

Education Council (EC) Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2016

EC members present:	D Patel	Con't not attending:
J Andrews	A Pereira	A Goyal
M Aylward	D Power	S Hanson
J Beattie	M Rosenberg	W Jenson
B Benson	A Severson	S Lava-Parmele
R Cormier	Y Shimizu	J Miller
B Englander	S Slattery	K Murray
C Hedberg	G Trachte	D Nascene
A Johns	S van den Hoogenhof	J Neglia
S Katz		J Pearson
J Koffel	EC members not attending:	J Reid
M Kim	R Acton	T Stillman
R Michaels	K Brooks	H Thompson-Buum
N Nikakhtar	B Clarke	M Wagar
J Nixon	K Crossley	Guest: M Hilliard
J Pacala	K Deitz	B Woods

Minutes

Minutes for the June 21, 2016 EC meeting was not reviewed, they will be included with the August 16, 2016 meeting materials.

Proposed Changes to Courses

Dr. Anne Pereira reported that a proposal has been undergoing review, which beginning with the 2016-17 Fall session would split the Yr-1 Human Structure and Function course into two courses. The first would be Gross Anatomy and Embryology; the second would be Histology. The change has been thoroughly discussed by the members of the Education Steering Committee (ES and proposed to the Scientific Foundations Committee (SFC) members. There were no concerns from the two course directors; Dr. Tony Weinhaus and Dr. Jan Norrander, along with full support from medical students.

Dr. Pereira acknowledged this may feel as though we have change direction in the goal to develop a curriculum that is fully integrated. She did say the rationale establishes this as a necessary step in our School's process to achieve full integration of the basic and clinical sciences.

At this time, educationally the reality is that the two courses function as two separate courses under one course title. The histology portion starts with a focus on tissue and isn't organ specific. By the time Histology portion of the course is covering organ specific topics, Anatomy has completed that portion. Anatomy has moved beyond where it's possible to sync them to be complimentary and it causes confusion for students.

There is also the logistical issue in that the course is very large, there are six exams that take place across the length of the current course structure. This has made remediation difficult when students fail a component of the course but have not failed the entire course. This change has gained support from the students involved in these discussion, the two course directors, and members of the SFC and the ESC. This change is directly related to the fact that the curriculum is not fully integrated. **The motion was made and duly seconded to split the Yr-1 Human Structure and Function course into two courses (1-Anatomy and Embryology), (2 Histology). To become effective for the beginning of academic year of 2016-17. EC members voted unanimously to pass the motion.**

Proposed Changes to Orientation

Dr. Michael Kim reported that because Orientation in the past has been a week long, intensive experience for new medical students. Feedback from numerous students over time, has indicated that there is too much to

absorb in the time-period of the week long orientation events. There has been discussion around how to improve the length of time and to make it a more meaningful experience for the incoming class. To spread out the Orientation events it has been proposed to use 3 hours of Independent Learning Time (ILT) for three 1-hr Extended Re-orientation sessions over the course of the month of August. It hasn't been determined which are the most appropriate sessions to offer during Orientation week and which are a better fit for the extension period. The three topics being discussed are; Research Opportunities and How to Get Involved in Research, General Organization and Planning of Information for Study, and Library and IT Resources

Policy changes in use of ILT require approval by Education Council members. All 3 of the sessions would take place during the first three weeks of School

- It was recommended that the timing for *General Organization and Planning of Information for Study*, is especially important to their success from the very beginning of the semester, when will this be offered? Dr. Kim noted this will be the first of the 1-hr session to be offered, during the first week of School.
- The protection of ILT has been very important to students and their academic progress, what would the focus be during the Orientation Week activities? For Tuesday and Thursday of Orientation Week, all lecture based activities have been removed. A number of events being considered involve more "social" and "community" aspects; volunteering experiences, wellness activities, and tours. Feedback in past years has indicated that students especially appreciate time to connect with their new classmates and to get to know each other. The didactic sessions that have been held in the past have not evaluated well and seem to be less effective and/or less productive due to overload. This year would be to pilot this change, followed up with a report to the EC to evaluate its success; depending upon the results there may be a request to make this format permanent. Surveys will be completed with the incoming class to gauge their experience and their reaction to this format. Discussion around beginning Orientation a day earlier and then having an Orientation follow-up session at the end of their first month of medical school. This would eliminate use of ILT and follow-up on earlier sessions that were part of Orientation week. It was determined that the idea may be work and would be considered in early planning for next year's Orientation.

A motion was made and duly seconded, to allow as a pilot for the academic year 2016-17, use of up to 3 hours of ILT, for Orientation purposes. The format will use the time to schedule three 1-hour sessions to occur within August of Fall Semester, 2016. The following is a list of probable topics to be covered:

- **Research Opportunities and How to Get Involved in Research**
- **General Organization and Planning of Information for Study**
- **Library and IT Resources**

Survey questionnaires are to be completed by the year-1 medical students; the data gathered will be used to gauge their experiences and as a guide used to establish the value of the Orientation extension as compared to the continuation of the full schedule of ILT.