

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee  
Minutes of the 490th Meeting  
December 18, 2023**

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

Business of the Curriculum Committee on December 18, 2023

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Vote Tally</b>	<b>Approved?</b>
Approval of 12/4 Meeting Minutes	14 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of IBP Assessment Plan	12 Yes, 0 No	YES

**Voting Members Present:** A. Yohannes, MS1; A. Aburachis, MS4; A. McCormick, MD, FAAP; A. Doshi, MD; B. Yates, PhD; B. Spataro, MD, MS; G. Null, MA; J. Waxman, MD, PhD; M. Rahman, MS1; M. McDowell, MD; M. Sergeant, MPH; N. Agarwal, MD; O. Torres, MD, MS; P. Drain, PhD; P. Dorsey, MS4; R. Schuchert, MD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Crowley, MS4; S. Truschel, PhD; T. Bui, MD; V. Agarwal, MD

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** A. Gonzaga, MD, MS; A. Thompson, MD, MHCPM; B. Piraino, MD; C. Pettigrew, EdD; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; L. Borghesi, PhD; 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; C. Schott, MD, MS, RDMS, FACEP; E. Reis, MD; F. Friedman; G. Cooper, PhD; J. Maier, PhD; K. Scott, MA; M. Elnicki, MD; M. Sauritch; M. Ramkumar, MD; N. Douglas, MS3; P. Workman, MD; R. Van Deusen, MD, MS; R. Powers, PhD; R. Al-Ramadhani, MD; V. Arias, MD; W. Mars, PhD

**All members and guests remotely participated.**

Dr. Rosenstock opened the meeting at 4:00pm.

A motion to approve the minutes from the 12/4 Curriculum Committee meeting was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The Committee APPROVED the minutes.

**Standing Subcommittees**

**CCES:** CCES continues to meet weekly. Members have focused on several research issues, which included reviewing three ROMS projects. Several ongoing issues are being addressed such as space management, curriculum reform overlap, and the calendar for clinical rotations. Additionally, Drs. Alison DeKosky and Andrew Wickerham are organizing MS4 course Practicing Medicine: What Awaits You? This will take place on Friday, February 16th, and is expected for all MS4 students. Our long-time Neurology Clerkship Director, Dr. Laurie Knepper, is planning to step away from her role this year. We kindly thank her for her dedication and amazing work over the last several years.

**CCQI:** CCQI will prepare and circulate mid-year reports, which will include evaluation and testing data. In addition, the Subcommittee is in the process of preparing a compendium for the Three Rivers Curriculum. This will include assessment data and student feedback, and it will be shared early in the New Year.

**Social Medicine:** At the end of November, the LCME added structural competence to cultural competence and health inequities for Element 7.6. We will continue to address this element as well as others to prepare for our next site visit, which will occur in 2026-2027. In addition, the Racial Equity Consciousness Institute at Pitt is opening applications for the 2024 cohort (Click here to apply). The FEB (Foster, Equity, and Belonging) Challenge will occur for the second year. Last year the Department of Pediatrics won for being the most participatory department. There will be more information to come in early January.

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee  
Minutes of the 490th Meeting  
December 18, 2023**

**New Membership Announcement**

Newly elected members Drs. Brielle Spataro and Bob Arnold were introduced to the committee. In the last election, in 2021, Drs. Andrew McCormick and Orquidia Torres joined the committee for two-year terms. Because both individuals have participated actively and desire to continue, and the committee has benefited from their expertise and perspectives, the Curriculum Committee Executive Subcommittee has opted to appoint them to ongoing service on the committee, contingent on ongoing active participation. The final appointment slot will be a shared position in the Department of Neurological Surgery, by Drs. Michael McDowell and Nitin Agarwal. The next election will take place in 2025.

**Assessment Plan for Introduction to  
Being a Physician**

Based on feedback and consideration on this past year's IBP course, faculty and class representatives presented a new assessment plan. The proposal was that the course will be graded as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory and will be dependent on student attendance synchronously of patient panels and reflections. This new grading metric will be clearly laid out in the student syllabus. In addition, Drs. Scott Herrle and Heather Hohmann run the task force that approves courses in Three Rivers. They received this plan prior to this meeting,

A motion to approve the IBP grading plan in the new curriculum, satisfactory/unsatisfactory based on attendance was brought before the Curriculum Committee. The assessment plan was APPROVED.

**Whole Curriculum Review: Learning  
Environment Update**

Drs. Raquel Buranosky and Evelyn Reis provided an update on efforts to improve the learning environment. While we have more awareness of policies, and more reporting, we still have higher than desired rates of "hidden curriculum" and mistreatment incidents, particularly in the clerkship phase of the curriculum. Improvements include: (1) implemented a very transparent, collaborative response process with a new database called Case IQ, which allows multiple organizations and offices to be involved in real time; (2) created oversight committees such as the Clinical Learning Environment and Bias in Clerkship Committees. The Offices of Clinical Education and Learning Environment are working to identify the issues, better reward all faculty, partner with departmental leaders around faculty development, and improve remediation/coaching plans.

**CR3 Foundations Overview**

Greg Null, Dr. Allison Serra, MS1 Abigail Yohannes, and Drs. Lisa Borghesi and Martin Schmidt shared an update on the rollout of the new curriculum, now that the first semester has ended. Keystone Fundamentals (KF) is complete, Organ Systems is beginning in January. 3RC broke down siloes, integrating knowledge and consolidating content spirally over time, shifting from lecture to small group active learning using a case-based approach. Weekly formative and chunked summative assessments use NBME-style questions with a flexible remediation approach. In addition, integrating content themes throughout the entirety of the curriculum helped build knowledge frames which were revisited with complexity for interspersed learning, for repetition, and for adding new knowledge layers. The teaching format improves critical thinking, mentorship, and teamwork; the curricular map and assessment plan both facilitate long-term retention through spaced repetition and interleaving. There were many challenges during the rollout, particularly around timeliness, quality/consistency,

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee  
Minutes of the 490th Meeting  
December 18, 2023**

communication/transparency, and new program expectations.

Longitudinal Educators will continue to support content learning, professional identity, and team-building skills. Students will receive new LEs and small groups (at random) for the Organ Systems block in which they will continue to support and learn how to interact effectively in teams.

The program evaluation core, with Feedback Fridays, surveys, and “closing the loop” efforts, helped improve curricular quality in close to real time. Successes have included flex weeks, improved assessment and program evaluation quality, the Patient-Centered Care block, faculty/staff dedication, and new space/technology.

---

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

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Sergent, recording secretary. Approved by Jason Rosenstock, MD