Addressing uncertainty in medical education:
Helping students embrace the challenges of human health and disease

The principles of anatomy, physiology, microbiology, pathology, and pharmacology are often interpreted by students as immutable truths. They are desperate to find the "right answer" and are often frustrated by the limits of our models used to explain empirical findings. Concurrently, as the emphases on "high-value care" and shared decision-making have grown in recent years, doctors must increasingly be skilled at communicating uncertainly to their patients in discussions about what may be best for them; a central tenet of high-value care is that there is rarely a single correct path forward for all patients. Decisions must be individualized based on the priorities and values of the patient.

Steven Hatch MD MS, author of Snowball in a Blizzard, will be our keynote speaker. He will discuss his view on the patient-doctor relationship and set the stage for our exploration about uncertainty in medicine today. Linking the debate of uncertainty to how medical education should be able to prepare our learners to function regardless of there not being only one correct answer. Please join us on Tuesday, October 24th from 11:30-6 PM to explore the challenge of uncertainty in the practice and teaching of medicine at both the pre-clinical and clinical levels for students and for post-graduate trainees.

Abstracts for poster presentations and computer demonstrations are due on Monday, August 28, 2017 by 5pm and should include the following:

- A one-page description of your presentation will be published in a program booklet and will be made available to all Medical Education Day attendees. The abstract cannot exceed one page and must fall within the font and margin specifications listed below.
  - Text should be single-spaced, 12 point font
  - Margins must be:
    - Top and bottom: ¾"
    - Left: 1.5"
    - Right 1"

- The description must have a heading that includes the following:
  - Title of presentation, in CAPS, centered at top of page
  - Name(s) of presenter(s), including degree(s)
  - Department(s) and institution(s) of presenter(s)
  - Contact information (phone, email address of contact person for attendees to request
Please Indicate category of submission:
- Technology Demonstration
- Poster Presentation
  - If you are submitting a Poster Presentation, please indicate the appropriate category for your poster. This information is necessary in order to correctly categorize your abstract in the abstract book. The categories are:
    - Educational Technology
    - Assessment
    - Culture, Society and Community
    - Graduate Medical Education
    - Undergraduate Medical Education
    - Continuing Medical Education
    - Simulation

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please fill out a submission form by clicking this link, then submit your abstract as an e-mail attachment to The Academy at academy@hms.harvard.edu.

Posters and technology demonstrations may be presented in the Atrium of the TMEC from noon - 6:00 pm. Faculty should plan to be present at their poster and technology exhibits from 4-6:00pm.

If you have questions, please contact The Academy at academy@hms.harvard.edu.

POSTER GUIDELINES

The poster board surface is 4 ft. by 4 ft. Due to space constraints; we are not able to accommodate posters which exceed these dimensions.

We will notify you in late September of the status of your submission.

AWARDS FOR ABSTRACTS

Harvard Medical School and the Dean for Medical Education will recognize the top three abstracts at the award ceremony during Medical Education Day's Plenary Session.