

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee**  
**Minutes of the 424th Meeting**  
**June 15, 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.**

**Voting Members Present:** A. Brown, MD; A. Doshi, MD; W. Yates, PhD; B. O'Donnell, MD; C. Yanta, MD; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; E. Waxman, MD, PhD; G. Hamad, MD, FACS, FASMBS; H. Hohmann, MD; J. Hect, MS2; J. Rosenstock, MD; L. Knepper, MD; L. Borghesi, PhD; M. Peretti, MS2; M. DeFrances, MD, PhD; M. Schmidt, PhD; M. Granovetter, MSTP; P. Drain, PhD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Herrle, MD, MS; T. Bui, MD

**Ex Officio Members Present:** C. Pettigrew, PhD; C. Lance-Jones, PhD; J. Harvey, MD; M. McNeil, MD; J. Losee, MD; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH

**Invited Colleagues and Guests:** A. McCormick, MD, FAAP; A. Biller, MD; A. James, MD, PhD; A. Shoukry, MD; A. Serra, MD, MPH; A. McDermott, MS-2; A. Ali, MS4; B. Rossiter, MD, MS; C. Balaban, PhD; C. Pacella, MD; D. DiNardo, MD, MS; D. Johnstone, MD; E. Reis, MD; F. Yates, MLIS; F. Modugno, MS, PhD, MPH; G. Null, MA; G. Wagner; JB McGee, MD; J. Glance, MD; J. Suyama, MD, FACEP; J. Maier, PhD, MD; J. Szymusiak, MD, MS, FAAP; J. McCausland, MD, MS, FACEP; K. Maietta; M. Garcia, M. Ed; M. Nance, MD; M. Sergeant, MPH; M. Decker, MD, FAAP; M. Elnicki, MD; N. Jonassaint, MD, MHS; P. Zahnhausen; R. Fogel, MS2; R. VanDeusen, MD, MS; R. Powers, PhD; S. Spigner, MS2; S. Maximous, MD; T. Conti, MD; S. Gabrielson, MSLIS; W. Walker, PhD

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

Dr. Rosenstock asked for a moment of silence for the recent deaths of black men by police.

**Subcommittee Updates:**

CCES: The Executive Subcommittee is monitoring and reviewing the clinical restart (start on 6/8). Anesthesiology make-ups (for 18 students) are planned during the transition year (if not completing an Anesthesiology elective). New course directors for Advanced Medical Interviewing (AMI) were vetted and approved. We welcome Karina Lawrence, MD and Eloho Ufomata, MD as new Co-Directors for AMI. CCQI: Two notices were sent to CCES, as trip lines were hit in two clerkships. AIMC students reported two duty hour violations, making a total of nine reported violations for this academic year. Action plan is continued monitoring and for clerkship to strengthen and clarify the policy on duty hours for all incoming students. The other was in Anesthesiology where two assessment metrics fell below 60%. Due to the suspension of Anesthesiology as a required clerkship during the covid transitional year, action will be deferred.

**New Business**

**Education Technology to Facilitate Remote Learning**

Dr. McGee detailed strategies for faculty to use as PittMed looks to remote learning opportunities for the Fall of 2020 in MS1-MS2. Resources are listed and available via Navigator. Questions and help should begin with the OMED Curriculum Specialists. Asynchronous pre-recorded modules should use Panopto. Live lectures (real time/synchronous or hybrid teaching) should use Zoom. Small group work works best

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with Teams. Office hours run best with Zoom. Faculty need to ensure that lectures and activities are available on Pitt servers. Tips were also offered for faculty to look their best when presenting the information, including loaner laptop availability, the creation of a recording studio in Scaife, use of microphones/earbuds, lighting, and positioning the cameras.

**Discussion of Systemic Racism and Health Inequity in the Curriculum**

Dr. Rosenstock reviewed some simple ground rules for the discussion in order to maintain the professional and collegial relationship of the Committee's membership and guests.

Dr. Rosenstock announced a search for an additional Social Medicine theme leader, to work with Dr. Bui in reviewing and managing the social medicine themes within our curriculum. Dr. Ufomata was nominated as the additional leader. The Curriculum Committee unanimously APPROVED Dr. Ufomata as a Social Medicine theme Co-Leader.

Three areas up for discussion included Curricular Content, Assessment of Learners, and Faculty Development.

Curricular Content Area:

What is the most pressing need? Where are the gaps?

Suggestions included adding an educational learning objective that specifically charges the curriculum to coherently discuss and recognize structural racism as a link to health inequity, blending this link in to all MS1-MS2 courses as a foundation for clinical rotations, required faculty development and training on systemic racism with a picture of what this looks like at PittMed, recommendation to use the phrase "systemic racism" within the objective, integrating systemic racism throughout the curriculum instead of one free-standing course or as stand-alone course or both, anti-racism courses or experiences as a graduation requirement, review of course material for photos and experiences to ensure diversity, a mechanism to honor and compensate student work on committees, and how to fast track any changes for the AY20-21 year.

Takeaways include review of cases to root out cases that fall along racial lines and can increase stereotypes, treating racism as an illness where the practitioner must research its management and cure, a possible directive from this body on how to address systemic racism within each course, adding debrief to connect basic science scenario with systemic racism, breaking systemic racism away from social determinants of health as a separate issue, and a separate report for Social Medicine to the full committee.

Assessment of Learners:

How will PittMed turn the tide of the global grading bias within the clinical years?

A push for more local data is in the works.

Faculty Development:

How are faculty honored and compensated for work? How are faculty recruited, rewarded, and retained?

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Faculty representation and retention are important parts of the PittMed experience. Increase in Curriculum Committee membership of black faculty and students is also important.

It was decided that CCES will work on these issues further with the social medicine theme leaders, and will report back to the full committee as a standing agenda item each meeting.

**Other Business:**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 20. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:30.

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