

Education Council (EC) Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2009

Members present: *S Allen, D Anderson, L Anderson, M Baird, K Brooks, A Campbell Jensen, T Ebner, A Friedman, H Grothe, K Hemesath (for L Ling), L Henson, M Hordinsky, A Johns, J Kohl, W Miller, C Niewoehner, J Nixon, L Perkowski, L Ryan, T Thompson, T Walseth, K Watson, P White, M Woods*

Guest: *G Filice*

Members absent: *J Beattie, B Benson, B Brandt, S Chahla, B Clarke, K Crossley, L Hansen, C Hegarty, R Hoffman, J Jochman, T Killeen, M Kondrak, M LuBrandt, J Miller, A Minenko, C Patow, D Power, L Repesh, T Stillman, R Soninno, D Wangensteen, J Wynn, R Wong*

I. Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the October 20th meeting were approved without changes or additions.

II. Information

Dr. Aaron Friedman introduced Justin Kohl, medical student representative for the Year-1 class

Dr. Chin-To Fong

Dr. Lindsey Henson reminded EC members of the sessions scheduled for visiting scholar, Dr. Chin-To Fong, Chief of the Division of Genetics Education at University of Rochester Medical School. He will participate at a joint Medicine/ Pediatrics grand rounds and will present a session for medical students which will give them experience in working with foundation of critical thinking cases. Dr. Fong directs the genetics thread that runs through the year 1-4 curriculum at Rochester and is also Director of an integrated biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology course. Dr. Fong will visit campus on November 19th and 20th, his presentation *Six Steps to Curriculum Integration* has been scheduled from 7:30-9:00 in B646 Mayo, as a MEDS session, which requires a reservation for those who plan to attend. EC members have been sent a list of open sessions and are welcome to attend.

University e-Education Peer Review

Dr. Linda Perkowski spoke about a group of University of Minnesota educators who are involved in a peer review process of e-Education. In response to a request from Drs. Cerra and Bruininks, she forwarded several names from the Education Council and from the Medical School faculty who have developed some e-Education components in their courses. A U of MN group met with individuals from peer institutions to determine what is being done at those institutions. Dr. Perkowski added that currently individuals from the other institutions are visiting our campus to help assess what is being done here, how our infrastructure fits with e-Education and to make recommendations. Once Dr. Bruininks has completed his process, the EC will receive an update regarding the recommendations.

III. Discussion

Proposed Curricular Threads

Service Learning

Dr. Kathleen Brooks referenced the Task Force Recommendations (see packet) and reminded EC members that she and Dr. John Song co-chaired the Service Learning Task Force. She focused on several specific recommendations found in the Report. First, the Task Force recommends that Service Learning be a required component of the MD degree. LCME's standard requires only that it be available to medical students. She reiterated that currently our school does require it as part of the Year-2 curriculum. The Task Force supports continuing "service" as a requirement.

Secondly the Report recommends specifically how Service Learning be defined for our curriculum as stated by Seifer (see Report), the same definition used by the LCME. The Report identifies the difference between Service and Service Learning. It also provides details of expectations, objectives and a distinct curriculum. The Task Force discussed at length concerns regarding how the current role of service, i.e. Phillips Neighborhood Clinic (PNC) would be altered if service became required as Service Learning at that site. As a result of their discussion they reached consensus that the structure of service at PNC doesn't fit the definition of "service learning". Therefore it doesn't impact the PNC process or functions.

Dr. Brooks pointed out that the timing of the Task Force work began while MED 2010 planning was taking place. These congruent activities lead to their developing recommendations for a longitudinal service learning thread throughout the 4-year curriculum. As part of that longitudinal thread the Task Force also recommended creating protected time for service learning through all 4 years of the curriculum, which has scheduling implications for years 3 and 4. Due to the changes that have occurred over the last 6 months with curriculum revision, these recommendations are more complex. The current revision process is for years 1 and 2 only. Two of the final Task Force recommendations include the following:

- if Service Learning is required throughout the 4 year curriculum, determine how to implement the requirement across the entire schedule
- next steps should become the work of a newly charged Task Force

Dr. Henson added that during the period when the Task Force was at work, the Education Steering Committee (ECS) had the task of determining how to structure ECM to include "service learning", while moving away from the current structure that requires it in PAS. Their focus has been how to transition from the PAS model to the ECM model. Before the transition can be completed the Education Council will need to decide if "Service Learning" will be a requirement. In addition the decision needs to address what would be the scope of that requirement. Dr. Henson reported that the ESC held extensive discussions regarding the implications of the Task Force's recommendation and did not reach a decision. The members felt it was important for EC members to understand the complexity involved in implementing the recommendations and how Year 1 and 2 revisions will impact "service" and "service learning". She also asked EC members to address the basic philosophy of our medical school's commitment to "service and/or Service Learning".

Dr. Friedman suggested EC members take steps to move the work of the Task Force and their recommendations forward. Dr. Alan Johns asked if the final policy decision will impact Duluth students. Dr. Henson responded that Duluth students would be required to complete a comparable requirement. The discussion included the following points:

- new resources if required across 4 years, resources if year 1 and 2
- infrastructure to create the thread across 4 years
- consider recommendations as separate components not all yes or all no
- is the model to fold it into years 1 and 2 acceptable to the TF
 - yes, especially if it could begin with the timing of Orientation
- is it possible to broaden the definition to include other venues of service (research, committees, etc.)
 - service learning curriculum requires objectives
- could curricular components be added to existing clerkships to address the requirement in years 3 and 4
- how to monitor achievement

Dr. Friedman closed discussion and suggested it would be productive to determine the basic question of whether to continue to require service/service learning for the MD degree. EC

members reiterated that the basic component would need to be tied to curriculum to be able to retain its value. Upon a motion duly made and seconded to endorse the proposal to require Service Learning as a required component in ECM or the equivalent in Duluth with the option to modify as curriculum development occurs, passed with 1 voting member abstaining. The EC charges the Education Steering Committee to add questions regarding service learning curricula to future ESC Agendas. Tentatively ESC will revisit Service Learning in the curriculum in February of 2010 and the item will be brought back to EC when an update is available.

Infectious Disease

Dr. Greg Filice reviewed the proposed change in moving ID from a separate course to adding it in the curriculum as a Thread. In this model the coordinator of the course would monitor where ID lectures fit into and across appropriate courses with appropriate timing. He provided background for the change and specifics for how the transition would be accomplished and methods to assure the information is retained across other courses. Dr. Filice discussed how students will be assessed on course content, logistics for short term implementation, and responded to specific questions for how Pharmacology and Pathology would be retained as related to ID. EC members voiced concern for the level of FTE commitment stated in the proposal, Dr. Filice responded with a breakdown for short term implementation and long term to monitor content and placement. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the proposal to endorse the recommendation by the Education Steering Committee to have an Infectious Disease Thread required in the MD Degree Curriculum, passed.

Nutrition and Public Health Threads

Dr. Lindsey Henson reported that the Education Steering Committee (ESC) has recommended addressing gaps in the curriculum by adding nutrition and public health as separate Threads (see packet for proposals). To address new LCME language for inclusion in medical education curricula, ESC recommends the Nutrition and Public Health begin as pilot threads, with the understanding that revisions may occur. Dr. Friedman agreed with the implementation of the Nutrition Thread as a pilot. He recommended that the Public Health proposal needs more detail to be considered next year for addition to the curriculum as a pilot. Discussion regarding a Public Health Thread included the following:

- need for a planning group
- student feedback is needed
- Duluth's need to determine where bio statistics are met

Upon a motion duly made and seconded to endorse the proposal to continue more detailed development of the Nutrition Thread with the goal of rolling it out in 2010 and for the proposed Public Health Thread to move forward by collecting student feedback, establishing a working group charged to develop a proposal for content and implementation and to insure there will be no loss of any existing (PH) content, the Education Council voted to accept the plan for continued development.

To address future curricular development, core courses and threads are to be part of the consideration for what is to become the advanced scientific foundation components for Year 3 and 4 courses.

The next Education Council meeting will be held on December 20, 2009

Approved by EC members December 20, 2009