

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the 443th Meeting
June 7, 2021**

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

Business of the Curriculum Committee on June 7, 2021

Motion	Vote Tally	Approved?
Approval of minutes of May 17 meeting	7 Yes, 0 No	YES
Removal of conscientious objection module in Ethics, Law, and Professionalism course for AY2021-22	18 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of curriculum-wide tobacco education recommendations	16 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of Educational Program Objectives and Review Plan	10 Yes, 0 No	YES

All members and guests remotely participated.

Voting Members Present: A. Brown, MD; A. McCormick, MD, FAAP; B. Yates, PhD; B. O'Donnell, MD; C. Yanta, MD; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; G. Hamad, MD, FACS, FASMBS; H. Hohmann, MD; J. Waxman, MD, PhD; J. Rosenstock, MD; J. Duehr, MS3; L. Knepper, MD; L. Borghesi, PhD; M. Schmidt, PhD; M. Granovetter, MSTP; O. Torres, MD, MS; P. Drain, PhD; R. Schuchert, MD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Herrle, MD, MS; S. Truschel, PhD; T. Bui, MD; V. Agarwal, MD;

Ex-Officio Members Present: A. Thompson, MD, MHCPM; B. Piraino, MD; C. Lance-Jones, PhD; J. Losee, MD, FACS, FAAP; M. McNeil, MD, MPH; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH

Invited Colleagues and Guests: A. James, MD; A. Serra, MD, MPH; B. Civi; C. Balaban, PhD; E. Reis, MD, FAAP; F. Yates, MLIS; G. Perez, MD; G. Null, MA; J. McGee, MD; J. Suyama, MD, FACEP; J. Maier, MD, PhD; J. Szymusiak, MD, MS, FAAP; J. Davison, MD; K. Scott, MA; K. Maietta; M. Tavarez, MD, MS; M. Elnicki, MD; M. Sergent, MPH; R. Van Deusen, MD, MS; R. Powers, PhD; S. Khan, PhD; S. Gabrielson, MSLIS; S. Timpler, DO, FACP, FIDSA; W. Walker, PhD

Dr. Rosenstock opened the meeting at 4:00pm and welcomed three new student members to the Curriculum Committee: Tyler Weigel (MS3), Christina Diermenjien (MS3), and Diego Luy (MS4).

A motion to approve the minutes of the 442nd meeting of the Curriculum Committee was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The minutes were APPROVED.

Standing Committees and Threads

CCES: Curriculum Committee Executive Subcommittee reviewed the official 44 clinical conditions for approval and continues to oversee in-person activity planning. CCES is discussing the proposal for an expansion of the Longitudinal Alliance Program, a proposal for an accelerated track for MD degree, and legacy issues with Honors Shelf cutoffs.

CCQI: Curriculum Continuous Quality Improvement subcommittee shared its mandate with the group and reviewed process changes involving how CCQI communicates with the full Curriculum Committee and the wider School community.

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Social Medicine: Dr. Bui announced an upcoming survey sent to clerkship and course directors covering diversity and anti-racism content within courses.

Mapping and Integration: Dr. Joseph Yanta will be stepping down from co-chair this subcommittee. He was thanked for the work that he oversaw of the past few years. A new co-chair will be needed to join Dr. William Walker in overseeing the important work of how the curriculum is organized. Please reach out to Dr. Rosenstock if you are interested in the co-chair position or membership in the subcommittee.

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: A task force is being formed to review possible inclusion of these two themes within the curriculum. Please reach out to Dr. Rosenstock if interested.

Evaluation Subcommittee Report: Dr. Cynthia Lance-Jones gave her annual report from the work of the Evaluation Subcommittee. Dr. Lance-Jones reviewed the subcommittee's mandate and membership. A summary of outcomes from completed courses was reviewed, and included an increase of attention to social determinants of health and social justice, improved syllabus organization, and quiz/exam additions. Students have asked for and course directors are adding more practice questions and Step 1 relevance, and post-exam review sessions.

Faculty are also interested in increasing independent learning, increasing active learning/engagement, and learning environment faculty training. Course faculty are concerned about faculty recruitment, creating good board-like questions, external resource use, and the logistics of live or pre-recorded didactics. The subcommittee goals for 2021-22 include assessing clinical relevance for all science courses, linkage of course/EPO objectives, ensure that review meetings are held soon after the receipt of course evaluations, and a large meeting for all members to discuss broad themes.

Content Change Request

Removal of Conscientious Objection module and discussion (Ethics, Law, and Professionalism)

Course directors from the course submitted this request to remove the session to allow for more time to discuss other areas, particularly around reproductive health. There are no objectives linked to the topic. This topic will be briefly discussed in other parts of the course, among other places within the curriculum.

The Committee discussed student mechanisms of excusing oneself from certain activities.

A motion to approve the removal of Conscientious Objection session within the course was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The motion was APPROVED.

Tobacco Recommendations (curriculum-wide)

Mapping and Integration subcommittee brought recommendations concerning tobacco coverage within the curriculum. The subcommittee made the following recommendations: 1) modify Education Program Objectives to explicitly define tobacco education goals and 2) explore enhancing tobacco in both preclinical and clinical segments. Objectives were compared to national tobacco control standards and were shared with the Curriculum Committee. A map of where tobacco is covered in the current curriculum was reviewed.

CCES recommended changes to six EPO subobjectives to more explicitly highlight both tobacco and opioid use, emphasizing advocacy and leadership more. A new review found additional tobacco education in the

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Foundations phase of the curriculum, so no new coverage was felt to be necessary there. However, CCES recommended adding a module on smoking cessation to the Adult Outpatient Medicine Clerkship, including skills practice and other content.

A motion to approve these Tobacco Recommendations was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The motion was APPROVED.

Overall Review of Educational Program Objectives

Dr. Rosenstock led a discussion on how the Committee might best review the Educational Program Objectives. With so many objectives, CCES is recommending a review of one EPO per meeting over the next 34 meetings. Committee membership will need to prepare in advance by reviewing the current EPO prior to the meeting.

A motion to approve the School of Medicine's Educational Program Objectives was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The motion was APPROVED.

Patient, Physician, and Society Block Report

Dr. Julie Childers led the Committee on a review of the Patient, Physician, and Society block. Dr. Childers began with a review of all courses and topics covered in Introduction to Being a Physician; Ethics, Law, and Professionalism; Behavioral Medicine; Population Health; and Racism in Medicine. Educational Program Objectives and course objectives were compared. Student evaluation data from the academic year was shared, demonstrating high levels of student satisfaction. Didactic content is being reduced with more time added for reflection, community stories, and small group learning. Specific innovations include interactive online cases, flipped classroom experiences, delayed recall, and reflection on learning. Changes include a new book and changes with HIV session, adding LGBTQ health and racial disparities sessions, improvements to student presentation cases, wider coverage of health disparities in other groups, and an increase in advocacy skills for students.

Students are concerned that they are learning the social determinants of health and how to affect them, but they are being taught by and will work beside faculty and physicians who are not as educated. How does PittMed reach out to get this same skillset to its faculty and the health plan's physicians? Possible faculty development options were discussed.

Challenges include small group facilitator recruitment and training, awareness of importance of the topics covered within this block at the school and student level, and integration of topics within the whole curriculum. Faculty development modules developed by OMED and the Office of Learning Environment will soon be available for small group facilitators to hone these skills.

The Committee discussed particular community panels and places where additional coverage may be needed, such as weight management/obesity and LGBTQ+. Integrating topics within the entire curriculum was discussed, with a focus on how topics may look within the new curriculum. Placement of course dates (Wednesday morning) was also discussed. All course directors were thanked for their work over the academic year.

The next Curriculum Committee meeting will be held on Monday, June 21 at 4pm via Zoom.

Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:30pm.