

**Minutes of the meeting of the
Executive Committee**
of the SUNY-Downstate College of Medicine
December 5, 2011

**Present: M. Feuerman, K. Powderly, M. Nowakowski, S. Eisner, S. Rinnert,
I. Bodis-Wollner, P. Maccabee, S. Eisner, V. Anderson, S. Miller, S. Ostrow,
P. Maccabee, M. Hammwerschlag**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Feuerman and minutes were approved

Presiding Officer's Report

Dr. Feuerman stated she felt that faculty members are not aware of faculty governance and it would be a great idea to speak to the department chairs to inform them. Dr. Feuerman asked Dr. Nowakowski to reach out to department chairs regarding this. Dr. Rinnert volunteered to attend faculty meetings and give an orientation about faculty governance. Dr. Miller felt the best way to advertise faculty governance is the Executive Committee's newsletter.

Dr. Feuerman asked the committee for goals for the New Year. Dr. Anderson stated a great opportunity for political clout is to activate the faculty senate on campus. She felt that Downstate should learn how to participate by going to other SUNY campuses where their faculty senates are successful. She also stated that the Chancellor is really interested in governance and that we need to recruit dynamic people to represent us SUNY Wide.

Sub-Committee Reports

CEPC

At the CEPC meeting, Dr. McCrae presented a proposal to begin the core clinical year block in July 2012. In this proposal, the medicine clerkship has been shortened to eight weeks from 10 weeks. Primary care clerkship has been shortened from six weeks to four weeks. Also in the proposal, there will be a pilot program called the longitudinal clinic experience. The longitudinal clinic experience would give students a chance to see the same patients over time. The students in the CEPC committee did not agree with the proposed clerkship schedule fearing that there would not be enough electives. Also, students felt that the vacation time would be shortened. After reviewing and discussing the proposal, the CEPC committee had decided to accept the proposal contingent on the following:

- 1) There be a sufficient variety and number of electives of the appropriate level and structure available for MS3 students.
- 2) Considering adding a vacation week to the spring, between blocks 3 and 4, or allow the use of elective time for vacation if the student is on schedule to have enough credits to graduate on time.

Dr. Eisner asked the Executive Committee to review the proposal (see attachment). The committee decided to accept the proposal contingent on the following:

1. Departments, chairs and affiliates approve of the change in start date.
2. That there be a sufficient variety and number of electives of the appropriate level and structure available for MS3 students.

3. Guidelines for electives be provided in a timely fashion so that they may be established in time for the students.
4. The impact of the Primary Care Longitudinal Experience on other clerkship rotations should be determined. Options for students not taking part in the Primary Care Longitudinal Experience must be in place.
5. The Curriculum Steering Committee consider adding a vacation week to the spring, between blocks 3 and 4, or allow the use of elective time for vacation if the student is on schedule to have enough credits to graduate on time.

TBL

Dr. Feuerman stated that students have voiced some disapproval of TBL. There were several reasons why they did not like TBL.

1. The students received their reading assignments too late.
2. They did not like the idea of standing in front of their peers defending the wrong answer.
3. They felt TBL was not an efficient use of their time.

The students complained to the Dean and he placed a moratorium on TBLs. A few TBLs have either been cancelled or converted to other types of learning experiences.

New Business

Dr. Rinnert stated that a great idea for the faculty development initiative would be to help incorporate a new teaching technology workshop for the College of Medicine. If we have various workshops dedicated to teaching technology, core faculty members working with the new curriculum could become experts.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen E. Powderly, PhD