theory, curriculum development, research methods in education research, statistics, psychometrics, evaluation, and publishing and grant writing in education research. During the education process, Scholars will be partnered with a mentor to assist them in completing an education research project.

## Program Requirements

- Participants must commit to a one-year education research program consisting of two-half days per month for education research seminars.
- Participants must have approved release time from their department Chair.
- Participants must develop and present one educational research project identified through the MERSP process.
- Additional non-reimbursed time may be required to complete the research project.



All applications must include the following information:

(Application form at [http://www.med.wayne.edu/academic\\_student\\_programs/mersp/docs/ScholarsApp1112.doc](http://www.med.wayne.edu/academic_student_programs/mersp/docs/ScholarsApp1112.doc))

- Name, degrees earned, title, department, contact information, applicant signature and department Chair signature.
- Summary (1-2 paragraphs) of current educational responsibilities.
- Summary (1-2 paragraphs) of education research experience.
- Summary of why you want to participate in the program and how this program would advance your career and benefit the School of Medicine (no more than 1 page).
- List of medical educational research topics you would like to pursue.
- Letter of support by your department chair.
- Dated and signed copy of your curriculum vitae.

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**One (1) unbound copy of the application package should be sent to:**

Medical Education Research Scholars Program  
Wayne State University School of Medicine  
Academic and Student Programs  
Mazurek Medical Educational Commons  
320 E. Canfield, Suite 310  
Detroit, MI 48201

**Attention: Vurseana Coleman**

*All completed applications must be received by August 22, 2011*

**For additional information contact**

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## Selection Process

The selection process will be made by Academic & Student Programs and will be based on the following:

- The ideal candidate will have a MD, PhD, or MS degree with a faculty appointment in the School of Medicine. Candidates without a faculty appointment, but having direct job responsibilities in medical education will also be considered.
- The applicant's current education responsibilities in their department.
- Personal goals toward enhancing their career in medical education research.
- Department Chair support

## Application and Award Cycle

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| <b>Deadline for Receipt of Proposals:</b> | August 22, 2011    |
| <b>Announcement of Awards:</b>            | September 1, 2011  |
| <b>Program Cycle Start Date:</b>          | September 28, 2011 |
| <b>Program Cycle End Date:</b>            | September 28, 2012 |