

MINUTES OF THE CURRICULUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

November 4, 2009

PRESENT: Nirjhor Bhowmik, Kate Bowers, Craig Cheifetz, Linda Costanzo, Steve Crossman, Bob Diegelmann, Susan DiGiovanni, Jeff Dupree, Doug Franzen, Maraget Grimes, Phil Hylemon, Sahar Lotfi-Emran, Virginia Pallante, David Reines, Vibin Roy, Jeanne Schlesinger, Russ Seneca and Ike Wood.

ABSENT: John Bigbee, Georgia Blackwood, Mary Ellen Cleary, Alan Dow, Adriana Faulkner, Michael Goldsmith, Richard Krieg, Amanda Layne, Maryann Martinovic, Julia Messina, Charles Nottingham, Evan Reiter, Fereshteh Sani and Raphael Sun.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Ike Wood, Committee Chair.

Ike Wood started the meeting by informing the committee that he had met most of the applicants for the Associate Dean for Instruction and Faculty Development. All had been uniformly impressed by the amount of work accomplished by the Curriculum Planning Committee, the quality of the product and the degree of innovation.

Ike Wood and Linda Costanzo presented the report from the subcommittee on the Scientific Foundations of Medicine. The way the groupings were decided and sequencing was explained. The committee unanimously accepted this as the content structure for the Scientific Foundations Course.

Discussion ensued about how best to proceed. Several ideas were advanced;

- Start with the expectations of graduates and work backwards.
- Start with the expectations for students entering the M3 year and work backwards.
- Work forward with the Applied Medical Sciences.

An issue was raised about eliminating the notion of “preclinical” and “clinical” years. Instead, the development of the curriculum should focus on expectations of students in developing the six core competencies for the School of Medicine. With that in mind, it was suggested that the committee examine the current educational objectives for the M3 clerkships as a means of determining how to plan the Applied Medical Sciences phase. Ike Wood pointed out that on the eCurriculum website, the learning objectives for the clerkships are not clearly delineated and that he would ask Alan Dow to try to obtain them from the clerkship directors.

There was discussion about the longitudinal curriculum with particular focus on the Continuity Clinic. A model of a battery of patients being assigned to a student seemed implausible given the resources available. Doug Franzen suggested a hybrid model where students follow a small number of patients over an extended period of time while operating in the current preceptor placement model. Steve Crossman indicated that he had a meeting with Cheryl Garland the next day and he would explore with her resources available to carry out this program.

Ike Wood stated the committee will meet again on November 18, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. The objectives for the clerkships will be distributed in advance of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ike Wood, M.D., Committee Chair