

MINUTES OF THE CURRICULUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

July 15, 2009

PRESENT: John Bigbee, Craig Cheifetz, Cindi Cornelissen, Linda Costanzo, Steve Crossman, Doug Franzen, Virginia Pallante, David Reines, Evan Reiter, Vibin Roy and Ike Wood.

ABSENT: Darryn Appleton, Nirjhor Bhowmik, Geogia Blackwood, Kate Bowers, Mary Ellen Cleary, Bob Diegelmann, Susan DiGiovanni, Alan Dow, Adriana Faulkner, Frank Fulco, Michael Goldsmith, Margaret Grimes, Richard Krieg, Amanda Layne, Sahar Lotfi-Emran, Maryann Martinovic, Julia Messina, Charles Nottingham, Fareshta Sani, Jeanne Schlesinger, Russ Seneca and Raphael Sun.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Ike Wood, Committee Chair. Minutes of the July 1, 2009 meeting were approved.

The group broke down into three subgroups to review the objectives with the idea of using performance verbs and making the document sound as if it had come from “one voice.” Below is a summary of the changes that were made (NOTE: Areas in italics were not covered):

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OBJECTIVES

Professionalism: The ability to demonstrate and understand the nature of professional and ethical behavior in the act of medical care. This includes respect, responsibility, accountability, excellence, honor, integrity, altruism, leadership, cultural competency, compassion, and confidentiality.

Students who are graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine will:

- Provide compassionate care to patients with respect for their privacy and dignity
- Display honesty, integrity, and responsibility in all educational settings and interactions with patients, their families, and colleagues
- Demonstrate altruism by consistently advocating for the patient’s best interest
- Summarize and put into practice the principles of ethical decision-making
- Demonstrate accountability to the patient, society and the profession through a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
- Appraise threats to the medical profession posed by the conflicts of interest inherent in the various financial and organizational arrangements within the practice of medicine
- Participate as an active member of the learning community

Patient Engagement & Communication (Interpersonal & Communication Skills): The ability to engage and communicate with patients, their families, and professional associates, using interpersonal skills to build relationships for information gathering, guidance, education, support and collaboration.

Students who are graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine will:

- Create and sustain therapeutic and ethically sound relationships with patients and their families
- Employ effective communication skills to elicit and convey information while building rapport with patients, their families, and professional associates
- Build collaborative relationships across both educational and clinical environments with patients, their families, and professional associates

Application of Scientific Knowledge & Method (Medical Knowledge): *The ability to apply scientific knowledge and method to clinical problem solving.*

- *Demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences and how this knowledge is applied to patient care.*
- *Demonstrate an approach to clinical situations that is both investigatory and analytic.*
- *Incorporating current basic scientific mechanisms at the systemic, cellular, and molecular levels:*
 - *Describe, apply, and integrate the normal and pathologic structure and function of each major organ system of the body.*
 - *Describe, apply, and integrate the ways in which organ systems are affected by the various causes (genetic, developmental, metabolic, toxic, microbiologic, immune, psychosocial, neoplastic, traumatic, and degenerative) of illness and disease.*
 - *Given a pathologic condition, describe, apply, and integrate the underlying causative mechanisms.*
- *Demonstrate knowledge of the most frequent clinical, laboratory, radiographic, and pathologic manifestations of common as well as life-threatening diseases.*
- *Demonstrate the ability to objectively and subjectively assess and appropriately treat pain.*

Patient Care: The ability to provide patient care that is appropriate and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Students who are graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine will:

- Obtain a complete histories and perform a comprehensive physical/mental status examinations.
- Utilize and focus a history and physical/mental status examination to identify clinical information that is efficient, accurate, and complete
- Discuss with and provide to patients and their families information and counseling aimed at disease management, prevention and wellness
- Identify the epidemiology of common conditions within a defined population and apply systematic approached to help reduce the incidence and prevalence of these conditions
- Describe the indications, risks, limitations, complications, and interpretations of commonly used diagnostic tests
- Perform routine procedures competently and identify the indications, risks, limitations, justifications, complications, and interpretations of these procedures
- Construct appropriate assessments, differential diagnoses, and treatment plans for patients across the spectrum of medical presentations
- Gather, interpret, and apply ongoing relevant clinical information in the care of the patient
- Utilize information technology to gather patient data, support patient care decisions, and educate patients and their families

Putting Care in Practical Context (Systems-based Practice): The ability to provide clinical care within the practical context of a patient's age, gender, personal values, family, health literacy, culture, religion, and social and economic circumstances. This goal includes consideration of relevant ethical, moral, and legal perspectives, patient advocacy, public health concerns, resources, and limitations of the healthcare system.

Students who are graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine will:

- Obtain patient histories including information about patients' culture and other factors that may impact the ability to receive appropriate health care
- Perform culturally-sensitive physical exams
- Identify cultural barriers that are perceived by patients as impacting health and health care
- Develop plans of care that take into account pertinent cultural attributes of patients and addresses barriers perceived by patients
- Compare and contrast various approaches to the organization, financing and delivery of health care

- Demonstrate understanding of the ethical and legal framework within which physicians function
- Describe the various roles and responsibilities of members of the health care team
- Interact effectively interact with all members of the health care team to provide the best possible care for patients
- Explain the effect of public policy on health and health care
- Define the methods used by individuals and systems to improve quality of care

Self-directed Learning & Self-Assessment (Practice-based Learning & Improvement): *The ability to identify learning styles and how one thinks (metacognition); self-identify areas of strengths and weakness in knowledge and skills, and independently discover resources for improvement. This goal also includes engaging in lifelong learning, being able to critically appraise the evolving body of medical knowledge, and not only facilitate self-learning, but that of peers and other members of the healthcare team.*

- *Recognize the limitations of knowledge and skills and seek to engage in lifelong learning to address those limitations.*
- *Recognize the limitations of the role of a physician.*
- *Recognize the limitations of the evolving body of medical knowledge.*
- *Apply a scholarly attitude toward the advancement of medical knowledge.*
- *Facilitate the learning of peers and other health care professionals.*

Dr. Wood noted that the committee will meet again on August 5, 2009 at 3:00 p.m..
The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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