

First Year Curriculum Committee Meeting
Co-Chairs Stephen Chaney, Ph.D. and Alan Cross, MD
July 10, 2007, 8:00 - 9:30 A.M., 4052 Bondurant Hall

In Attendance:

Stephen Chaney	Claudia Condrey	Cherri Hobgood	Peter Petrusz
Alan Cross	Georgette Dent	Deborah Ingersoll	Aldo Rustioni
Bruce Alexander	Ken Dudley	Ed Kernick	Sandra Void
Bruce Cairns	James Evans	David Klapper	Meredith Miller
Ali Chhotani	Kurt Gilliland	Nilsa Morales	Robyn Stewart

1) Announcements- S. Chaney and A. Cross

- Medical Illustrations will not be taking pictures at orientation.
- OIS will take pictures but will not print the pictures.
- Pictures can be used for educational purposes only.
- There will be a composite and 160 individual jpeg images.

2) Proposal for USMLE Gateway Exam- G. Dent

- The national Board of Medical Examiners.
- They are looking at eliminating Step 1 and 2 exams.
- They are proposing replacing Step 1 and 2 with a gateway exam.
- The gateway exam will cover basic medical science content and core clinical concepts.
- It ideally will be offered towards the end of the third year.
- It is suggested that these questions will truly be integrated.
- This change can go into effect as early as the entering class of 2008.
- Dr. Dent stated that there could be some impact on the curriculum.
- Dr. Dent stated that there is some debate that this gateway test could be pass/fail, but this is likely not to occur.
- There will be an update on this topic in November after the AAMC meeting.
- It was suggested that a task force be formed to discuss the effects of this gateway exam on the curriculum.

3) Peer Evaluation by Students in MS1 and MS2- C. Hobgood

- Dr. Hobgood distributed the revised peer evaluation form.
- Dr. Hobgood stated that a small group should consist of 12 students or less.
- These groups should work together more than one time.
- OED will provide summary data.
- In order for the student to see value in this evaluation, there has to be quick and meaningful feedback.
- Dr. Stewart stated that in the future, the advisor system would be beneficial but the advisor system may not be available this academic school year.
- Dr. Dent stated that this is a great tool to identify outliers.
- Block 1 suggested using this peer evaluation form to identify group effectiveness. It was suggested that block 1 would be using the form 2-3 times during the block.
- Block 2 suggested using this peer evaluation form twice during their block.
- Block 3 suggested using this peer evaluation form during Physiology and Histology small group activities. It was suggested using this form 1-2 times, but not have this affecting the grade.
- Block 4 stated they could use the form in their class
- It was suggested that the Student Affairs Office work together with the course directors to address the outliers of the peer evaluations.
- Dr. Dent suggested that data on this information can be used in the Dean's letter, providing a pattern occurred.
- At this time, Dr. Hobgood could not commit to producing individual emailed reports to each student.

4) Request for small group configurations- S. Charles

- It was decided to keep the groups consistent throughout the year so as to provide continuity for the students and validity for the new peer evaluation system. For clarity we also need to distinguish between rooms and groups. For Molecules to Cells (Block 1) we have 5 rooms, with 32 students assigned per room and we break these down to 4 groups of 8 per room.
- Steve Charles will provide the room assignments and Andy Power will assign the groups to each room. The same exact room and group assignments will be used for Block 4. Block 2 will subdivide the same groups into subgroups of 4 for the dissections.
- Pharmacology and Block 3 will have 8 rooms, which means that they will have 20 students assigned to each room. For the sake of consistency, the 20 students assigned to each room will consist of two of the ICM groups of 10. Pharmacology would like to break each group of 10 into two groups of 5 for their small groups. That means that they will have 4 groups of 10 assigned to each of their rooms.

5) Block 4 Report- D. Margolis and B. Alexander

- Students did fine overall and got a great deal out of the class.
- There were some administrative issues that have been taken care of.
- Student Evaluations of the block were less than expected.

6) Open

- Room usage for classes and seminars.
- Students from the blocks sometimes would stay for seminars (because they didn't want to leave) and disrupt the seminar by using an ipod or lunch.
- Lecturer for classes may go overtime and seminars may go overtime.
- It was suggested that course directors or seminar leaders be responsible for staying on time.
- Prep and clean up time should be scheduled by seminars (ex. Pediatric Grand Rounds).
- MSTL will monitor these situations more closely and will post signs if needed.