

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

October 14, 2008

7:30 – 9:00 am

Attendees: Richard Davidson - Chair, Robert Averbuch, Judy Bowers, Juan Cendan, Paulette Hahn, Heather Harrell, Robert Hatch, John Meuleman, Louis Ritz, Eric Rosenberg, LouAnn Cooper, Frank Genuardi, Beverly Vidaurreta, Colin Sumners, Maureen Novak, Troy Pashuck (MS1), Omayra Marrero (MSIV), Adam Bennett (MS1)

Absent Members: Christopher Bucciarelli, David Caro, J.R. Taylor, Dhipthi Mulligan, Mohan Raizada, Margaret Wallace, William Winter

Dr. Davidson welcomed members of the committee and introduced Adam Bennett, MS1. Student representatives stated that classes are progressing well with no significant issues to report at this time.

Dr. Hatch reported that, in response to the Society of Teaching Scholar's request for input regarding targeted faculty development, course and clerkship directors indicated that everyone is doing all they can and are not available for additional educational activity. It was suggested that increased opportunity for faculty development might be generated with more creativity and incentive.

Dr. Cooper presented the Evaluation Subcommittee's 2008-09 plan and recommendations for evaluation of student achievement, courses and clerkships, faculty instruction, and medical curriculum. In student achievement, recommendations include faculty development and training on rating forms, clarification of preclinical competencies for faculty and students, and review of descriptors.

In the evaluation of courses and clerkships, each will have different report formats with full reports required every two years. Abbreviated reports, including director's analysis, are required yearly. All directors are required to submit course reports in 2008-2009 since they were not requested in 2007-2008. Report templates will be developed for online submission. Faculty evaluations of courses and clerkships should continue.

Recommendations for the evaluation of faculty by students include specified minimal duration of contact, established criteria for number of evaluations before formal review, and the addition of "n/a" and "unable to assess" response options to evaluation items. Additional measures for formative and summative evaluation purposes, such as 5-point Likert-scale items and 7 Dimensions, as found on Stanford's SFDP-26 and University of Michigan's Global Rating Scale, can be adopted for our use.

Increased focus by the Evaluation Subcommittee will be in fourth-year electives, externships, longitudinal reports, and cross course/clerkship comparisons. Other issues for consideration

include student motivation to complete evaluations and to what degree, if any, student identity should be linked to evaluations.

Dr. Rosenberg reported on the implementation of the “Quality and Patient Safety (QPS)” curriculum. The four, year-long segments are being integrated longitudinally into existing preclinical and clinical coursework and will teach not only safety and error prevention, but also improvement in quality and caring. QPS I and II began with first and second year students in August 2008 while components of QPS III and IV began in July 2008 with third and fourth year students.

Dr. Sumners announced a new two-year pre-medical post-baccalaureate program with applications being accepted starting February 1, 2009. The goal of the program is “to create a formalized mechanism whereby students can gain credentials for application/acceptance to medical school”. Target applicants include students who have attained an undergraduate degree in a field other than health and who want to change course and pursue a career in medicine, and also pre-health program students who need to complete requirements or remedial work, improve grades, or conduct research to be more competitive.

Dr. Davidson reported a change in the University grading system which will be implemented in July 2009, and will denote specific set scores for plus and minus grades. He suggested that the Office of Med Ed run simulations using the new grading system with review by the Evaluation Subcommittee.

November’s Meeting – Since the regularly scheduled meeting falls on Veteran’s Day, members will be polled by email to determine whether November 18th or November 25th will be the best alternate meeting date.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10am.