

SUNY-DOWNSTATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
Curriculum Renewal Steering Committee
Minutes

March 26, 2009

Present: P. Sass, F. Volkert, S. Friedman, S. Landesman, M. Feuerman, J. Libien, M. Augenbraun, A. Marks, K. White, and A. Burns

The meeting opened with comments on the 3 principles, the role of CEPC and the role of the Steering Committee. It was decided that the CEPC would receive reports from the 3 subcommittees which then would be sent to the Steering Committee. In light of the need for transparency, all minutes of the Steering Committee will be made public. Minutes will document decisions and be posted after they are approved by the Steering Committee. In order to provide the opportunity for free discussion, detailed discussions will remain confidential unless the consent to discuss details is given by the Steering Committee.

Document 1 Deliverable Description

July 15, 2009 document 1 has 3 phases to the process. The first stage is from March 2009 – June 1, 2009 where we will be collecting data from all the different committees and the stakeholder's interests. In May 2009 to June we will be reviewing stakeholder materials and putting it together for the document. In this period we will be collecting information from the Other Schools Committee, the Goals and Objectives from the General Information and Opinions Committee. Each Steering Committee member is a liaison for various stakeholders and stakeholder interests will be documented on a form that will be distributed to the entire Committee. The Integration Meeting on April 14th will collect information that will be brought to the committee. The Student Committee will also give us information from their meetings and surveys.

The Other Schools Committee will give us a sense of approaches to the curriculum that we will want to look at. We will identify those curriculum approaches and then use all this information to evaluate the approaches.

Key Dates

- April 15th : Interim reports due
- Between April 15-30: Steering Committee reads all reports, identify themes and sends to Dr. Pamela Sass before April 30th Steering Committee meeting.
- May 15: Interim reports Due
- May 28th Steering Committee meeting
- June 1: Final reports due
- June 11th: Steering Committee meeting
- June 25th: Steering Committee meeting
- July 15th: Document 1 delivery to Dean Taylor

Proposal for information and technology review
Fred Volkert, 3/26/09

It is proposed

- (1) to combine the liaison activity between the Steering Committee and the Library, and the liaison activity between the Steering Committee and the ECT office;
- (2) to add to this combination liaison activities between the Steering Committee and other offices/committees/groups dealing with information and technology such as the Centerwide Student Technology Fee Committee and the Centerwide Advanced Learning Resources Center Steering Committee;
- (3) for this unified group to conduct a self-study of the state of information resources and technology at Downstate as they impact on the COM curriculum, with reference to current local status of resources in place, status of already ongoing local initiatives, and the national/international "landscape";
- (4) for this group to make reports to the Steering Committee and CEPC (and whatever ad-hoc groups come into existence during the curriculum renewal effort that need such input) for ways that information resources and technology could contribute to the curriculum;
- (5) that the Steering Committee also later form an information and technology implementation group as part of the implementation phase of the curriculum renewal, whose membership might overlap with this liaison group.

People currently identified as relevant to this activity include:

- (1) Library: Ric Winant, Andrea Markinson, Howard Erskine, possibly others
- (2) ECT office staff: Greg Conyers, Jim Neill, Brett Laurance
- (3) COM ECT advisory committee: Fred Volkert, John Kubie, Mike Augenbraun, Lisa Dresner, Naj Gabbur, Stan Friedman, Ross Clinchy
- (4) Tech Fee Committee: Ric Winant, Andrea Markinson, Fred Volkert, John Kubie, Siyang Leng-student rep (COM), possibly others.
- (5) ALRC Steering Committee and subcommittees: Stephan Rinnert, Brian Gillett, Mike Stone, Spencer Nabors, Kanwal Chaudhry, Fred Volkert, Maureen Dirscherl (student rep), possibly others
- (6) Bert Robles (Downstate Chief Information Officer)
- (7) John Zubrovich (Downstate webmaster)
- (8) Steven Ostrow (radiology imaging)
- (9) Office of Network Technology (possibly)
- (10) Student Assessment & Surveys: Barbara Lawrence

Other schools survey

Method - Web survey, narrow list, phone, select short list, visit/invite

Phase I due next week Assignments

- University of Illinois at Chicago – TBA
- University of Minnesota - Volkert
- Cleveland Clinic - Bianchi
- University of Pittsburgh - Gabbur
- Temple University - Gottesman, Banerji
- U of Vermont - Landesman
- U of Rochester - Marquez
- UCSF - Brouette
- Baylor - Volkert
- UCLA - Lev Tov
- Oregon Health Science Center - Banerji

Other Schools Questions

How do they promote integration of basic science and clinical science in the curriculum?

How do they teach Clinical Sciences in the first years?

How and when do they teach physical diagnosis?

How do they teach Basic Science in the Clinical Years?

How do they promote collaboration of clinicians and basic scientists in education?

How do they deliver the curriculum, i.e., how much of their teaching time is:

- Lecture?
- Small Groups? (what types)
- Patient Centered Teaching? (What types?)
- Other or Novel methods?

How do they assess students?

- Written tests?
- Competency assessment by clinicians or scientists?
- Oral tests?
- Other? (What?)

How are they using new technology in the curriculum?

General Information and Opinions – Dr. Miriam Feuerman
See Attachment I

The meeting ended at 3:00 p.m.
The next meeting is to be announced.

Attachment I

General Information and opinions

Do 2 people really constitute a subcommittee?

We solicited opinions from

Block directors

Faculty

MS1 and MS2 students

MS3 and MS4 students

Block Directors

Content and Format of current curriculum

CBL and other small group learning sessions

Examinations and Evaluations

Administration

Issues with the Current Curriculum

Segregation of clinical and basic science

Abnormal/normal divide

Binge/Purge Learning

Principles versus factoids

Role of the office of Academic Development

Approaches

Integration of material

Incorporate more patient presentations

Fewer exams/blocks

Restructure CBL to foster life-long learning

Use appropriate technology

Web-based surveys

Asked faculty

- What works in the current curriculum?
- Novel ideas?

Asked MS1 and MS2 students, MS3 and MS4 students.

- What currently works well?
- Rate teaching modalities (MS1 and MS2 only).
- How can the experience be improved (MS3 and MS4 only)?
- Novel Ideas?

Career Preparation

A single faculty advisor for the entire 4 years of medical school

Meaningful exposure to the administrative, legal and financial aspects of medicine

Encourage additional degrees and international rotations

Clinical Experiences

Have a continuous clinical experience, perhaps replacing the current ECM curriculum

Interdisciplinary workshops/seminars

Practice working with teams of other health care professionals like nurses and PAs

Require relevant basic science material in patient write-ups

General Experience

Have more experts teach

Have a few lectures during the year that draw disparate information together

Have courses designed by teams that include both basic scientist and clinicians

More structure in the 4th year

Have more tracks, like the neuroscience track, in other fields

Many students praised the block system