

Scientific Foundations Committee

November 11, 2016

7:30 – 9:00 am

Mayo B-646

Minutes

2016-2017 Scientific Foundations Committee Members		
MEMBER	COURSE/ROLE	ATTENDANCE
Steve Katz	Chair (INMD 6814 Physiology)	x
David Baldes	INMD 6815 Human Behavior	
Matthew Chafee	INMD 6813 Neuroscience	
H. Brent Clark	INMD 6819 HHD – N & P	x
Greg Filice	MS 2 ID Thread	x
Bob Kempainen	INMD 6808 HHD – C & R	
TBA	INMD 6809 HHD – R, D & O ³	
Brian Muthyala	INMD 6803/6804/6805 ECM 1, ECM 2, ECM 3A	x
Kaz Nelson	INMD 6819 HHD – N & P	x
Catherine Niewoehner	INMD 6810 HHD – R & E-R	
James Nixon	INMD 6803/6805/6806/6807 ECM 1, ECM 3A/B/C	
Jan Norrander	INMD 6821 Human Histology	
Deborah Powell	INMD 6817 Principles of Pathology, MS2 Pathology Thread	x
Michael Ross	INMD 6816 Human Sexuality	
Michel Sanders	INMD 6802 Science of Medical Practice	
David Satin	INMD 6803/6804/6805/6806/6807 ECM 1, ECM 2, ECM 3	
Peter Southern	INMD 6812 Microbiology	x
Heather Thompson Buom	INMD 6811 HHD – GI & Heme	
Tony Weinhaus	INMD 6820 Medical Gross Anatomy & Embryology	
Kevin Wickman	INMD 6818 Principles of Pharmacology	x
Blake Stagg	MS2 Student Representative	x
Mehdi Mulla	MS1 Student Representative	
<i>Mark Rosenberg</i>	<i>Vice Dean for Medical Education</i>	
<i>Bob Englander</i>	<i>Associate Dean for UME</i>	
<i>Anne Pereira</i>	<i>Assistant Dean for Clinical Education</i>	
<i>Michael Kim</i>	<i>Assistant Dean for Student Affairs</i>	x
<i>Suzanne van den Hoogenhof</i>	<i>Interim Assistant Dean for Assessment & Evaluation</i>	
<i>Brad Clarke</i>	<i>Director of Curriculum</i>	x
<i>Jim Beattie</i>	<i>Director of MEDS / FCT Course Director</i>	
<i>Austin Calhoun</i>	<i>Chief of Staff, Medical Education</i>	
<i>Scott Slattery</i>	<i>Director of Learner Development</i>	x
<i>Heather Peterson</i>	<i>Medical School Registrar</i>	
<i>Mary Ramey</i>	<i>MS2 Lab Med/Path Coordinator</i>	x
<i>Brian Woods</i>	<i>Lead Course Manager</i>	x

Guests: Sarah Ringstrom, Serena Sherrell, Chelsey Jernberg, Sara Roberts

The meeting was called to order at 7:34am.

Minutes

Draft minutes from the September 9 (with one typo correction) and October 7 meetings were approved.

Updates/Announcements

Brad Clarke, who sits on CUMED (Committee on Undergraduate Medical Education Duluth), reported that the committee recently voted unanimously to eliminate the Honors grade in all MS1 & MS2 Duluth courses. The decision will go to the Education Steering Committee (ESC) & Education Council (EC) for consideration. Dr Katz gave a refresher on the history of all the grade changes that have occurred between the two campuses, and this change will appear on a future SFC agenda for discussion. Duluth students were polled and approximately 2/3 of them were in favor of dropping the Honors grade. Dr Powell pointed out that the decision is really transitional, if indeed the Medical School is moving to competency grading.

Course innovations update: Dr Powell's MS1 & MS2 Pathology courses are piloting course innovations beginning in Summer 2017. Her plans are

1. To give meaningful mid-course narrative feedback to students. She has met w/Suzanne van den Hoogenhof to plan an online rollout, involving students & faculty, and focusing on two of the EPAs. There will be core materials distributed to students to educate them about the competencies, and to explain what will be expected of them by the end of their 2nd year.
2. True flipped classroom exercises will be implemented to replace several of the lecturers. She is still deciding on the format and whether attendance will be required or not, among other details. She has been in touch with educational technology office about technical aspects of this rollout.

2
Dr Katz noted that the new education building will have mostly small group and interactive learning rooms. Dr Kim said if the legislature is able to approve the funding request quickly, the building could open as soon as January 1, 2020. Brad Clarke clarified that there will be large rooms, but seating in them is not theatre style—students will sit in groups at tables.

The HHD5 Course Director position is now posted. Dr Morgan is moving to St Louis to teach and practice. Course Directors are encouraged to bring this posting to the attention of those who would be interested and qualified. Dr Katz mentioned that Christine Peterson, of the Center for Educational Innovation, believes that Course Directors should act as administrators of the course only, and not teach in the course. Dr Powell suggested that the new Course Director “stay the course” for this academic year, and in 2017/2018 the disciplines in HHD3 & HHD5 should be redistributed and rescheduled as: ENT/Ophth/Neuro/Psyche and Derm/Ortho/Rheum.

Student Issues/Concerns/Questions

The new MS1 rep, Mehdi Mulla, was not present to be introduced.

Dr Kim informed the Committee that there was a student support forum on November 9 to address recent racial events on campus. The election result was also discussed. Many students are affected by one or more of these events, so if students seem disengaged in courses, please contact him.

Annual Course Review

Essentials of Clinical Medicine 1-3A (Clinical Skills) – Brian Muthyala
See attached ACR for details.

Dr Muthyala presented the 2015-2016 ACRs to the minutes, but did not discuss them, as he was not the Course Director during that year.

He laid out the following changes for the ECM 1 course:

1. Simplification of the resources. There are fewer but more organized assets for the faculty and for the students. Quizzes were re-scheduled within the semester, and changed from summative to formative.
2. It's hard for the Course Director to know what is happening in the course since students are divided into small groups & spread out, and the faculty teach examination skills differently. He created a student representative group consisting of one student from each small group, which has met twice this semester. This group is able to provide feedback on small group teaching, and is a great idea-generator.
3. He will use this year's evaluation data to look hard for more improvements for the 2017/2018 academic year.
4. There will be new videos for the physical exam next year, for guidance and specificity.
5. He is also using student/facilitator/standardized patient interaction for direct feedback.

Dr Allen is still involved in sensitive exam workshops and small group facilitating. Dr Filice asked if there is any opportunity for interprofessional work in the small groups. There is not, directly, but FIPCC and FCT are parallel with ECM, and both of those begin to address aspects of interprofessional cooperation.

Dr Muthyala is also trying to coordinate common language between ECM, FIPCC, and FCT. He is working with the IERC to address student concerns about the lack of diversity in standardized patients. This is also an issue with facilitators. He hasn't taught ECM 2 or ECM 3A yet, but there will be few, if any, changes for 2017.

There was also committee discussion about topics in the MAS portion of ECM 2 around psychiatry and different lab values used for different races, where only one viewpoint was given and not the opposite viewpoint. This becomes a problem when students hear the opposite viewpoint in a different course. These discussions will have to involve Dr Satin.

Discussion

Provide Course Schedule 6 weeks in advance – Stephen Katz

Students are concerned about not seeing their course schedules farther in advance than 2 weeks before a course starts, and are understandably upset when required sessions are added at the last minute. Bob Englander proposes that:

1. Course schedules be submitted to the Course Management office no later than six weeks before the start of the course and that all required lectures be clearly indicated (labs, small groups, all quizzes and examinations, all clinical activities, and community service projects are already required by Medical School policy). Course Managers will enter these schedules into BlackBag ASAP, which will populate to the public view BlackBag calendar.
2. If a Course Director would like to make a session required (added guest speaker or patient, for example) after the six week cut-off, they can request that students attend so that there are people in the lecture hall, but cannot require attendance.

After discussion, Course Directors were in agreement with Dr Englander's proposal.

In addition, the Course Management office will remind students that they are able to see the complete BlackBag course calendar as a static view from the link on the Medical Education website. The Med Ed website also has complete full year academic calendars, including vacation and exam weeks and course start and end dates.

BlackBag Discussion Forums & Feedback Cards – Stephen Katz

Dr Katz reminded Course Directors about where to find Feedback Cards in their course (on the left hand side of the Course Home page: Course Admin → Feedback Reports). Dr Katz demonstrated in his 2015 Physiology course that feedback cards provided him with valuable insight about a story that he told that included an

unintentional microaggression. There was lots of student feedback which led to dialogue and an apology, which then provoked feedback cards of thanks. Brad reminded Course Directors that there are also good comments that appear. These feedback card links are in each session on the calendar, and available only to students to submit.

BlackBag does not have the functionality at this point to notify Course Directors when new Feedback Cards are submitted.

Dr Katz demonstrated the Discussion Forum module, as well. There are two standard forums (course content & course management) that are set up by the Course Manager, but Course Directors have the option of creating additional forums. There is option to make all posts Anonymous. Both students and faculty must opt-in by “subscribing” to each forum individually. By subscribing, any new unread discussion threads will be indicated on each user’s BlackBag dashboard.

Future Agenda Items

Suggestions from Course Directors for future SFC meeting topics:

- Increase or change calendar time for HHD3
- ExamSoft & BlackBag assessments
- ILT feedback
- Copyrights & resources (focused on what we *can* do)
- More BlackBag search examples, Gradebook, downloading, calendar, checking feedback cards
- Survey students about type of practice questions/formative
- New promotion guidelines for teachers (non-tenure track)
- Mandatory hidden (unconscious) bias training for Course Directors
- How might Dr. Christina Petersen’s work in the Center for Educational Innovation support the work of the years 1 and 2 course directors?
- Ongoing Diversity & Inclusion training at joint SFC/CUMED/CEC meetings

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54am.

The next meeting is December 9, 2016, from 7:30 – 9:00am in room Mayo B-646.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Woods