

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2009

7:30 – 9:00 am

Attendees: Richard Davidson - Chair, Judy Bowers, LouAnn Cooper, Margaret Duerson, Frank Genuardi, Paulette Hahn, Heather Harrell, Robert Hatch, Omayra Marrero (MS4), John Meuleman, Glenda Railey, Richard Rathe, Louis Ritz, Larry Rooks, Beverly Vidaurreta, Margaret Wallace, William E. Winter

Recording: S. Sorci

Approval of February Meeting Minutes

- The February meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Vision Statements from the Orange and Blue Task Forces – Drs. Winter and Meuleman

- Dr. Davidson asked Drs. Winter and Dr. Meuleman to share the vision statements formed by each of the task forces. He said that once we've decided what kind of physician we want to produce we will continue with curriculum development. The vision statement developed by this committee will be shared with the Dean as a recommendation.
- Dr. Winter and Dr. Mueleman each described the process and discussions by which each of the task forces came up with their respective vision statements.
- Dr. Davidson presented key words common of both statements including research, diversity, and leadership, collaborative manner in one, interdisciplinary in the other; compassion and compassionate care.
- Members discussed various traits and characteristics desired of student physicians.
- Members discussed strengths of the college and the opportunities offered to its students. It was agreed that flexibility is very important and that we have opportunity to build flexibility into our curriculum which may set us apart and distinguish us from other medical schools in the state.
- Members agreed that by selecting particular strengths to include in our vision statement that might differentiate us, i.e. research, we could lose potential students.
- Members had mixed opinions about using the word "scholar" in our vision statement. Though it implies lifelong learning, teaching and/or research, it may not be perceived as very important to the public.

- Results from a study done at McGill University show that the words professionalism and healer did not generally resonate in a positive way with patients, reported Dr. Davidson. Listening skills were rated as highly valued by the patients surveyed.
- Dr. Davidson reported that in his research, including a “careers in medicine” website, he could not find any US med school that identified preparing graduates for careers in academic medicine specifically. He said there are a number which talk about leadership.
- Dr. Davidson stated that 12% of our graduating students go into academic medicine as compared to 2-4% nationally. In 2007, approximately 37-38% of fourth-year students here and about 35% nationally say in the graduation questionnaire that they want a career in academic medicine.
- Dr. Harrell pointed out that our students have more exposure to academic medicine, compared to private practice. Another member agreed that our students reflect the strength of the teaching program itself.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

The next meeting is April 14, 2009, 7:30-9:00am in Room H-108