

## Evaluation Subcommittee August 30, 2006

**Present:** Emily Goldberg, Lou Ann Cooper, Kelli Crovo, **Drs.** Rarey, Romrell, Kellner, Duckworth, Novak, Hahn, **Guest:** Richard Davidson **Recording:** Adrienne Cullins

Dr. Davidson attended the meeting as the chair of the Curriculum Committee. Dr. Davidson began the meeting by stating that the creation of the Evaluation Subcommittee was a wonderful idea by Dr. Watson, and that he had some thoughtful ideas to present. Dr. Davidson stated that the Evaluation Sub-Committee has been extremely successful at requiring a coherent approach to the learning objectives and now most course and clerkships are compliant. He asked where does the Evaluation subcommittee go from here? Dr. Davidson presented a PowerPoint presentation that outlines suggestions for a new direction for the Evaluation Subcommittee. The issues to be considered are as follows:

- “Are we evaluating courses or are we evaluating the paperwork?”
  - Does the final report provide meaningful information with which the C/C director can improve their course?
  - What is the final determinant of the value of a course?
- How are we evaluating whether or not learning objectives are met? We ask students.
  - “The learning objectives of the course were clear.”
  - “The learning activities were appropriate for the specific course competencies.”
  - “The methods of evaluation were consistent with the course objectives.”
- What percent of students at the end of most courses can tell you what the learning objectives are?
- Are the learning objectives evaluated as to content?
- What about teaching faculty input in courses taught by multiple faculty, especially in small group learning situations?
- Can all courses and clerkships be fairly evaluated using one schema?
- Should the committee consider the content of courses and clerkships?
- If so, who on the committee is best suited to review for content?

Dr. Davidson also had the following recommendations for the Evaluation Subcommittee:

- Assess acquisition of learning objectives with specific questions
- As appropriate for the course, assess faculty feedback regarding the course and its ability to a. prepare them for teaching and b. meet the learning objectives
- Decide how to address content in courses and clerkships, including how to best use data from patient logs
- Discuss ways to individualize course and clerkship evaluations so that they provide meaningful information to directors
- A useful start for this might be to poll course and clerkship directors regarding the utility of their reports
- Consider alternative ways to summarize conclusions that are more statistically valid (this may include narrative and not numerical summaries)

The committee brainstormed about the ideas that were presented, and it was suggested that we pilot a program with another Medical School to evaluate each others courses and reports. It was decided that is would be discussed further at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.