

THE ALL AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Medical Education Par Excellence

Inside This Issue

This issue of the newsletter features updates across the institution ranging from the Pre-Clinical Sciences to the Clinical Sciences. It also highlights the extracurricular activities hosted by the Student Guild Association and the AAIMS Administration. Enjoy!



Mission Statement

To coordinate resources necessary to deliver excellent medical education leading to generating physicians that will serve the community, and to form lifelong learners committed to excellence, faith, leadership and service.



Vision Statement

To attain an international reputation as an outstanding medical institute distinguished by excellence, leadership, research and innovation in the quality of our teaching, in student learning and achievement, and in engagement with our communities.

Making a Difference... One Student at a Time...

Welcome to the Pulse Magazine!

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Transition to Clerkship

The Transition to Clerkship (TTC) course commenced on Monday, November 8, 2021 and ended on Friday, November 19, 2021 with the students who successfully passed the October 2021 sitting of Internal Basic Science Comprehensive Examination (IBSCE). The objective of the TTC is to prepare students for workplace learning in the clinical setting. The TTC took place on the AAIMS Black River Campus which provided limited exposure to real clinical settings. However, it did expose the students to the routines, norms, and professionals that they will encounter in the clinical setting as these were incorporated in the onsite delivery of the course by the instructors. The TTC course assists students in developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to transition from being a student in the Pre-Clinical Sciences, to not only the Clinical Sciences but to be a member of the healthcare team in whichever hospital they are placed (O'Brien & Poncelet, 2010).

The course builds on the very substantial learning from the first two years of the MD program and provides students with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the skills required to begin clerkship rotations through a variety of immersion and onboarding learning activities (including online educational learning platforms such as Lecturio, Access Medicine and Clinical Key). The TTC core curriculum activities consist of history taking with emphasis on Internal Medicine, Surgery and Family Medicine specialities, patient interviews and examination of patients. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, AAIMS has been utilizing the integration of onsite with online instruction along with the incorporation of both formative and summative assessments highlighting the hybrid blended curriculum delivery approach. Overall, the TTC course ended on a positive note with all students successfully passing and placed into their first core clerkship rotation (O'Brien & Poncelet, 2010).



FACULTY INTERVIEW

Chit-Chat with Dr. Srinivasa Katiboina

by Sreemon Chandran

- What motivated you to pursue a career in the field of Pharmacology?
 - Pharmacology is a fascinating subject as it has a lot of scope to develop new drugs or medications in the industry other than the teaching profession.
- Describe your professional experience at AAIMS.
 - It has been very good so far. I love the cozy environment in Jamaica and it has a very good working culture, good management, food and the accommodation has been fantastic.
- What are your goals and visions for AAIMS?
 - As a team we would like to make AAIMS one of the best medical institutions in the Caribbean islands by getting 100% student success in the USMLE steps.
- Describe your style of instruction in the classroom
 - I always start with a recap of the previous class lesson. I usually get students involved in the class discussions and interactive sessions. I always try to give living, practical examples of that class to draw students attention towards class by using very good PowerPoint presentations, animated pictures, and mnemonics for not only better understanding but memorable for long time. We conduct examinations in the class to assess student understanding of the topics.
- What do you think are the most significant characteristics of a proficient instructor?
 - Passion for teaching, classroom maintenance management, develops good relation with colleagues as well as students, motivate or engage students in learning. As a faculty we should not only be involved in teaching but also involved in other committees so that we end up having very good leadership qualities.
- What is your greatest strength as an instructor? Your greatest weakness?
 - Strength – my enthusiasm for teaching, always striving to learn new things, ability to explain difficult things in an easy way, ability to



maintain good relationships with students, a great listener for the students as I can understand their emotions and feelings.

Weakness – overly friendly with the students at times.

- How do you engage students, especially those that appear less motivated or disinterested in the course topic?
 - I always call them aside and try to understand the reasons for their low score. I tell them how to overcome it by giving motivational speeches. For example, if you read then you can lead.
- What are your long term teaching goals?
 - I always keep improving myself to deliver effective lectures by attending conferences, teaching learning methods.
- Describe your viewpoint on the importance of the use of technology in the teaching and learning process.
 - I absolutely accept the important role of technology and it is very useful to facilitate the students learning effectively as it improves the learning process of students individually. But at the same time technology should not replace faculty.
- What are your current research interests?
 - Pharmacogenomic research - specifically cancer genomics



Clerkship Case Presentation & Discussion (CP&D #26 & 27)

The following Clerkship Case Presentation & Discussion was held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. Interesting cases were presented by the AAIMS Clerkship students Rahul Boda and Jayanth Asham.

***Mandatory attendance for all Clerkship Students**

Clerkship Case Presentation & Discussion (CP&D# 26 & 27)

Moderator: Dr. Alicia Armstrong, Psychiatry, May Pen Hospital

Rahul Boda
Case: Schizophrenia

Jayanth Asham
Case: Schizophrenia, Secondary to Non-compliance to Medications

Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021
Time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (Jamaica Time)
Location: Zoom Meeting ID#: 894 2147 8570
Passcode: 254438

AAIMS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Case: Schizophrenia by Rahul Boda

Moderator: Dr. Alicia Armstrong, Psychiatry, May Pen Hospital

Case: Schizophrenia, Secondary to Non-compliance to Medications by Jayanth Asham

Moderator: Dr. Alicia Armstrong, Psychiatry, May Pen Hospital

Attendance is mandatory for all Clerkship Students.



CLERKSHIP STOCK PHOTOS



AAIMS Allied Health Division Feature

AAIMS-ALLIANCE HEALTH DIVISION

The School of Allied Health Division offers pathways for aspirants to pursue a career in health care, through its hybrid learning model.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, with its trail of insurmountable challenges, we proposed strategies aimed at ameliorating the atmosphere in which we do business. This we did through a robust support system, led by Administration.

PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Mrs. Kadien McKenzie



Through her charisma and quick – witted nature, she has been able to engage staff and trainers in respective meetings, allowing for discussions on mitigation strategies. She continues to promote a feeling of togetherness, [as evidenced by the **Hawthorne Leadership Theory**], and a sense of belonging, through pep talks and luncheons.



L-R
Program Coordinator – Mrs. Shawnett Monteque
Administrator – Mr. Osmond Bartley
Asst. Administrator – Ms. Nadia Kelly

Our students receive academic and career counselling, and benefit from our expertise, as we address queries expeditiously, as well as provide, upon request, academic documentations within realistic timeframes. We pride ourselves in the timely, in- depth and collaborative approach taken in apprising the needs of our students and addressing them accordingly. AAIMS-AHD - *The Institute of Choice!*

ACCOUNTANT

Mrs. Davia Halladeen

Students are given timely financial advice, allowing them to commit to their payment obligations.



The saying ‘*One hand can’t clap*’. is very relevant, as AAIMS-AHD is nothing without our students and I hope everyone knows that we are here for our students, ALWAYS and FOREVER.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Tricia Osbourne



Students will hear the orotund and modulating tones, as they are guided in making the right decision regarding their Program of Study. Queries are addressed in a professional manner.

‘Making a Difference.... One Student at a Time!’



Teresa Hyman-McDonald

PROGRAM OFFICER

Ms. Lavine Bingham

We continue to establish partnerships with public and private entities, to secure training, that is commensurate with our programs. Despite the impact of the pandemic, affecting customary visitations, we do maintain communication with preceptors/supervisors etc.to assess the interns’ performance. Through our volunteerism program, we have been able to create a smoother transition into the labour market. *Continue to Make a Difference!’*



Closing

We will continue to communicate a message of hope, and the need to fulfil purpose, through: (i) dynamic, relatable and relevant curricular, (ii)meticulous activation of all available forms of communication technologies, as well as; (iii) allocating available resources that will give us that competitive advantage in this global village.



Vision Statement

AAIMS-AHD will become the leading education provider of Allied Health Courses in Jamaica.

Mission Statement

To open up the horizon for Allied Health Courses to people in Jamaica and provide education. AAIMS- AHD believes that every Jamaica should have the chance to be educated and to take with them the ability to utilize their new found talent, for the purpose of uplifting themselves and their community.

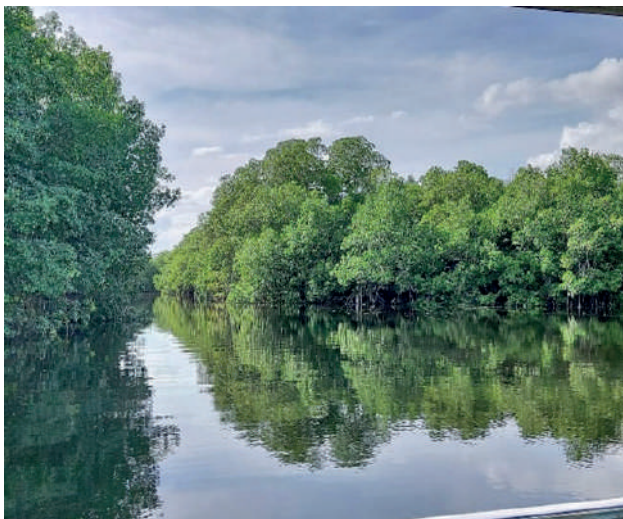
AAIMS Alliance Health Division (AAIMS-AHD) is an Allied Healthcare Institute established in Jamaica, since 2008, and is registered with the Ministry of Education as an Independent School. It is also recognized by the Ministry of Health through the South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA). ***The Program offerings include: Pharmacy Technician, Medical Assistant and Phlebotomy Technician, Surgical Technician and Dialysis Technician.***

AAIMS- AHD has a small cadre of dedicated, committed and hard-working staff, who remain committed to its mantra '***Making a Difference.... One Student at a Time!***' **CHOOSE US TODAY-** The Paramedical Institute of Choice!

Black River Safari Trip

Each year, the new Pre-Med students are taken on a cruise along the Black River on Jamaica's South Coast to learn about the wildlife and history of the communities found along the island's longest navigable river.

Please see highlights of the Black River Safari trip below:



Staff Birthdays

- Ms. Pearline McCarthy
- Mrs. Jennifer Guthrie
- Ms. Herfalee Beckford
- Mr. Junior Dwyer

November

- 10
- 11
- 14
- 16



Medical JEOPARDY

Another game of Medical Jeopardy was held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 4:00pm. The rules of the game were as follows:

- ❑ The first question should be a toss-up for both teams.
 - ◆ Points will be deducted for incorrect answers.
 - ◆ Answers must be in the form of a question.
 - ◆ Answers should be entered into the chat box within 10 seconds.
 - ◆ Debatable answers will be decided by the judge.
 - ◆ The first team to give a correct response will receive points and control the board.
- ❑ For all subsequent questions:
 - ◆ Only the team that selects the question, should respond.
 - ◆ If the team that selects the question answers correctly, points will be added and the team will control the board.
 - ◆ If the team that selects the question answers incorrectly, points will be deducted and the opposing team can attempt to answer the question.
 - If the opposing team answers the question correctly, points will be added and the opposing team will control the board.
 - If the opposing does not answer the question correctly, points will be deducted and the team that had selected the question will control the board.
- ❑ All participants are required to have their cameras on for the duration of the game. Furthermore, all participants are required to adhere to the rules of the game given by the moderator.

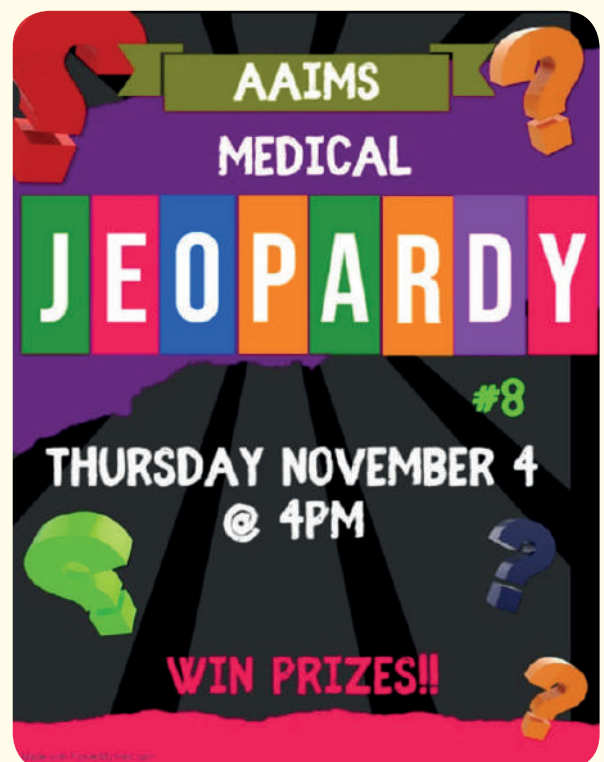
The names of the winners of this round of the game are highlighted below:

Team A – First Place

1. Jeevika Wilson
2. Hernika Ramakrishnan
3. Malavi Mouli
4. Aafiz Anzar
5. Senthil selvaraj

Team B – Second Place

1. Jayaseelan jayaraj
2. Deepika lakshminarasimhan
3. Aparna Anu
4. Harini suresh
5. Shadma Inam

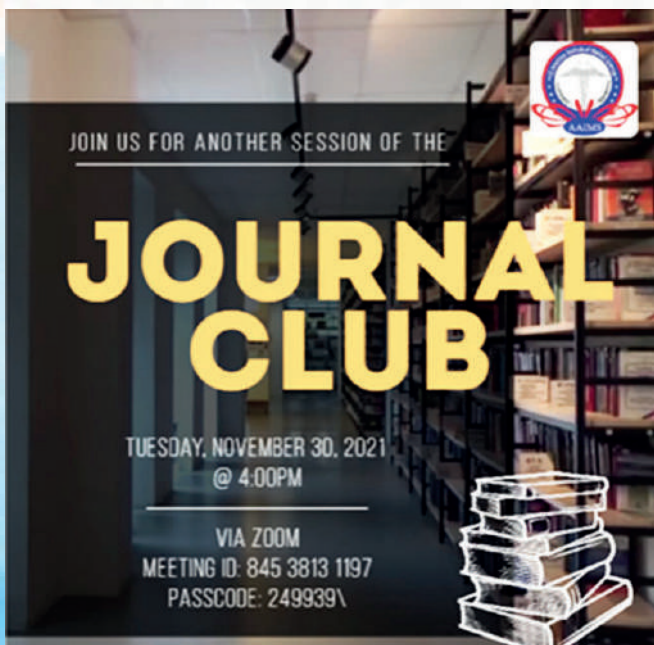




JOURNAL CLUB

The Journal Club meets once every three (3) weeks to critically evaluate articles in the academic literature, such as the scientific literature and medical literature. Two sessions of the Journal Club were held on during November 2021 for the Journal Club. In the first session, held on November 8, the topic Glycaemic Index, Glycaemic Load and Cardiovascular Disease and Mortality was presented by Zario Wint. In the second session, held on November 30, the topic Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotics for Endocarditis was presented by Sri Dhanya Tammineedi. Both students are in the third year of the Medical Degree program. The objectives of the Journal club are:

- To educate the students to make them become more familiar with the advanced literature in the medical field.
- To help them to look critically at relevant articles to become familiarized with research and analysis and how you can use research projects to better manage patients.
- To gain an understanding of the "bench-to-bedside" process.
- To develop critical thinking skills along with an ability to read, comprehend, and analyze the medical literature.
- To develop oral communication skills in a collegial setting.
- To appreciate the importance of lifelong learning as the student transitions from lectures and textbooks to the primary medical literature.





AAIMS Preceptor's Annual Meet

The AAIMS Preceptor's Annual Meet was held on Sunday, November 28, 2021 for the preceptors at May Pen Hospital and on Monday, November 29, 2021 for the preceptors at Cornwall Regional Hospital. Please see the highlights of the events below:



HAPPY Diwali

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

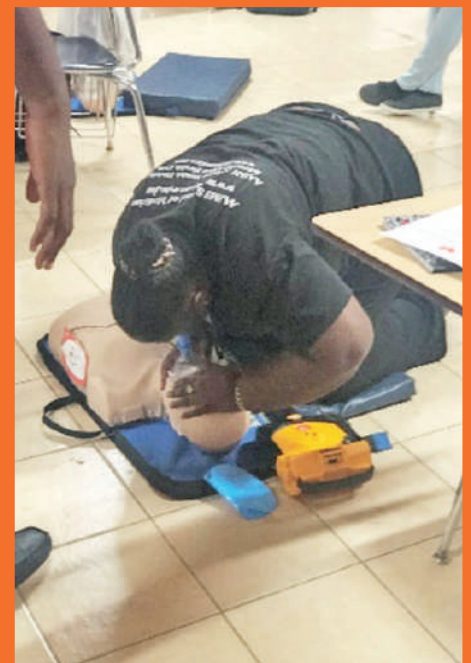
Diwali was organized this year by the Student Guild Association with the help of members from the AAIMS management. The event was festive and the students in attendance dressed up in their traditional festival attires. Even the students on their clerkship rotation in Montego Bay held their own festive celebration. Diwali is a festival of lights and one of the major festivals celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists. The festival usually lasts five days and is celebrated during the Hindu lunisolar month Kartika (between mid-October and mid-November). Please see highlights from the event below:

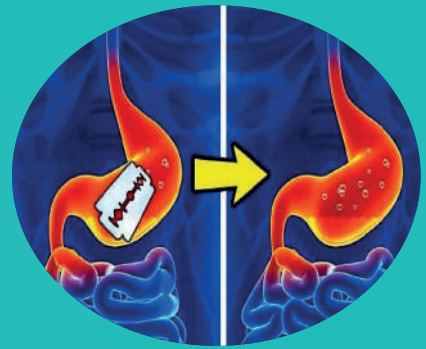




Basic Life Support Training & Certification Course

AAIMS made arrangements with the Heart Foundation of Jamaica (agents for American Heart Association), for them to conduct a Basic Life Support (BLS) Training and Certification course for staff and those students who are to enter clerkships. This course was delivered on site here at the Black River campus, as part of the Transition to Clerkship (TTC) Course held in November 2021.





DID YOU KNOW?



01

Did you know that your stomach acid can dissolve razor blades?

02

Speaking of the stomach, did you know that you get a new stomach lining every three to four days?

03

Only 10% of your cells are human. The other 90% is made up of 90 trillion microbes that live on you or in you.

04

We share 98.4% of our DNA with a chimp – and 70% with a slug.

05

An adult has fewer bones than a baby!

06

Mercury is toxic to humans but was used for wounds and medical treatments up until the 20th century.

07

In the 20th century, lobotomies were legitimate treatments for various mental health illnesses.

08

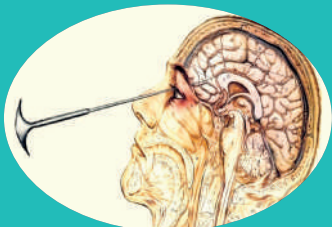
Surgeons once believed that bloodletting was beneficial to health. Fevers, apoplexy and headache were thought to be a result of too much blood!

09

Doctors used to inject paraffin to smooth out wrinkles.

10

Chloroform was used as the original anesthetic. Up until the 1950's when its toxic effects were discovered.





Lecturio is a leading international e-learning platform for medical video education, serving students as well as universities and medical institutions.

Dr. Peter Horneffer, the Executive Dean of the All American Institute of Black River, St. Elizabeth, has been instrumental in introducing this **flipped-classroom approach to the curriculum.**

It provides an advantage for medical students preparing for the USMLE and includes features such as: video lectures, extra reading material, and question banks with a wide range of MCQs. Video lectures are conducted by the professors in a simple and understandable format.

The extra reading material provided by Lecturio can be used for revision, as well as the questions, which are given after each video lecture. The question bank also provides video links for each question, so that students can learn from previous mistakes. This platform is a valuable asset for any aspiring medical student.

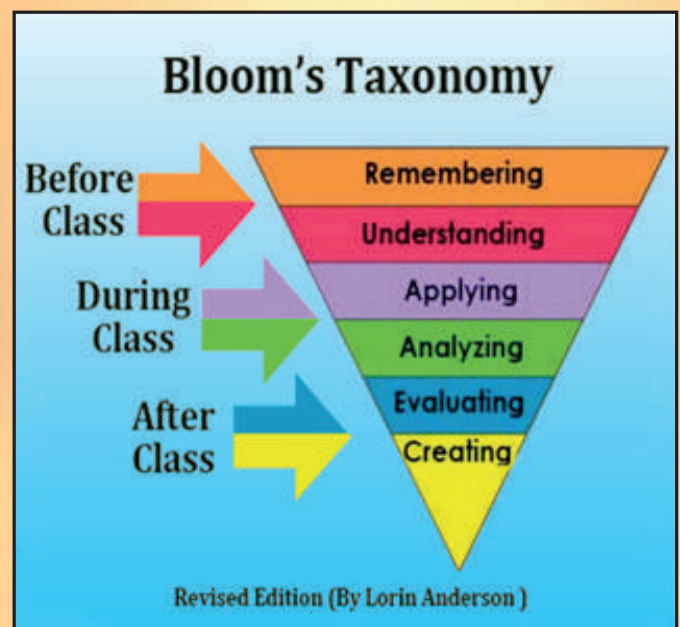
What is Flipped learning?

The Four Pillars of F-L-I-P™

- F**-Flexible Environment
- L**-Learning Culture
- I**-Intentional Content
- P**-Professional Educator

Fitting with the revised Bloom's Taxonomy

In traditional learning, lower level of learning such as remembering and understanding is happening in class, while students are usually left to work on activities that involve higher level of learning outside of classroom. However, in the flipped classroom model, learning is flipped. As you can see from the pyramid, students can finish the lower level of cognitive work before class. And when they come to class, they can engage in higher cognitive levels of learning with peers and teacher present.



Sources:
1. <https://omerad.msu.edu/teaching/teaching-strategies/27-teaching/162-what-why-and-how-to-implement-a-flipped-classroom-model>
2. <https://cdn.vanderbilt.edu/vu-wpo/wp-content/uploads/sites/59/2010/06/12092513/BloomsTaxonomy-mary-forehand.pdf>

REASONS TO USE CLINICALKEY STUDENT AS A LEARNING RESOURCE

ClinicalKey Student is an interactive education platform with a tremendous assessment capability that supports students and faculty by enhancing the learning experience with tools tailored to develop and assess the medical knowledge of aspiring professionals. The reasons to use ClinicalKey Student as a learning resource are outlined below:

1. It provides access to the most complete and trusted medical content through:

- 200+ acclaimed textbooks covering 50 medical specialties, including Gray's Anatomy for Students and Medical Physiology
- 1,500+ quick access summaries of common diseases and topics.
- Access to 85,000 high resolution images, unlocked and discoverable for visual learning.
- Copyright cleared images
- Access to 850+ videos ranging from practical demonstrations of anatomical dissections to instructional clinical examination examples.
- Access to 4200+ questions (1,800 in basic science and in 2,400 clinical medicine).

2. It turns information in to knowledge by:

- Providing a personalized bookshelf.
- Flashcard tools.
- Note-taking (with OneNote integration)

and highlighting.

- Sharing notes and learning with students around the globe.
- Saving Faculty and student time through the use of the presentation maker tool.
- Enhancing lectures using copyright cleared images.
- Study anywhere, anytime using the App (online & offline)
- Text to Speech to learn on the go.

3. It improves the learning outcomes of students as:

- Students can self-assess at their own pace.
- Get personalized feedback and benchmark themselves with their peers.
- Students can customize their tests to focus on their weaknesses.
- Students can access weak topics matched to additional learning resources (links to Foundation capabilities).

4. It gives faculty time back for teaching/research/practice as:

- Faculty can identify struggling students earlier by setting assignments.
- Every question comes with in-line remediation, written and vetted by an Editorial Board.
- There is instant access to data-driven insights to proactively pinpoint specific areas where students are weak.

ClinicalKey[®] Student

“MAKE IT STICK”

Author: Peter Brown

Elaborate by:

- ✓ Synthesizing ideas in your own words.
- ✓ Teaching them to someone else.

Generate by:-

- ✓ Attempting to solve a problem before being shown the solution.
Giving your best guess – then correct.

Reflect on your learning experiences, by determining -:

- ✓ What went well
- ✓ What could have gone better

Calibrate by:-

- ✓ Using tests to objectively and periodically gauge your level and progress.
- ✓ Treating calibrations like actual tests, do them – don't skate over them.

Use Mnemonics

- ✓ Find or create mnemonic devices to learn information.
- ✓ Learn mnemonic systems to greatly increase your

Be optimistic, as :-

- ✓ Learning needs striving, striving leads to setbacks and set-backs lead to learning.

Spaced Repetition by:-

- ✓ Establishing a regular, low-stakes, self-quizzing schedule, by adjusting gaps from a few minutes, to a few days, to once a month.

Interleaving by:-

- ✓ Studying more than one type of problem within a topic at a time and scattering new problem types throughout your practice schedule.

REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRY

- Message from Mrs. Andrea Reid, AAIMS Registrar

We are now in the sixth (6th) week of the current term and I would like to remind you of some important events on our Academic Calendar.

1. This week is for **Mid-Term Advisory** sessions between students and their Faculty Advisors. Please ensure to connect with your Faculty Advisor especially if you have not been doing well on your weekly quizzes. Please connect with Mr. Miller should you have any questions about the Advising Process.
2. Students who are **Transitioning from Basic Sciences to Clerkships**, please take note of the significant dates which pertain to you. Remember to get all your Clerkship registration documents ready and submit to Ms. Brown as well as to Clinicals@aaims.edu.jm **before** placement at hospital.
3. **Graduation Day** is Sunday December 5th. We congratulate, and look forward to celebrating this occasion with those students who will be receiving their AHSc, BSc., and MD degrees. You will shortly receive more information about this event.
4. Those students who will be going abroad for their term break are reminded to factor in the **Pre-Registration window of Jan 12-14th**, as well **Quarantine Requirements** in your travel itinerary, and ensure you are fit and ready and approved to start classes promptly on Monday January 17th.

UPDATES FROM THE BURSARY DEPARTMENT

This is to advise that Graduation Fee for all 2021 Graduands is One Hundred and Twenty US Dollars (USD \$120.00). All Graduands are required to clear ALL outstanding dues in addition with the Graduation Fee NO later than Monday November 29, 2021 in order to receive financial clearance from Bursary Department to participate in the Graduation exercise on Sunday December 5, 2021. Please do not hesitate to contact us if have any questions, challengers or to make payment arrangements.

UPDATES FROM THE CLERKSHIP DEPARTMENT

- Message from Dr. Jawad Saade, AAIMS Associate Clinical Dean, Clinical Education Policy Re: Camera
Going forward, during all Online Educational Activities inclusive of the following:
 - Preceptor Clinical Lectures
 - Clerkship Case Presentation and Discussion (CP&D)
 - Journal Club Presentation

All cameras should be turned on, failure to do so and you will be marked as Absent and this will consequently affect your passing grade.



1. All staff and students are cordially invited to attend the Annual Graduation Ceremony virtually on Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 2:00pm using the YouTube link below. Kindly see the official flyer below for more details:

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/2ooFLkRMFjw>



2. The end of rotation NBME - shelf assessments (the examination administered at the end of each Core Clerkship Rotation) will be offered in the library on the Black River campus as of **January 1, 2022**. Hence, the NBME will not be administered online after this date.

AAIMS Academic Calendar



AAIMS ACADEMIC CALENDAR (Pre-Clinical)

2021 QUARTER 4: September 27, 2021 - December 10, 2021

Activity	Date(s)
Pre-registration/New Student Orientation	Wednesday-Friday, September 22-24, 2021
First Day of Classes	Monday, September 27, 2021
IBSCE EXAM	Monday October 11, 2021
National Heroes' Day, Public Holiday	Monday, October 18, 2021
NBME IFOM1 EXAM	Friday, October 29, 2021
Mid Term Advisory Days	Thursday & Friday, November 4-5, 2021
Transitions to Clerkships Start	Monday, November 8, 2021
Transitions to Clerkships End	Friday, November 19, 2021
Clerkship Start for New Students	Monday, November 29, 2021
Last day of Classes	Friday, December 3, 2021
Coursework Grades Due	Friday, December 3, 2021
<i>Graduation Day</i>	<i>Sunday, December 5, 2021</i>
End Term Exams	Wednesday & Thursday, Dec 8-9, 2021
End Term Vacation Break (5 weeks)	December 11, 2021 - January 16, 2022
Next Quarter Begins	Monday, January 17, 2022



AAIMS ACADEMIC CALENDAR (Pre-Clinical)

2022 QUARTER 1: January 17, 2022 - April 1, 2022

Activity	Date(s)
Pre-Registration/New Student Orientation	Wednesday-Friday, Jan 12-14, 2022
First Day of Classes	Monday, Jan 17, 2022
IBSCE Exam	Monday, February 7, 2022
NBME IFOM 1 Exam	Friday, February 18, 2022
Mid-Term Advisory Days	Thursday & Friday, February 24-25, 2022
Transitions to Clerkships Start	Monday, February 28, 2022
Public Holiday, Ash Wednesday	Wednesday, March 2, 2022
Transitions to Clerkships Ends	Friday, March 11, 2022
Clerkships Start for New Students	Monday, March 21, 2022
Last day of Classes	Friday, March 25, 2022
Coursework Grade Submission Deadline	Friday, March 25, 2022
End Term Exams	Wednesday-Thursday, March 30-31, 2022
End Term Vacation Break (1 week)	April 2 - 10, 2022
Next Quarter Begins	Monday, April 11, 2022

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@AAIMS_MEDSCHOOL



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