# KNOW THYSELF: BRANDING YOUR PROGRAM TO GET THE TRAINEES YOU ARE LOOKING FOR

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#### Disclosures

None of us have any disclosures relevant to this talk.

### Learning Objectives

- Appreciate the importance of developing your program's core ideology
- Learn how to apply your core values to the development of your brand.
- Compose dissemination strategies for your brand to help in recruitment
- Understand the four impressions that create a "consumers" brand experience and how to use these to disseminate your message/brand

### Core Ideology

- The glue that holds an organization together through time
- A constant identity which transcends academic year after academic year, individual program leaders, administrative changes, educational fads and ACGME mandates

### Core Purpose and Core Values Form Core Ideology

- Core purpose: The reason our residency exists
- Core values: Essential and enduring tenets of our residency



#### Core Purpose

- Core purpose is the reason that your residency exists
- It guides you further toward differentiation
- Purpose does not change, but inspires change
- A residency might achieve a goal or complete a strategy, but the residency program never fully fulfills its purpose

### Connecting Core Purpose to Your "Consumers"

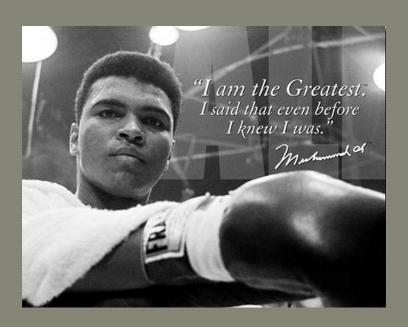
- Your Residency's "Consumers"
  - Students and applicants
  - Current Residents
  - Graduates
  - Program Leadership
  - DIO / GME
  - Your patients
  - ACGME
  - The public

### Connecting Core Purpose to Your "Consumers"

- **Begin with a purpose:** A purpose is the *why* your residency has begun its journey, guided by the deeply-held values and beliefs that inspire it to make a difference
- Purpose guides your residency: It articulates why you do what you do, why your residency exists, and why it serves a higher purpose (its cause)

# Discover Your Residency's Core Purpose

- Everyone is always saying, "I am the best!"
- The question at the heart of core purpose is,
   "What makes you better than the best?"



### Discover Your Residency's Core Purpose

- A powerful method to get at core purpose is ask why five times
- Start with a descriptive statement of your program's deliverables such as, "We graduate pediatricians who are the best at \_\_\_."
- Now ask why is this important five times?

# Discover Your Residency's Core Purpose

- The goal is to gain a deep understanding about why would someone choose you?
  - Why is that important?
  - Why is that important?



#### Core Values

- Core values define what your program stands for and what it means for its stakeholders
- These values run so deep and fundamental that they will change seldom, if ever
- Often represent a competitive advantage

#### Why Define Core Values?

- Underlie your work, how you interact with each other, and which strategies you employ to fulfill your mission
- Differentiate your program from others
- Influence long-term behavior and priority
- Guide your residency toward its greatest impact
- Allow your program to gain a deep understanding of its core identity which can then be shared and expressed in many ways

- Great organizations have three to five core values
- Have intrinsic value and importance to those inside the organization
- Require no external justification
- There's no right or wrong or "must have" value
- Often closely aligned with institutional identity



Quest for Excellence

- Push with relentless honesty to define what is truly central to your residency
- Don't confuse with operating practices or cultural norms
- Should pass the "penalty box test"
- Remember that these values are so deep and fundamental that they should never change
- This takes a commitment from everyone

- Questions to consider
  - Which words describe the personality and philosophy of your program?
  - What does it mean to be at the University of ?
  - What unique features of your residency would be difficult for others to duplicate?
  - What attributes are you most proud of in your residents, colleagues and leadership?
  - What drives you to innovate?
  - What would happen to the persons you serve if your residency was to disappear?

- List three core values of your residency
  - Do these stand the test of time?
  - If circumstances changed your program was penalized for this core value, would you still keep it?

### Using Core Values in Differentiation



### Branding Basics

- A brand is the perception that people have which differentiates one product from another.
  - Describes:
    - Quality
    - Benefit
    - Value

### Branding Basics

- A brand is the perception that Residents have which differentiates one Program from another.
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#### Branding, Training and Values

Your brand should be an outward expression of your core values



### Why Does Branding Matter to My Program?

- Impact is what matters
- •A strong brand can shape culture, unify efforts and align internal and external stakeholders.
- When your residency's consumers know that your program matters, they will know that its cause is meaningful









### Why Does Branding Matter to My Program?

The

**Branding** 

Loop

Broadcast your brand attributes and program successes (outside culture) to ALL stakeholders

Attract students, residents and staff that fits your core values

Focus on functional capabilities of graduating residents (*inward culture*)

Academic production and graduates match patient and healthcare system needs

An engaged workforce
enhances your
program's
mission and promotes a
tailored learning
environment

Straightforward

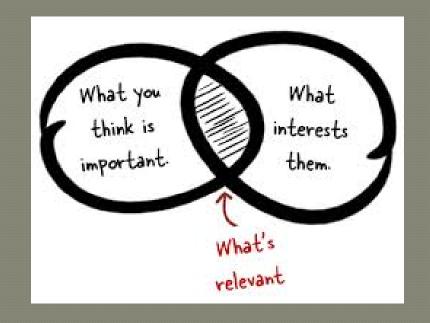
Believable

Memorable



#### Straightforward:

Needs to find a home in the applicant's mind, and be relevant.



#### Believable

If multiple residencies are appropriate for an applicant, signaling small uncertainties immediately before your strongest argument increases trust



#### Memorable

Make your message so unexpected, novel, provocative or odd that applicants are compelled to pay attention



# Create Your (Brand) Message

Core Values

Describe your ideal resident with 5 words / short phrases

Attributes of best residents graduating in the past 2 years

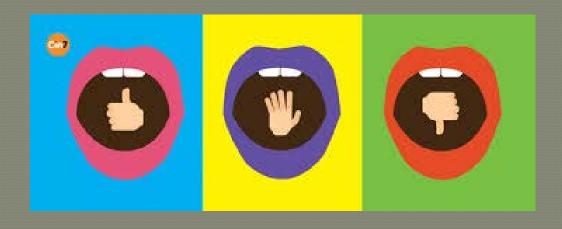
Straightforward, Believable, Memorable

### The Brand Experience

The impression consumers develop based on the sensory, affective, intellectual and behavioral experiences they have using "your product or service." in rearching and visiting your program

# When does your "Brand Experience" start?

- Earlier than you might think
  - Website
  - Word of mouth
  - Away rotations
  - Medical Student Advisors

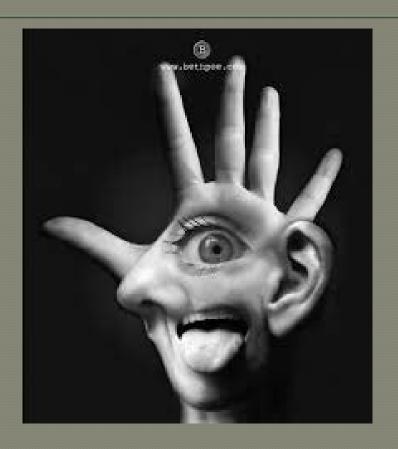


### Website Design

- Construct it while thinking of your core values
- Think about the "Brand Experience"



### Sensory



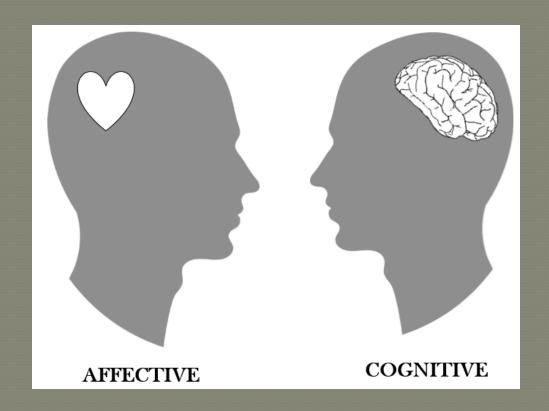
The way the brand affects their physical senses

### Sensory Impressions





#### Affective



The feelings and sentiments the brand induces.

#### Affective

Why Baystate?
Address food Insecurity
Alleviating burdens of poverty
Faculty – genuine and insightful

#### EDDIE ZITNIK

A.T. Still University

I was born and raised in a small town in Ohio in a home bustling with three older sisters, a twin brother, but sadly no puppy (thanks mom). I graduated from Ohio State University where I studied Molecular Genetics and Slavic Studies. Outside of the classroom I volunteered with the Red Cross and Camp Kesem, began running marathons, and met my best friends. Medical school



brought me to Arizona for one year and then Brooklyn, NY where I trained in a community medicine program partnered with the National Association of Community Health Centers. My nine other classmates and I worked with our community's most vulnerable and financially disenfranchised populations with the guidance of wonderfully inspiring primary care physicians, showing us how to effectively administer care to those with limited social collateral while maintaining dignity and respect. I took on a special interest in contraception and sexual health education in addlescents, something I hope to continue in residency. On a cold rainy day you can find me baking Croatian breads and pastries or crocheting. I like with my older sister and she has a dog named Glen Coco. If you were worried about that dog-less boy in Ohio, rest assured. The pup keeps us both busy and shares my love of being outdoors, taking road trips, and accidentally bumping into things.

#### Why Baystate?

In a sea of reasons to love Baystate, the one that stands out the most is the social commitment to the Springfield community. On my interview day I expressed my strong interests in addressing food insecurity and alleviating the burdens of poverty through clinical work and advocacy. I was pleasantly overwhelmed to hear this was more than just a shared interest among colleagues, but a unified institutional mission. My faculty interviews were the most genuine and insightful of the entire interview trail, and the residents understood the great opportunity they had to serve others through a career in pediatrics. Heft the following day feeling inspired, hopeful, and energized:

#### Behavioral



The physical actions and behaviors they have during the process of evaluating your program

### Behavioral

- Easy to find residency page
- Easy to navigate once on residency website
- Make sure it is mobile phone friendly



### Intellectual



The sense of thinking and intellectual curiosity they get by your brand

### Intellectual

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#### OUR GRADS SUCCESSFULLY OBTAIN FELLOWSHIPS OF THEIR CHOICE

About half of our graduates go on to fellowship training in a pediatric subspecialty, and half go into general pediatrics practice, although this varies year-to-year.

In the last 15 years, our graduates have entered fellowships at institutions such as Boston University, Children's Hospital Boston, Children's Hospital Philadelphia, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Duke University, Johns Hopkins, MGH, Pittsburgh, UC San Diego, University of North Carolina, Vanderbilt, and Yale, in subspecialties from Alternative and Complementary Medicine to Critical Care, from Neonatology to Sports Medicine, from Emergency Medicine to Hematology/Oncology. (See Fellowships tab below for more information.)

#### Adolescent Medicine

- · University of Rochester, NY
- · Johns Hopkins University
- Indiana University

#### Allergy-Immunology

- · Montreal Children's
- + University of Michigan
- · Eayor

#### Alternative and Complementary Medicine

University of Arizona

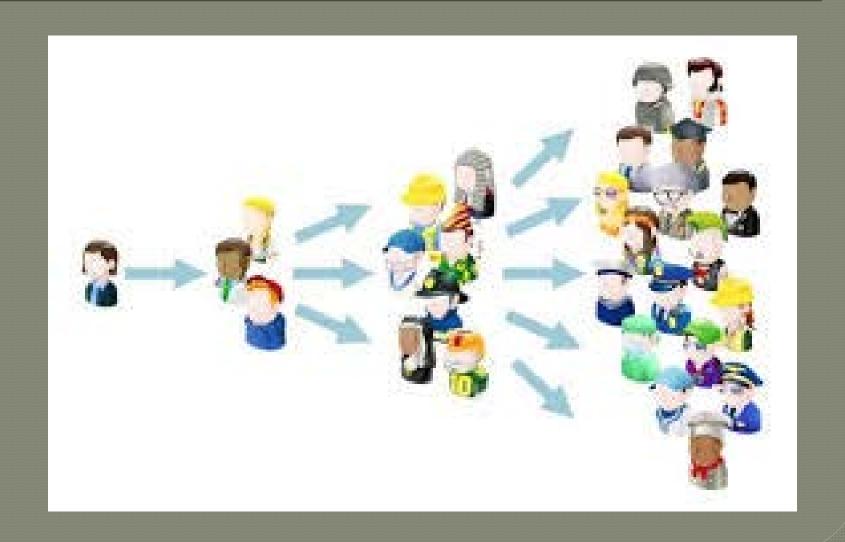
#### Cardiology



# Disseminating your Brand

Think about your Core Values, Message and Brand and how to infuse those into your Brand Experience

## The Brand Lives On.....



# What about your program?



### Individual (same institution) work

What are your Core Values?	Supportive. Commitment to the underserved. Excellence in clinical care.	
Experiences of a Consumer	Challenge	Interventions to Address Challenges
		Work-flow issues are discussed to create a less chaotic impression and allow highlighting of the diverse/underserved population
	Outpatient clinic is chaotic when applicants coming through.	residents see.

## Group Work

Discuss with your group one challenge, one way to overcome it, and ask if they have any other ideas



### **CULTURE CHANGE**



# Managing Your Brand





Take 5 minutes to share some ideas at your table about how to keep your team "on brand."

# Finding your consumers



# Finding your consumers





Make sure selection process is also "on brand."

Take 5 minutes to reflect on your current selection processes using the worksheet in the toolkit.

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