

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MEDICAL
EDUCATION AND ACCREDITATION

OPEN SESSION

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Grenada

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Committee Readers:

Dr. James Hallock
Dr. Norman Maldonado

Department Staff:

Mr. William James

Country Representatives

Dr. Thomas Monahan
Hon. Dessima Williams

DR. DOCKERY: Thank you very much. At this time, we will start with Grenada and ask Mr. James to please come forward. Good morning.

MR. JAMES: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. How are you?

DR. DOCKERY: Great.

MR. JAMES: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I will be presenting the report submitted by the country of Grenada, and you can find that report at Tab F.

Grenada utilizes the standards of

the New York State Department of Education, Office of the Professions, to evaluate its one medical school located in the country. That is St. George's School of Medicine.

The country also uses the same standards to evaluate all of its clinical sites. In 2007, approximately \$140 million in Federal student financial aid was awarded to students enrolled in postsecondary education programs within the country.

At the March 2007 meeting, the NCFMEA determined that Grenada's accreditation or approval process continued to be compatible to that used to evaluate medical schools in the United States. At that meeting, you requested that the country submit a report of its activities regarding its accreditation of the medical school within the country, and that report is the subject of this analysis.

The report noted that in April 2008 the New York State Department of Education's Office of Professions granted continued approval of the clinical sites used by the St.

George's University School of Medicine within its state.

During the last year, 27 clinical sites were evaluated in three states, and 16 clinical sites were evaluated in the United Kingdom. A visit was also conducted at the school's administrative offices located in New York.

It was also reported that St. George's University School of Medicine began offering the first year of its basic science program to a university in the United Kingdom.

Since this was a new program, a team of evaluators was sent to ensure that the University's science component was equivalent to that offered in Grenada. The team concluded that the course of study was, in fact, equivalent to that offered through St. George's University School of Medicine.

Regarding the changes of laws and regulations and its evaluation process and procedures, the report states that there are no changes.

Grenada reported that only one change was made to its current standards, and that was to include in its written standard the requirement for a clinical clerkship in family practice.

The country also reported that in 2009 it will conduct site visits to clinical sites in five states, and will also conduct another second visit to the university located in the United Kingdom to reevaluate the science program, since it is a new program. They want to do a follow-up visit there.

At the spring 2007 NCFMEA meeting, you asked for updated information on two issues. First, you wanted further information on the country's requirement for a clerkship in family practice.

At that meeting, the country confirmed that, although it required this clerkship, this had not been established into its written guidelines, and the country responded by noting that the New York guidelines had been amended in 2007 to now

require a rotation in family practice.

Second, it was noted that the country did not have a written conflicts of interest policy, and the committee requested information regarding what conflict of interest policy was in existence.

The country responded by stating that it utilizes the New York State's conflicts of interest policy governing state employees. The country noted that this policy is utilized when conducting accrediting activities both within and without and outside of the state of New York.

In conclusion, the Department staff finds that the country has satisfactorily responded to the committee's requests. There are representatives from the country here to answer any questions, and that concludes my remarks, and I am now available to answer any questions.

DR. DOCKERY: Thanks, Mr. James. Are there questions for Mr. James before we ask representatives from Grenada to approach the

table? All right.

Dr. Monahan, would you come forward, please, and I believe the Ambassador to Grenada is here also. She is not going to be here? Thank you.

Good morning, and welcome.

DR. MONAHAN: Good morning, everyone. It is a pleasure to be here again.

I think Mr. James' analysis summarized everything pretty well. I would just follow up with a couple of comments.

One, there was a notation that in 2009 there will be site visits to a number of clinical sites that hadn't been visited before. We just completed those site visits in February and March.

In addition, a revisit to Northumbria will be conducted. My planning right now is either the last week of September or the first week of October.

In addition to that, I think that the two issues raised the last meeting dealing with the family practice clinical clerkship and

the conflict of interest are being handled. The school is in the process now of developing a Department of Family Practice, and they are actively recruiting clinical sites for the clerkships to be conducted at.

I would be glad to answer any questions.

DR. DOCKERY: Thank you. Are there questions from members of the Committee before we go into Executive Session? Hearing none, then would our guests please depart.

EXECUTIVE SESSION