

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee  
Minutes of the 529<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
November 17, 2025**

Jason Rosenstock, MD, Chair

Business of the Curriculum Committee on November 17, 2025

Motion	Vote Tally	Approved?
Approval of Meeting Minutes from 10/20	10 Yes, 0 No MS1: Yes MS2: Yes MS3: Absent MS4: Absent MSTP: Absent	YES
Approval of Neuroscience Course Learning Objectives Revisions	8 Yes, 0 No MS1: Yes MS2: Yes MS3: Absent MS4: Absent MSTP: Absent	YES
Approval of Clerkships Phase Report	8 Yes, 0 No MS1: Yes MS2: Yes MS3: Absent MS4: Absent MSTP: Absent	YES

**Voting Members Present:** A. Brophy, MS2; B. Ratangee, MS1; C. Yanta, MD; E. Egbert, MS2; H. Sukumvanich, MD; J. Rosenstock, MD; J. Maier, PhD, MD; M. Solomon, MS1; N. Tchontchoko, MS1; N. Agarwal, MD; P. Drain, PhD; R. Schuchert, MD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Truschel, PhD; T. Cyr, MD; PhD; U. Gaffney, MS2

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** A. Hyderi, MD, MPH; A. Serra, MD, MPH; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; L. Borghesi, PhD; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH; R. Van Deusen, MD, MS

**Invited Colleagues and Guests:** A. Kohli, MD; B. O'Donnell, MD; C. Newman; G. Null, MA; K. Scott, MA; K. Senko, Ed.D; K. Maietta, MPPM; K. Miller, MS; M. Sergent, MPH, MSL; P. Wallach, MD; P. Workman, MD; R. Powers, PhD; R. Peterson, MD; T. Bui, MD

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**Members participated virtually and in-person.**

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

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE meeting minutes from 10/20.

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**Curriculum Committee Updates**

Dr. Jason Rosenstock introduced three newly elected Curriculum Committee members as well as the new MS1 class representatives. New faculty members include Dr. Anthony Cyr, Dr. Ashley Murillo, and Dr. John Maier. The new student representatives are Brina Ratangee, Ningberi Tchontchoko, Marquis Chapman, and Matthew Solomon.

**Neuroscience Course Learning Objectives (Revisions)**

Kathy Senko discussed that the Neuroscience Course Learning Objectives (CLOs) were recently revised to better align with actual teaching rather than relying on memory. Broad and detailed objectives were consolidated (from 12 detailed to fewer, clearer objectives) and one new objective on embryological

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CNS/PNS development was added. Content and assessments remain unchanged. The Foundations Phase Subcommittee approved the revisions.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE the revisions of the Neuroscience Course Learning Objectives.

**3RC Course Approval Task Force  
Update**

Dr. Heather Sukumvanich gave a brief update on the 3RC Course Approval Task Force, which she co-led with Dr. Scott Herrle. The 3RC Course Approval Task Force, active from August 2023 to May 2025, reviewed and approved all Foundations Block courses in the Three Rivers curriculum. The task force created a standardized approval process, collected detailed course information (goals, objectives, teaching methods, assessments, alignment with curricular threads and USMLE content), and provided feedback to improve quality and consistency. Major challenges included aligning course learning objectives with what was actually taught, ensuring assessments matched objectives, reducing unnecessary overlap while maintaining adequate repetition, and navigating leadership changes. Student and faculty representatives were involved throughout. The task force completed approvals and reported outcomes to leadership.

**Required Clinical Experiences Update**

Dr. Raquel Buranosky gave a brief update on Required Clinical Experiences. She reviewed the updated map of the 45 required clinical experiences, showing which clerkships cover each item and whether students perform (P) or observe (O) them. This annual review period (Nov–Feb) is when clerkships can propose changes, especially in response to national society recommendations.

Key questions moving forward include:

- Whether requirements should be “one-and-done” or documented multiple times.
- How often students are meeting requirements through simulation instead of real cases.
- Whether some experiences (e.g., otalgia) need to be reassigned to more appropriate clerkships.
- How to align required experiences with OSCE content and develop new OSCE/simulation cases for areas that are rarely seen clinically.

Overall, the committee emphasized improving data accuracy, deciding on needed revisions, and partnering with OSCE leadership to fill gaps through simulation.

**Clerkships Phase Report**

**Summary:**

Dr. Raquel Buranosky presented the Clerkships Phase Report for academic year 2025-2026.

Over the past year, the Clerkships Phase Subcommittee approved key elements of the Clerkships and Bridges phases, including IPE integration, required clinical experiences, site policies, and clerkship comparability. The clerkship year begins each February with a two-week pre-clerkship course, followed by core clerkships, longitudinal programs, and six weeks of electives. Duty hour compliance is excellent.

Quality data from the GQ, course evaluations, and clerkship metrics show strong overall performance. Students rate faculty and resident teaching highly and report strong skills in diagnosis, management, prevention, and caring for diverse populations. Learning-environment scores—especially around hidden curriculum—have steadily improved since 2020 but remain a focus for continued growth.

Assessment outcomes show many honors and solid NBME subject exam pass rates, though exam percentiles are sometimes lower than expected, partly due to national variability in clerkship structures.

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The CCA/OSCE first-time pass rate is high (87%), Step 2CK performance is at or above the national mean, and CASPer/CK content area data show balanced strengths with room to expand exposure in areas like acute care.

Feedback quality and mid-clerkship evaluations have improved significantly, driven by earlier assessment work. Emerging GROW areas include clearer grading/assessment, more consistent feedback, targeted content support (e.g., quizzes), and increasing EM exposure. Ideas discussed include creative placement of OPTHO/ENT content and considering resident feedback when refining curricula. EPO mapping confirms consistent assessment of core competencies while highlighting objectives that lack formal assessment methods.

Overall, Pitt Medical students are viewed as clinically strong, well-supported, and benefiting from coordinated clerkship and faculty leadership.

The Committee felt that clerkship grading should be an action item, giving the Clerkships Phase Subcommittee the expectation to do a deeper review of equity, bias, transparency, process, and appropriate grade distribution across clerkships, and return in six months with an update.

Other "grows" needed more time to be considered before placing on the work list for the phase, and full phase mapping was not able to be presented today. Students were not present today because of scheduling barriers, so they could not comment directly on the report.

The Committee voted to APPROVE part one of the Clerkships Phase Report, with part two to be scheduled in the next two months.

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**The next meeting is on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4PM. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:30PM.**

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sergent, recording secretary.