OPTIONS TO ADDRESS INTERNSHIPS

Some of us will have graduating seniors who will not be able to complete their internship experiences because many of them cannot work in environments that will expose them to numerous people, etc. For those students an I grade may not be the appropriate remedy, because they probably anticipate the finality of graduating this semester, without exceptions. There are several things we might be able to do to address such a dilemma.

(1) We can ask our students to build upon the experiences they have already garnered this semester (most received mid-term assessments) in their internship experience. For example, they can package samples of the work they have already performed/produced and write a reflection essay/report.

(2) Taking cues from those experiences we can ask our students to complete an online career portfolio with a focus on those experiences, to demonstrate the appropriate knowledge, skills, and dispositions related to their respective major and/or concentration.

(3) We can engage them, in discussion assignments, through case studies and hypothetical scenarios to make sure they would know how to perform in an optimal disciplinary related work environment. This process would mirror the same kinds of experiences students would have in medical school clinical experiences, educational settings, and the different scenarios presented on major exams. If feasible, this may be best offered to all of the students in the impacted courses, so as to alleviate possible complaints later that some students were required to do more work than others.

(4) We can create or adapt the necessary metrics and analytics needed to grade our students’ levels of performance on the above tasks.