

Education Council (EC) Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2009

Members present: *S Allen, L Anderson, M Baird, J Beattie, A Campbell, B Clarke, T Ebner, A Friedman, C Hegarty, W Miller, C Niewoehner, J Nixon, L Ryan, T Stillman, T Thompson, T Walseth, , K Watson, P White, M Woods, J Wynn*

Members absent: *J Adams, D Anderson, B Benson, B Brandt K Brooks, S Chahla, K Crossley, L Hansen, R Hoffman, M Hordinsky, J Jochman, A Johns, M Kondrak, L Ling, M LuBrandt, R McCollister, J Miller, A Minenko, C Patow, L Perkowski, D Power, L Repesh, J Sauter, R Soninno, D Wangensteen, R Wong*

I. Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the April 21st meeting were approved without changes or additions.

II. Information

Scientific Foundations Retreat will be held on June 15th from 8:00-12:00, Agenda will be provided.

III. Discussion

Follow-up on Program Evaluation – M. Woods

Dr. Majka Woods gave a brief summation of the Evaluation Process flow chart (initial presentation in February by Dr. Linda Perkowski), which was approved at that time by the EC members. The process includes many components that are already in place and has been modified to insure annual evaluation for the purpose of continuous quality improvement. Dr. Woods noted that the Education Program Standards are in draft form, feedback from EC members will be addressed as revisions are made to the Standards. The first set of Annual Standards apply to the course and clerkship directors.

Concerns were raised by EC members regarding the time and staffing available to complete the annual review process annually for all courses. Dr. Woods gave an estimate of the process and timelines to accomplish the work for all courses; she stated that the internal review is throughout the year and that it is spread out over the length of the course. With the time required for the course meeting with the director, a written summary and the report to the Curriculum Committee, it is estimated to require about 12 hours per course. In the past biennial reviews were done and proved to be ineffective, basically because of time lag in accomplishing improvements. Since that attempt there have been 4 positions added. Dr. Hegarty reported his experience has been that once the initial course review has been completed, the time required for on-going reviews is reduced. On-going reviews require looking at data and that is very helpful for resolving problems (issues for specific sites, mistreatment issues, planned changes to course/clerkship). The 5 minute presentation is the only piece he hasn't done; other aspects of his department's work took about a week's worth of sharing documents to gather information. For him the meeting was helpful as it allowed for comparison with other clerkships and to have an opportunity to share with others during a presentation setting would add to the experience.

A member asked if it was possible to target courses that have had problems and those that are working would not have to do all of the evaluation? Dr. Woods anticipates that will probably happen. Then why do complete process for all if there are courses that are self correcting all of the time? The documentation of current status and of changes enacted in a course is required across the curriculum. Dr. Hegarty questioned who would decide if a course or clerkship was functioning well? He offered that perhaps if a course is successful 2-3 years in a row, that a shorter version could be considered for that course. As part of the revision process, Dr. Woods will bring these suggestions to the work group for their consideration. A final document will come back to the Education Council at the end of the summer, possibly for the August 18th meeting. Dr. Hegarty asked that any specific feedback from today's discussion be sent to Dr. Woods at woods106@umn.edu, he noted especially wording suggestions that will help with communication of the standards.

May 1st letter from Dean Powell

Dr. Friedman pointed out the copy of Dean Powell's letter which provided a general update to all Medical School Faculty and staff. Work toward a more specific plan for what the School's focus will be in the next few years is underway. Dr. Ebner is concerned that there are course directors who feel decisions for changes to Basic Council courses may have been completed. He would like to get an update, he is concerned that decisions were made before the discussion with Education Council members. Dr. Friedman referred back to Dr. Powell's and Dr. Henson's updates after MED 2010 was not to be implemented, that some changes previously considered would begin to be incorporated into the curriculum. The work to determine exactly what the changes will be is still under consideration. Allison Campbell reported that the Education Principles have been revised by the Education Council and the seven domains of competency are being developed to be posted to a web location for everyone's use. The students for 2010 admission will not receive new information until these questions are finalized. Flexible MD has been in effect since 2005 and is still an option. Dr. Thompson reported that many of these questions will be discussed at the June 15th Retreat. Dr. Woods reported that the Immersion group is continuing to work on development, their work would impact several basic science courses, and that the Immersion course has been significantly modified from the version meant for MED 2010. The group continues to feel it's important to make the changes that will move toward greater integration. Dr. Baird asked that budgetary issues related to changes be considered as a strong point for when to implement changes. Allison Campbell will follow-up with Dr. Henson for next steps regarding clarity for plans to move forward in curriculum changes.

Recorder Sue Mowbray

The next Education Council meeting will be held on June 16, 2009

Approved by EC members June 16, 2009