



Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) Minutes

Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC)

UNAPPROVED

Friday, March 19, 2021

12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Drs. F. Aghajafari, S. Anderson, V. Bhella, N. Brager, A. Bromley, C. Brown, K. Busche, E. Cheng, M. Davis, J. Desy, V. Gnanakumar, J. Hardin, A. Harvey, R. Kachra, M. Kelly, T. Killam, P. Lee, K. McBrien, J. Paw, W. Rosen, A. Seto, N. Sharma, M. Slawnych, K. Smyth, P. Stokes, C. Svrcek, S. Weeks (chair), L. Willetts, T. Wu, Ms. A. Ancelin, Ms. K. Chadbolt, Ms. S. Facchini, Ms. E. Lindquist, Ms. S. Leskosky, Mr. M. Paget, Ms. C. Wong, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

Regrets: Drs. L. Barss, A. Bass, H. Bassyouni, G. Bendiak, S. Bhayana, J. Chu, E. Dempsey, A. DiNinno, J. Fagnou, S. Jarvis, D. Jenkins, C. Josephson, M. Jung, R. Kapadia, M. Lee, T. Lohman, M. Louis, C. Naugler, E. Qirjazi, J. Rizkallah, J. Schachar, I. Wishart, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. S. George, Ms. T. Hawes, Mr. A. Maini, Ms. L. Palmer

1. Call to Order

The meeting was conducted through Zoom and was called to order at 12:31 p.m. by Dr. S. Weeks (Chair). Welcome to members and a brief overview of what the meeting would entail.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda – Passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2021 – 2 Abstained 20 in Favor, Motion Approved.

4. Standing Updates

4.1 Student Reports

Ms. Lindquist noted that the students were looking forward to their Career Exploration Week starting March 22. There was concern among some students having their week changed or canceled at the last minute, specifically in surgery due to issues around COVID-19 vaccinations.

4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee

Dr. Weeks reported in Dr. Naugler's absence. UMEC discussed the EDI subcommittee and their Terms of Reference (TOR). Committee members have provided feedback on the TOR and it will now be circulated for electronic approval by UMEC members. Dr. Weeks also updated that RIME was discussed at UMEC. Dr. Kachra will be providing an update (4.6)

4.3 Clerkship Committee Update

Dr. Busche updated the committee that the Class of 2022 is currently in their first mandatory block. The first four weeks were either electives or Course 8, Inter professional electives and Community Engaged Learning electives. The next four weeks will be a reverse of those for the different students. UME is currently collecting feedback for these weeks as well as on the innovative Boot Camp and Junior Clerkship weeks that were developed this year. The plan is that some of these new experiences will be continued for the Class of 2023. Dr. Busche addressed concerns for the decision by UGME Deans to plan for re-introduction of visiting

electives in the “fall” of 2021. The biggest challenge being the scheduling ability due to different aspects of each students’ schedule. Valid concerns that some students will have already completed all of their electives. Exploration is underway to determine if rescheduling of mandatory rotations to the summer and switching electives to those spots in the fall is possible.

The Class of 2023’s clerkship schedule is in progress. Clerkships are taking advantage of some of the things that have changed starting with the Class of 2022, including taking advantage of the four week block in early clerkship when the Class of 2022 will be doing CaRMS interviews and their clerkship OSCE. He also stated that Clerkship will incorporate one week of each Inter professional education and Community Engaged Learning. This would extend clerkship by two weeks. Dr. Busche clarified that the clerks will still finish clinical rotations by the beginning of May so will still have about seven weeks before they start into residency which is consistent with other schools. The other issues in Clerkship include issues around vaccinations for COVID-19. Dr. Busche noted that medical students are in Phase @C of the vaccination plan which is believed to be well into April. There has been unease around this with students advocating for earlier vaccinations. N95 masks have currently been fitted as the students started ICU and anesthesia rotations, however going forward the UME has made a decision to fit the entire class during their next four-week block when students are on electives and their classroom rotations. Dr. Busche identified that there will be two training periods for the students for Connect Care which is entering Alberta Children’s Hospital and Peter Lougheed Centre in the Fall.

4.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update

Dr. Weeks presented on Dr. Desy’s behalf updates from the Student Evaluation Committee. This update included that one of the goals of the EDI subcommittee of UMEC is to do a thorough comprehensive review of the curriculum which will be done through making it sensitive to demographics and using a broader representation of society through the curriculum including in our examinations. Dr. Weeks asked for the courses that have upcoming exams to review their questions and see if there are personal identifiers in questions, whether it is necessary to get the right answer or if its to enhance the question better. She advised the committee that there are people who are willing to help to review questions but would like the courses to do their own review until the EDI Committee is established. Dr. Harvey updated the committee that there was a motion passed for the exam review policy. The policy previously stated that students could only schedule a review of their exams when a rewrite had already been scheduled. This change allows students to review an exam without having a rewrite scheduled, for example in preparation for a reappraisal request.

4.5 Update on EDI Initiatives

Dr. Sharma updated the committee that ethics passed the Faculty census which should be released shortly. Dr. Weeks informed the committee that there are other things being worked on including a cultural and personal safety orientation session with Dr. Lindsay Crowshoe and a production group. She also identified that the Community Engaged Learning week for the Class of 2022 had early positive feedback and will work to incorporate these learning objectives earlier in the curriculum.

4.6 RIME Update

Dr. Kachra updated the committee that the proposed start date, originally scheduled for July of 2022 is now scheduled to begin for July 2023 for various reasons, though mainly needing to work with the Admissions office and, it is too late for the 2022 application cycle. Dr. Kachra informed the committee that he is looking to meet with each member of the Pre-Clerkship Committee in a one-on-one style meeting to go through thoughts and concerns each individual has pertaining to their course or the concept of RIME as a whole. The next update will include the layouts for the curriculum, that will be focused on what the committee knows about the best practices in medical education. Dr. Kachra added that Dr. Davis and himself were working

with the Precision Health Program to see how there can be overlap in pre clerkship. He updated that Ms. Leskosky was able to secure course numbers so that each course would have its own designated numbers.

5. Course Reports

5.1 Course 6

Drs. Paw and Wu presented the Course 6 report for the Class of 2022 (Appendix A). Discussion included the different sections of Course 6 from conception to birth to newborn childhood and adolescent medicine. They included how the structure of the course dealt with some changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic with the course being largely delivered online and opening more office hours to help the students. Looking forward Drs. Paw and Wu are optimistic with a new Breast Health Lead, Dr. Sandy Peacock. They are also re-evaluating the curriculum and increasing collaboration with other specialties (including Family Medicine) to enhance learning processes for students.

Ms. Chadbolt presented the course financials. Costs were almost 53% lower than the previous year due to less payments to faculty (with less clinical core and lecture time) due to COVID-19.

Discussion items included a possible change to the Evaluations for Clinical Core on One45, how other courses incorporate pathology, and the possibility of swapping Course 6 and 7 in the schedule going forward.

Proposal: Dr. Weeks proposed to accept the Course 6 Report as it was presented today.

First: Dr. Busche
Second: Dr. Seto
All in favour.

5.1 Course 2

Dr. Bhella presented the Course 2 report for the Class of 2023 (Appendix B). Discussion was largely around the changes and challenges that the pandemic brought upon the course delivery. Requests for more CARDS from students was well received and being worked on. Dr. Bhella indicated that from the coordinator up there's been lots of personnel changes to Course 2 this year. This brought new energy and lead to overall success. He proposed a discussion topic to change the name for the Musculoskeletal course to Musculoskeletal and Integumentary Medicine.

Ms. Chadbolt presented the course financials. Costs were about 48% lower than the previous year due to how COVID has changed the way things are being taught in the course and the loss of some clinical core. There was discussion on the low survey response rate. There are plans in place to try to increase the response rate. Previously students were incentivized to complete surveys with money for student graduations. However COVID-19's impact on stopping the in person celebrations has resulted in students being less responsive to the surveys.

Proposal: Dr. Weeks proposed to accept the Course 2 Report as it was presented today.

First: Dr. Smyth
Second: Dr. Harvey
All in favour.

5.1 Intro to Clinical Practice (ICP)

Dr. Seto presented the Intro to Clinical Practice course report for both ICP-1 and ICP-2 courses (Appendix C). Dr. Seto explained how their course is different in the delivery methods of teaching, with different strategies used to enhance learning. Timing of ICP was more difficult this year for both courses due to scheduling

around COVID-19 forced changes. There was also some technical issues that had to be overcome. The deliveries of both courses were solely done online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He presented the online demonstration of Intro to Code Blue and Intro to Infection Prevention and Control training that the students did online through the course.

Ms. Chadbolt presented the course financials. Costs were 56% lower than in the previous years, again, due to how COVID has impacted in person teaching and lectures.

PCC members requested a separate session for Dr. Seto to present his teaching strategies.

Proposal: Dr. Weeks proposed to accept the ICP Course Report as it was presented today.

First: Dr. Anderson

Second: Dr. Smyth

All in favour.

6. New Business

6.1 End of Course Survey Update

Dr. Weeks updated the committee that Course Chairs have agreed to reserve 10 minutes at the beginning of their course so students can fill out course surveys from the previous course.

6.2 Preceptor Recruitment Tool Customization Update

Dr. Weeks informed the committee that based on requests at the previous PCC meetings that customized preceptor recruitment tool messages to the preceptors, are now available thanks to Mr. Paget and his Academic Technologies Team. She advised if there were any questions on how this would work to contact Mr. Paget directly.

6.3 Career Exploration Half Days

Dr. Davis gave a presentation for a motion to approve additional Career Exploration half days to enhance clinical exposure for the students. The proposal is to add six Career Exploration half days. They must be logged on OSLE, they will be must complete components but will not be evaluated. At least three of these half days must be completed prior to the clerkship lottery, and diverse discipline choices are strongly encouraged.

Proposal: Dr. Davis proposed the changes to add six Career Exploration Half Days as explained above to be included in the Career Exploration Program going forward.

First: Dr. Davis

Second: Dr. Harvey

All in favour.

6.4 Virtual Shadowing Sign Up Document

Dr. Weeks informed the committee that they are looking to faculty who are willing to accept virtual shadowing of students. She informed the committee that she will be sending out a link for those that are willing to put their name on the list that would be able and willing to accept students to shadow them in a virtual context. https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_3wl7Fzgo4jEwA1o

6.5 Accreditation Site Visit May 4th 1600h

Dr. Weeks reminded the committee that there is a virtual interim accreditation site visit coming up in May. One of the meetings with external accreditors will need representation from the Pre-Clerkship Committee. The meeting date has been set for May 4th at 1600h for a one hour meeting. Dr. Weeks requested committee members inform her if they were interested in attending and available for this meeting on behalf of the Pre-Clerkship Committee.

Dr. Weeks thanked everyone for attending and for their discussion. She let the committee know that the next meeting will be on Friday April 9, 2021 at 12:30 pm via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned @ 3:08 p.m.

Minutes by: Danielle Goss *March 24th 2021*

Edited by: Dr. Sarah Weeks *March 25th 2021*