

Education Council (EC) Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2010

Members present: *L Anderson, M Baird, B Benson, K Brooks, S Chahla, R Cormier, A Friedman, H Grothe, L Hansen, C Hegarty, K Hemesth, L Henson, R Hoffman, A Johns, S Katz, T Killeen, J Kreuser W Miller, A Minenko, P Mulcahy, C Niewoehner, J Nixon, L Perkowski, D Power, L Repesh, A Severson, R Sonnino, T Stillman, L Stroup, T Thompson, T Walseth, D Wangensteen, K Watson, P White, M Woods*

Members absent: *S Allen, J Beattie, B Brandt, K Crossley, T Ebner, M Hordinsky, G Jacobs, M Kondrak, L Ling, M LuBrandt, B Marsh, J Miller, C Patow, R Wong,*

I. Approval of Minutes

October 19, 2010 were approved with no corrections or additions.

II. Information

Transitions

Dr. Lindsey Henson, Vice Dean of Education, was recognized by members of the Education Council for her leadership and contributions to the University of Minnesota Medical School. Dr Henson will leave her position at the University of Minnesota Medical School on December 16, 2010; she was presented with a small gift and many well wishes for success in her new position.

Dr. Aaron Friedman, announced this would be his last meeting as Chair of the Education Council; he will begin his role as AHC Sr. VP and Dean of Med School on January 1, 2011. He reported that Dr. Wes Miller has been named as the new Chair of the Council.

AAMC 2010 Report

Dr. Lindsey Henson referenced the synopsis (handout) of information gathered from Education Council members and those in OME administration, who attended the AAMC Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., November, 2010. Notable topics include faculty development and new approaches to expanding teaching skills; efforts to expand diversity in the student body and faculty; assessing “professionalism”; addressing issues of unconscious bias currently present in students, faculty and staff by providing tools for self-assessment and climate surveys. Dr. Soninno stated that “Unconscious Bias” will be a focus for training for faculty in 2011 and beyond.

LCME

Individuals who attended LCME related sessions at the AAMC Annual Meeting, reported on several standards that have been identified as especially important to adhere to in specific detail, included are ED-24 (residents’ familiarity with MD program objectives); ED-30 (formative and summative assessments for all courses & clerkships); and ER-9 (affiliation agreements). ED-33 (central oversight of the curriculum) has become the most commonly cited; curriculum mapping will be especially important in documenting how oversight is addressed in the UMMS. Standard IS-16 (diversity) requires policies and practices for compliance and resulting numbers will be assessed by the visitation team. Other important suggestions for LCME site visit preparation are Dean’s Town Hall meetings for students and faculty, invitation to the new University President to attend an Education Council Meeting to talk about the importance of LCME and empowering students to speak out at all committee meetings as concerns arise.

Several others who attended the AAMC meeting reported on sessions related to areas of Learner Development; the Group on Student Affairs & Students; and Student Learning. Next steps have been developed and high priorities include specific details to improve the learning environment for students and communication between students and faculty and especially across the Duluth and TC campuses.

Proposed steps include focus on professionalism throughout the curriculum in years 1-4 with exposure to

the best role models, adding more opportunities for reflective thinking about professionalism and to reward students for best practices at their level of development.

CUMED

Dr. Rick Hoffman, Associate Dean for Medical Education/Curriculum-Duluth, gave an update regarding changes to the membership of their curriculum oversight committee on the Duluth campus (CUMED). Members of the Committee on Undergraduate Medical Education, Duluth (CUMED), are all Medical School-Duluth Course Directors. This change brings to together 16 members who are stakeholders in the Program's courses. The Committee meets monthly and functions similarly to the sister group, the Scientific Foundations Subcommittee (Yr1-2) of the Curriculum-Committee-TC. The Committee will continue to address local curricular functions and concerns. Members of CUMED will do an annual report to the Education Steering Committee. Duluth will adopt CourseEval to be used for comparing metrics for course and instructor evaluations across campuses. A major project includes oversight of the CurrMIT curricular mapping project; and they have also addressed the difference in the passing points for courses between Duluth and TC (formerly based on a standard deviation method for scoring). Work is being done to finalize the grading policies on both campuses to align both programs. This is to ensure assessment of students on both campuses will be equally weighed.

III. For Action

Grading Policy

Dr. Catherine Niewoehner gave a brief update for the Grading Policy and the decision to have a simple cutoff of 70% for passing a course. Course grades in Years 1 and 2 will be set at a pass rate no lower than 70%. The Year 1 & 2 Exam Retake Policy will be revised to match the new Year 1 & 2 Exam Grade Policy, to reflect that students who fail the exam will have to retake the course exam. It was agreed that scores for components will be tracked for each student with regard to areas where they may have specific deficits in knowledge. How tracking and remediation will occur will be decided at the OME administrative level. Course directors will provide students with adequate examples of sample test questions with formats that match the format found in their course exams. In response to questions regarding performance on a particular component of a course over a full year of coursework, Dr. Niewoehner reported that the student performance information will be shared with the student, and for review by their faculty advisor, Dr. Marilyn Becker and Dr. Kathleen Watson, to address performance concerns early in their medical education. No information regarding performance on course components will be reflected on student transcripts. At this time there is no formal remediation or punitive action to be taken. Because the goal is an integrated curriculum, there is no method to single out a percentage for a component. With regard to the Spring Semester (individual courses) there will be both a mid-term and a final exam and students will be required to achieve 70% on both of these exams. The challenge period after each exam provides an opportunity for students to know which areas they need to work on. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the members voted to accept the Policies as written, the Policies were approved.

IV. Discussion

Education Steering Committee

Dr. Lindsey Henson gave a brief overview of the Medical School Curriculum oversight committees, reminding EC members of the role of Education Steering Committee and how it has served as the oversight and management arm of the Education Council. The structure of the membership will change because there will no longer be a Vice Dean of Medical Education. Drs. Friedman and Miller will meet with current members to discuss the Committee's charge and makeup of the membership and to determine how the Committee will move forward. One change may include weekly meetings for a shorter time period, to provide functionality for oversight of the curriculum and policies.

Next Education Council Meeting – January 18, 2010