TRANSITIONAL ITEM:

Finding: The increase in class size has placed strains on infrastructure and some resources for the educational programs. Concerns were raised by students that the patient volume at the VA Medical Center was insufficient due to the increasing number of learners. Students noted that study space was inadequate or marginal in some facilities.

The fourth year required internal medicine rotation at the VA hospital recently underwent a change in course directorship. With this change students have had increased autonomy to work-up patients in a similar manner as a first year resident. This increased responsibility has led to a more robust clinical experience for students. The patient volume at the VA is cyclical and the student concerns may have been voiced during a time when the volume was decreased. The patient volume at the VA will be evaluated on the end of the year evaluations in July 2012 for continued concerns.

The fourth year subcommittee has met several times and is in the process of finalizing a proposal to the curriculum committee to revamp the fourth year offerings to make them more suitable for students’ career choices. Students will have the choice of doing a sub-internship in internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics-gynecology etc. as opposed to all students being mandated to do an internal medicine rotation. This will automatically decrease the number of student learners at all sites, allowing for more patient interaction.

In addition, the Interim Dean has decreased the enrollment for the upcoming class to 68 from 75 in response to these concerns.

In regards to study space, we immediately reconfigured furniture in the Year 2 space in the Erma Ora Byrd building to accommodate an additional 28 students. This area was a focal point because both year one and two students use this facility as a primary study area. As soon as the additional spaces were created students provided immediate feedback indicating approval and gratitude.

In addition, an additional 12 study spaces were created for our third and fourth year students in the Medical Education Center building very near our Health Science Library which is the primary study venue for these students.

We will continue to monitor end of year evaluations as well as anecdotal feedback on the appropriateness and availability of study space for our students.
## ACTION GRID

**STANDARD:** Transitional Item

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASKS (Steps to be taken that will lead to the desired outcome)</th>
<th>INDIVIDUALS/ GROUPS RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>INDICATORS THAT THE TASK HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED</th>
<th>EXPECTED DATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE TASK</th>
<th>DESIRED OUTCOME THAT ILLUSTRATES COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assess 3rd and 4th year evaluations for 2011-2012 to see if valid continuing concern at VA location. Hold focus groups if necessary to explore concern in more details in meetings.</td>
<td>Evaluation Committee</td>
<td>Evaluation Committee has provided a report of their findings to the Curriculum Committee</td>
<td>July 2012</td>
<td>Students will no longer indicate in evaluations or other reporting modalities that there is an inadequate patient volume during their VA experiences.</td>
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<td>Reconfigure Lewis Computer Center to provide an additional 10-12 study spaces.</td>
<td>Office of Student Affairs, Office of Medical Education, Office of Information Technology</td>
<td>Reconfiguration complete</td>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>Students will no longer indicate in evaluations or other reporting modalities that study space is inadequate or marginal in some facilities.</td>
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| Explore use of 16th street IT building for evening study from 5-11 | Office of Student Affairs  
Office of Medical Education  
Office of Information Technology | Discussion has occurred | November 2011 | Students will no longer indicate in evaluations or other reporting modalities that study space is inadequate or marginal in some facilities |
| Reconfigure furniture in Year 2 teaching floor of Erma Ora Byrd building to accommodate a greater number of students | Office of Student Affairs  
Office of Medical Education  
Office of Information Technology | New Furniture Arrangement | December 2011 | Students will no longer indicate in evaluations or other reporting modalities that study space is inadequate or marginal in some facilities |