UPSOM Curriculum Committee Minutes of the 428th Meeting Sept. 21, 2020

Jason Rosenstock, MD, Chair Bill Yates, PhD, Vice-Chair

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held virtually using the Zoom platform. All members and guests remotely participated.

Dr. Rosenstock, MD, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, convened the meeting at 4:00pm.

Subcommittee Updates:

CCES: Continues to meet weekly to plan agenda, ROMS, vetted course directors, site reactivation for volunteer sites, mini-elective review, and welcomed Dr. Alda Gonzaga, MD to the group.

CCQI:. For clerkship grade submission, there have been zero late grades over the last year. Thank you to all clerkship directors and students coordinators for your efforts, and a reminder that grades are due this Friday, Sept 25 for Period 4.

Mapping/Integration: M/I subcommittee is in need of new members. If interested in helping to map the curriculum, please contact Dr. Yates or Dr. Joe Yanta.

Nominations: Curriculum Committee currently has two open positions for voting members. Dr. Jake Waxman is heading up the search. A slate of possible candidates will be voted on by the faculty later this fall.

Clerkship Director: Subgroup of subcommittee is meeting to discuss validity of clinical grades later this week. This group is made up of faculty, staff, and students.

New Business

Content Change Request: Population Health

Population Health wishes to expand COVID-19 coverage within course, focusing on clinical outcomes and differences from different countries. This imcludes a large group discussion with breakout groups and debrief. This will begin this academic year.

A vote was called to include COVID-19 in to the Population Health course. This motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Social Medicine Theme Update

Drs. Bui and Ufomata gave an update. The first meeting of the leadership group will meet later this week. Speakers and student input continue to be collected. Social Medicine Theme Advisory Group has formed. If any course director has cases or lectures to be reviewed, please email them to Dr. Bui. A glossary of terms under the Social Medicine umbrella are also being built.

Research Elective Grading

The longitudinal research project (LRP) is graded as pass/fail, but the month-long research electives are graded on a segmented scale. A proposal was drawn up to change the research electives to pass/fail. This change would take place in Academic Year 2021-2022.

A vote was called to change all monthly research electives from a segmented grading scale to pass/fail for Academic Year 2021-2022. This motion was APPROVED unanimously.

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Month Count in Transition Year

The schedule was adapted during pandemic and flexibility was needed, with the expectation that future gaps could arise. By compressing some clerkships, there are now two months of flexibility. For MS3, the extra two months will be Step study and one will be a vacation month. Electives will continue to be encouraged. For MS4, students who took a suspended clerkship earlier than the pandemic, it will be credited as an elective experience. There will still be two months for interviewing or vacation. A matrix was provided to map a way forward.

A vote was called on the move to grant two months of study/vacation/interview months for MS3 and MS4, with elective credit granted for suspended clerkships completed pre-Covid-19. This motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Curriculum Reform: Phase 2

Dr. Rosenstock walked the committee through phase two of curriculum reform. A kickoff meeting is scheduled for Monday, Sept 28. The timeline of Phase 2 Planning section will span October 2020 to December 2021. Michelle Sergent, MPH will act as project manager. The steering committee will oversee the work of five subcommittees (MS1/2, MS3/4, Assessment, Student, Project mgt). These groups are made up of staff, students, and faculty from a variety of backgrounds and expertise.

A matrix of thread representatives will ensure integration of curricular themes. Mandates have been circulated to the membership. Common themes include reports to the steering committee due 12/2021, with the steering committee reporting to the full Curriculum committee in 01/2022; consistency with UPSOM mission and phase 1 findings; and thread coordination, integration, and best practice priorities. Steering Committee is made up of Dr. Peter Drain and Dr. Michael Elnicki. Subcommittee leadership was also announced.

It was recommended that subcommittee titles be changed from MS1/2 and MS3/4 to Foundation segment and Clerkship and Beyond segment.

A vote was called to approve the Phase 2 mandates. This motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Boot Camp and ILS Change for AY20-21

Dr. Raquel Buranosky reported that the Surgery Boot Camp will move to 12.5 period. It will count as a boot camp but not an ILS. Students have been made aware of the change for AY20-21.

Foundation of Medicine Block Report

Dr. Cynthia Lance-Jones reviewed the Foundations of Medicine block. Aside from Anatomy, courses come in three-course sectionals (Genetics, Fuels, Immuno and Tissues, Pharm, Micro). Relationships between course material and UPSOM objectives were identified.

Course evaluations showed an increase over the past year in overall quality and organization. Dr. Lance-Jones acknowledged this increase in Immunology and Pharmacology. Students have asked for more practice questions and reviews. Clinical stems questions were then increased. All courses are adding additional quizzes. Students have also asked for less lecturers for better continuity with material.

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Innovations added include executive summaries for lectures and overt reviews of education objectives.

Students noted that syllabus and lectures were the most helpful resource. For this year, COVID information is being added (vaccinologist in Immuno, students as presenters in Tissues, increase of virtual office hours, lectures as homework followed by interactive sessions, and adding 'Complete 3D Anatomy' and the virtual lab in Micro). In preparation for Curriculum Reform, flipped classrooms and mini/small-bite lectures, pre-quizzes, and determining PBL vs workshops, expansion of clinical relevance throughout. Social medicine content is being added to FOM courses as well.

Challenges found within the block include pedagogical issues such as creating practice questions with clinical stems, faculty consistency and flow, alignment of material across all courses, and a need for lab-based anatomy elective. Logistically, mandatory presence in flipper classrooms and how students can review their tests remotely.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 5. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by Gregory Null, recording secretary. Approved by: Jason Rosenstock, MD