

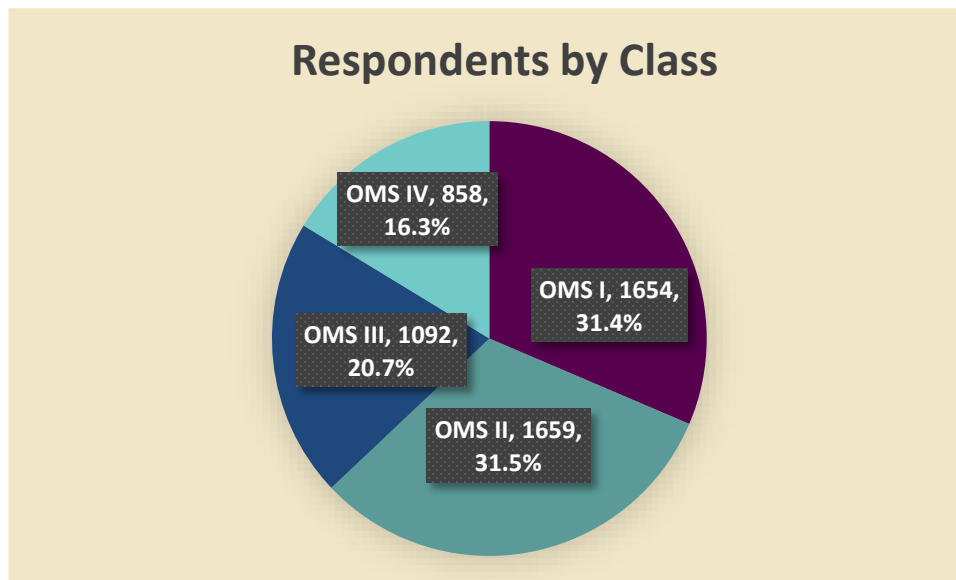
Report on Survey of Osteopathic Medical Students' Views on Unified GME Accreditation

In March 2014, AACOM conducted an on-line survey of osteopathic medical students to measure their opinions on the unified GME accreditation agreement being undertaken by AACOM, AOA and ACGME. This survey was conducted in cooperation with the AACOM Council of Student Government Presidents (COSGP).

Response count and rate

Responses were posted by 5,307 individuals, representing 22.9 percent of the fall enrollment at the AACOM member colleges. Five-thousand twenty respondents indicated the COM attended. Response rates by COM varied from a high of 56.5 percent to a low of 7.6 percent.

Sixty-three percent of responses were received from OMS I and OMS II students, almost evenly distributed across the two classes. One-fifth of responses were from OMS III students and 16 percent from OMS IV students. Fewer than one percent of responses were received from students identifying as "Other."



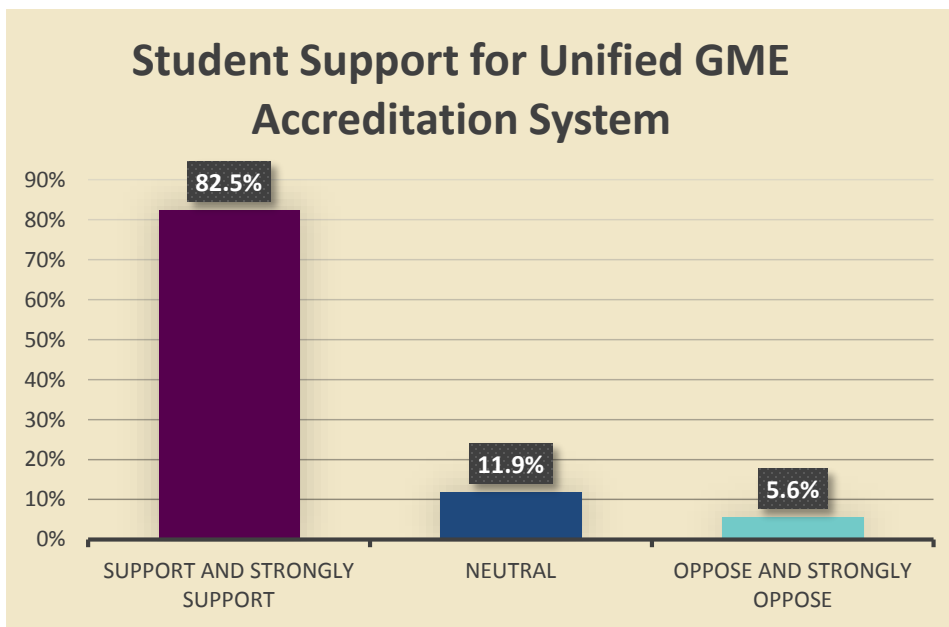
Respondents were also asked to indicate their planned specialty. Thirty-one percent of respondents plan to specialize in one of the primary care disciplines of family practice, general internal medicine, or general pediatrics. Twenty-two percent indicate that they are undecided about specialty and 47 percent selected "all other specialties."

The findings

Respondents to the survey indicated overwhelming support for the unified GME accreditation system, with 82.5 percent indicating some level of support and over 55.1 percent indicating

strong support. Only 5.6 percent of respondents were opposed or strongly opposed.

Support for unified GME accreditation system		
	#	%
Strongly support	2922	55.1%
Support	1455	27.4%
Neutral	630	11.9%
Oppose	194	3.7%
Strongly oppose	103	1.9%
No response	3	0.1%

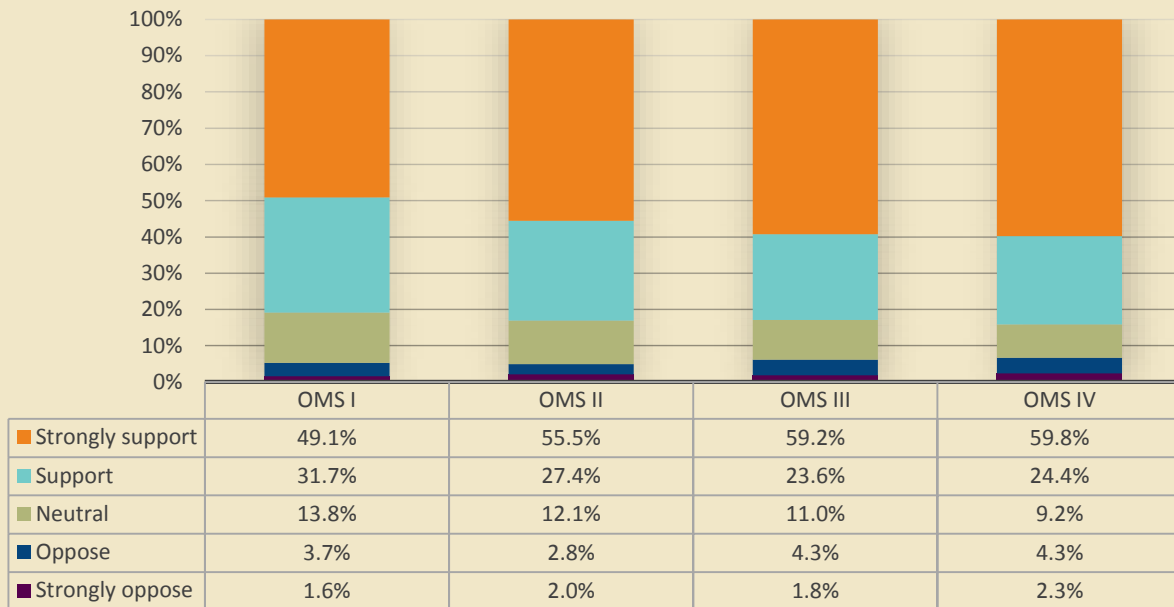


Support broken out by COM ranged from 93.5 percent to 68 percent of students supporting or strongly supporting the combined GME accreditation (Table 1).

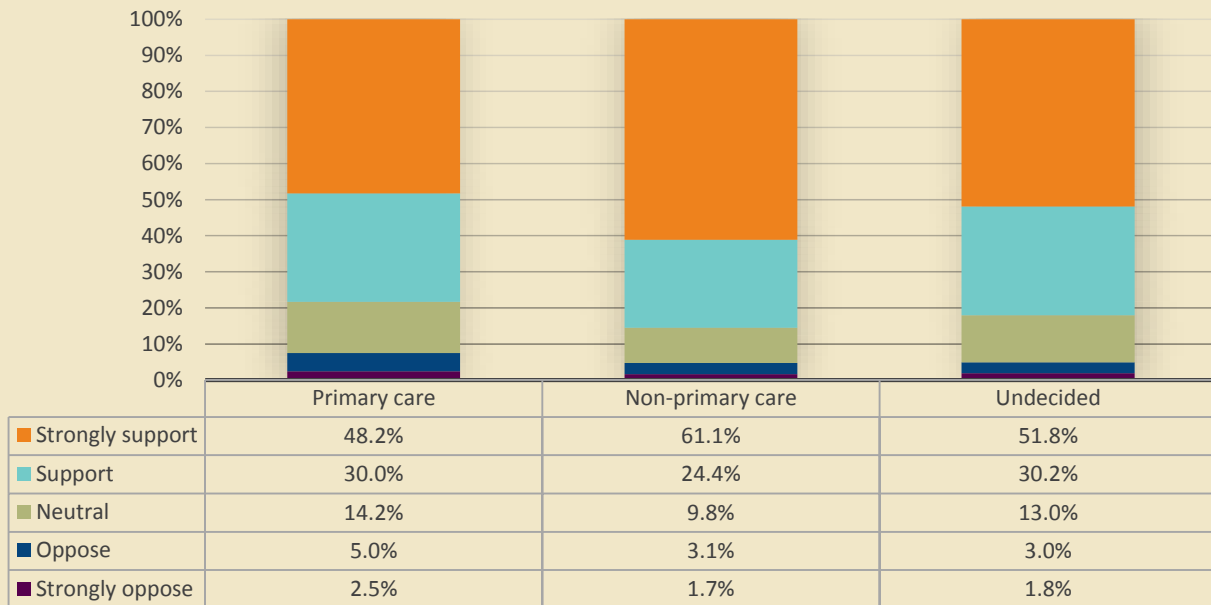
The level of support for the unified GME accreditation system is relatively consistent across the four medical school classes (because of the small sample size, support by “others” is not broken out). Support for the unified system does increase slightly with added years of medical education – the percentage of students indicating “support” and “strongly support” increases from 80.8 percent of OMS I students to 84.2 percent of OMS IV students.

There is more variation in support for the unified GME accreditation system based on planned specialty. Over 78 percent of students planning to specialize in a primary care discipline of family practice, general internal medicine, or general pediatrics support the combined GME accreditation system; over 85 percent of students planning to specialize in a non-primary care discipline indicate support for the combined GME accreditation system. Those undecided about specialty choice are similar to those planning to specialize in non-primary care disciplines, with 82 percent support.

Student Support for Unified GME Accreditation System by Class



Student Support for Unified GME Accreditation System by Specialty



The final question of the survey allowed respondents to make comments or ask questions. With more than 5000 surveys submitted there were over 1800 comments or questions. These comments and questions are still being analyzed and organized.

Questions about the survey or this report may be directed to Tom Levitan, tlevitan@aacom.org.

Tlevitan
03252014

Table 1 – Support for unified GME accreditation by COM
(unidentified, highest support to lowest support)

	Support/Strongly Support	Neutral	Oppose/Strongly Oppose
COM 1	93.5%	4.1%	2.4%
COM 2	93.1%	5.3%	1.1%
COM 3	92.9%	4.7%	2.4%
COM 4	92.7%	5.6%	1.6%
COM 5	91.8%	4.1%	4.1%
COM 6	90.0%	5.3%	4.7%
COM 7	89.5%	8.1%	2.4%
COM 8	89.3%	8.0%	2.7%
COM 9	88.8%	6.9%	4.3%
COM 10	86.2%	13.0%	0.8%
COM 11	85.2%	13.5%	1.3%
COM 12	85.1%	10.9%	3.0%
COM 13	85.0%	7.7%	7.3%
COM 14	84.7%	12.1%	3.2%
COM 15	84.6%	11.5%	3.8%
COM 16	84.4%	13.0%	2.6%
COM 17	83.3%	10.0%	6.7%
COM 18	83.0%	13.2%	3.8%
COM 19	82.9%	12.4%	4.7%
COM 20	82.9%	7.3%	9.8%
COM 21	82.5%	11.7%	4.9%
COM 22	82.5%	4.8%	12.7%
COM 23	81.9%	11.6%	6.5%
COM 24	81.0%	10.3%	8.6%
COM 25	80.8%	15.4%	3.8%
COM 26	78.0%	12.2%	9.8%
COM 27	77.3%	14.9%	7.7%
COM 28	76.4%	20.9%	2.7%
COM 29	75.2%	15.8%	9.0%
COM 30	74.1%	15.3%	10.6%
COM 31	74.0%	18.0%	8.0%
COM 32	69.8%	13.8%	16.3%
COM 33	69.0%	17.2%	13.8%
COM 34	68.0%	24.6%	7.4%
Totals less than 100% are caused by rounding or non-response to the question.			