

2003-04 Report: Curricula Committees/Task Force Report

Committee/Task Force Name CD1 Course Director's Committee

C/TF Purpose To plan the first year curriculum and improve integration within the first year and between the first year and subsequent years.

Chair Drs. Marco Aleman and Stephen G. Chaney

Projects

1.

- Title: **Systematic Review of the Curriculum**

- Progress

The CD1 Committee worked with the CMPC to design a course review form that will be used by Course Directors to evaluate their courses and to approve a systematic plan for review of the curriculum. To date almost all of the CD1 Course Directors have turned their course evaluation forms and, in most cases, have met with Drs. Aleman or Chaney and a representative of OED to discuss their plans for the coming year.

- Plans

This process will be continued for the coming year, and course integration will be reviewed by the whole CD1 committee.

2.

- Title: **Core Competencies**

- Progress

The CD1 Committee developed a list of the Core Competencies of the Medical School that were covered by each of the first year courses.

- Plans

This information will be used as part of the course reviews and in the overall design of the curriculum.

3.

- Title: **MS1 Curriculum Task Force**

- Progress

The CD1 Committee created a task force to review the first year curriculum and to make recommendations for revising the curriculum. To date the task force has obtained a list of the core concepts that are covered in each of the first year courses from the Course Directors and has prepared a list of the educational goals that will form the basis for the design of the MS1 curriculum. The goals are currently being reviewed by the first year Course Directors.

- Plans

The task force plans to review first year curricula at comparable institutions, the core concepts currently covered, the educational goals for the curriculum and integration with the clinical years and make recommendations for revision of the first year curriculum.

4.

- Title: **Injury Problem-Based Learning Exercise**

- Progress

The CD1 Committee created a subcommittee to prepare a problem-based learning exercise that would integrate first semester basic science courses and selected clinical topics. The subcommittee has chosen an automobile injury case that will integrate anatomy, surgery, biochemistry, trauma care, nutritional support services, social-cultural issues and rehabilitation services. The case is divided into 3 portions that will be presented on separate days.

- Plans

This problem-based learning exercise will be implemented this Fall.

5.

- Title: **Honors**

- Progress

After input from students and review of grading practices at comparable institutions, the committee decided to recommend to the CMPC that the grade of honors not be used for first year courses. The courses will be graded on a pass/fail basis. It is thought that this will reduce the competitiveness in the first year curriculum, eliminate unfair advantages because of differences in the number and level of undergraduate science courses taken by our students and allow the students a year to adjust to the rigors of medical school before honors grades are instituted.

- Plans

This policy change will be reviewed at the end of the coming year.