

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the 489th Meeting
December 4, 2023**

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

Business of the Curriculum Committee on December 4, 2023

Motion	Vote Tally	Approved?
Approval of 11/20 meeting minutes	14 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of Clinical Informatics Elective	15 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of Policy on USMLE	15 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of course grade components for Skin, MSK, and Hematology (via e-vote)	12 Yes, 5 No	YES

All members and guests remotely participated.

Voting Members Present: A. Heymann, MS4; A. Aburachis, MS4; A. McCormick, MD, FAAP; A. Doshi, MD; B. O'Donnell, MD; C. Yanta, MD; H. Hohmann, MD; J. Rosenstock, MD; L. Carlson, MS2; M. DeFrances, MD, PhD; M. Schmidt, PhD; M. Rahman, MS1; O. Torres, MD, MS; P. Drain, PhD; P. Dorsey, MS4; R. Schuchert, MD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Truschel, PhD; T. Bui, MD; V. Agarwal, MD

Ex-Officio Members Present: A. Gonzaga, MD, MS; A. Thompson, MD, MHCPM; B. Piraino, MD; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; L. Borghesi, PhD; P. Veldkamp, MD, MS; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH

Invited Colleagues and Guests: A. Brown, MD; A. Sohnen, MD, FACP; A. Clark, MD; A. Serra, MD, MPH; A. Young, MLIS; A. Kohli, MD; A. McGinness, MD; C. Schott, MD, MS, RDMS, FACEP; E. Hager, MD; E. Reis, MD; F. Friedman; G. Perez, MD; G. Null, MA; J. Alexander; J. Suyama, MD, FACEP; J. Maier, PhD; J. Szymusiak, MD, MS; K. Senko, Ed. D., APTD; K. Scott, MA; K. Maietta, MPPM; K. Kindler, MD; K. Critelli, MD; K. Feterik, MD, MBA, FAMIA; L. Shutter, MD, FNCS, FCCM; M. Elnicki, MD; M. Sergent, MPH; M. Ramkumar, MD; N. Douglas, MS3; P. Workman, MD; R. Van Deusen, MD, MS; R. Powers, PhD; R. Peterson, MD; S. Templer, DO, FACP, FIDSA; V. Tas, MD, FAAP

Dr. Rosenstock opened the meeting at 4:00pm. Felicia Savage-Friedman was introduced as a community faculty member. Also welcomed were Bob Arnold, MD and Brielle Spataro, MD as new elected Curriculum Committee members.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 11/20 Curriculum Committee meeting was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The Committee APPROVED the minutes.

Standing Subcommittees

CCES: CCES continues to develop plans from the MS3 Student report, to manage ROMS review and approvals, to review space issues around the medical school campus, and to create a new task force within the Assessment subcommittee to review OSCEs and other simulated assessments.

CCQI: CCQI met in December and reviewed the whole curriculum review, discussed the addition of Step pass rates by clerkship to the CCQI indicators, and Step 2CK preparations using the after action review. Also Flex Week submissions for January and February are due on December 8.

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Social Medicine: Dr. Bui shared a link to a Pitt workshop on [Anti-ableist Pedagogy](#), and identified ideas that benefit all learners within this lens.

Elective Proposal: Clinical Informatics

Dr. Rosenstock reviewed a proposal for the Clinical Informatics elective. Two students per month can explore the role of informatics within the clinical environment. Dr. Kindler, proposed course director, identified core competencies for all future physicians and noted the opportunity to tailor the experience with student interests.

Discussion included Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning topics, radiology opportunities, and hybrid learning options.

A motion to approve the Clinical Informatics elective was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The Committee APPROVED the elective.

Learn Serve Lead Share

Dr. Serra shared information on Quality Matters, a systematic review of courses to ensure consistency and quality. Dr. Senko is a trained auditor for Quality Matters has begun the review with the Anatomy segment of Keystone Fundamentals.

Dr. Templer reviewed information on student hand-offs and cognitive learning course creation as part of orientation. In one example, one case is reviewed each week, and in other 'the purpose and the why' is shared prior to each learning event. Step 1 readiness and requirements were a topic covered at LSL. Coaching programs and leadership development ideas were also shared.

Dr. Ufomata discussed the interface between law and health, including examples where law clinics are part of the curriculum. DEI initiatives and challenges were presented with a focus on how those offices are structured. Dr. Ufomata also shared the tenets and efficacy of equity audits of school policies.

Policy on USMLE

Dr. Gonzaga reviewed the proposed policy change on USMLE, which was created to be more explicit about what is done currently. Students who complete the board study elective and then need more than two additional months to study (i.e., they use their two vacation months), will be placed on academic leave through the end of the academic year. If the student has never attempted Step 1 and takes the exam before the end of the academic year, they may be considered for return mid-year.

Discussion included graduation requirements in both curricula, intention of study months for USMLE exams, transcript notation clarification, exam scheduling, and clerkship start procedures.

A motion to approve the Policy on USMLE was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The Committee APPROVED the policy.

Three Rivers Curriculum Clerkship and Bridges Segments

Dr. Rosenstock reviewed tentative plans for the clinical phase of the Three Rivers Curriculum. The clerkship phase will begin annually in February and will include two weeks of the Preclerkship

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course. Clinical periods are eight weeks, and will be made up of two-, four-, six-, or eight-week experiences. Both Surgery and OBGYN are creating teaching plans for additional time. Threads, and Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology integration, are priorities. Continuation of the content of IP-Geriatrics and Clinical Skills Enhancement Weeks are being discussed.

In the Bridges phase, two-week electives will be created. Longitudinal Clinical Experiences, within six different departments, are being developed and will include the choice between either the Adult Outpatient Medicine Clerkship or this experience. A Diagnostics course working group has formed and will recommend content. Integration Life Science courses will be altered and will shrink to two options (Medicine and Surgery) in one period only. This will help reconnect basic science to the clinical phase. Boot camp and Acting Internships will continue.

Other initiatives include core faculty educators receiving direct School of Medicine payments, match readiness for PCAT, re-integration of students coming off of leave, and clinical phase Flex Weeks.

Grade Components of Skin-MSK/Hematology

Dr. Rosenstock shared results of the e-vote on the grading change in legacy Skin-MSK course, and some of the implications and reasoning behind the decisions. Grading components for the Skin, Musculoskeletal Diseases, and Hematology courses changed for this year to include 100% of the grade stemming from exams. Last year, students received 10% credit for attendance. A vote was sent in haste in order to make the change prior to the course start.

Rationale on the change was reviewed, including the goal for students to improve student knowledge mastery and readiness for clerkships and USMLE Step 1 exams. Attendance as a grading component began in AY23 and it was felt that these points rewarded expected, professional behavior. Step 1 outcomes have dropped in the last three years and faculty and staff felt that raising the bar for initial mastery may help move that indicator. Supporting data on student performance and Step 1 scores were shared. Step 1 delay data was also shared. A brief literature review was presented.

A new process will move from course-level grading approvals (by course directors) to Curriculum Committee approval. This is consistent with clerkships and other educational units. The goal is to add transparency and allow more discussion, particularly with students. Another process include requests must be submitted prior to the syllabus distribution (30 days prior to course start). Curriculum Committee members are reminded that any member, faculty or staff, may table an e-vote for more discussion at a Curriculum Committee meeting.

Discussion included the value of class attendance, professionalism grading components, and outcome monitoring.

Medical student Luke Carlson offered appreciation for the transparency of the discussion.

The next meeting is Monday, February 5 at 4pm. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:20pm.