Curriculum and Instruction Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 19th, 2015

Attendees

Carolyn Klatt, MLIS
Steve Williams, MD
Marshall Angle, PhD
Robert Donner, MD
Bob Visalli, PhD
Susan Cline, PhD
Mahesh Patel, MD
David Parish, MD
Edward Klatt, MD
Kristjan Thompson, PhD
Ed Grimsley, MD

Tina Thompson, PhD, Chair
Dominique Broccoli, PhD
David Baxter, MD
Jeff Ignatoff, MD
John Bucholtz, MD
Alice House, MD
Michael Smith, PhD
Roy Russ, PhD
Blanca Lopez, MD
Roberta Weintraut, MD

Absent

Dina Linfoot, MD
Alec Ridley MSII
Joshua Masdon MSI
Butch Wolff, MD

Phil Malan, PhD, MD
Jacob Beltz, MSII
Curran Dalal, MS
Grady Carter, MD

Call to order

Dr. Tina Thompson, Chair of the CIC Committee, called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 5th, 2015 meeting were presented for approval of the committee. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

New Business

1. Dr. Thompson introduced Dr. Patel from the Columbus campus.

2. Dr. Thompson opened the meeting with the new item of business. She wanted the committee to have an open discussion on the material that was sent out. The discussion was opened with her thoughts and concerns and what needs to be done next.
   a. A lot of work has been done. The committees are active and meet at least once a month. Based on the recommendations to not implement in the fall of 2015, the work for the new curriculum design must continue.
   b. The block schedule is good. The foundations block is coming together and identified the curricular content but not seeing the learning objectives and the actual calendar. Clinical skills the practice of medical arts not well delineated in the block structure. Another
component not in the structure is the early clinical experience. This is a longitudinal experience starting in year 1 and ongoing through year 2. Some of the topics not addressed were topics identified by the task force as being critical and that were approved by the CIC – social, psychological, environmental factors, policy on health care, access, prevention and wellness. Did not see where community medicine faculty are being brought in to help place to incorporate that material.

c. Dr. Thompson would like to modify the foundations block from 17 weeks to 16 weeks. The 17th week would be a remediation time and will include topics for professional development.

d. Professional Growth and Development could be a 3 week block to meet the curricular needs of task force as well as the service learning and research needs. Students can also spend part of this time doing board study.

e. Dr. Thompson put together a timeline to keep the committees on task. Immediately, block committees need to be formed and a leader established to start working on the curriculum. The foundations block is setting up the model.

3. Discussion as opened to the committee. Dr. Klatt felt that a lot of the information mentioned is in the block structure. The curriculum design committee will continue to meet and add the details that are needed. Dr. Donner is not sure why the starting point is time not content. The goals of the curriculum for 1st and 2nd years should be the studies that prepare the students in the 3rd and 4th year to have successful dealings with patients. There should be an emphasis on basic sciences, increased focus on clinical skills, emphasis on primary care medicine – part of the Mercer mission, increased emphasis on clinical medicine, integration of basic sciences with each other and clinical medicine, components to help with communication between physicians, patients and students, courses in humanities and social economic factors – poverty and environmental distress. Dr. Thompson stated that the curricular ideas are contained within the principals approved by the CIC. She agrees that it is not clear how some of these are going to be addressed. Dr. Cline would like to see the committees formed as soon as possible. Dr. Parish supports community medicine in the curriculum and needs it to be clear on where it is. He also would like to see some new resources. Dr. Lopez and Dr. Cline both feel that some type of compensation for participation is important - not just financial, could be library access. Carolyn Klatt confirmed that library access is something they do get. There are some issues that it is not user friendly in the clinic setting. Dr. Smith talked about clinical faculty involved in item writing when it comes to assessments. Dr. Thompson said that clinical faculty have always been involved in the first 2 years of the curriculum and want to be involved in item writing. She has talked to Dr. Bina about the possibility of administrative and faculty support. Until we can put on the table a clear plan of what is needed, we cannot bring the dean’s office into the conversation. Dr. Cline asked if Dr. Thompson would email the committee a copy of the principles and competencies approved the CIC. The curriculum committee and the task force will determine the block leaders. The block leader will guide the committee. The committee will consist of many disciplines and will work as a team in planning content for that block. Dr. Thompson will speak at the faculty meeting in April.
Campus Specific Curricular Issues

1. Savannah (Tina Thompson) – none
2. Macon (Steve Williams) – Sent out letters for recruitment of faculty.
3. Columbus (Alice House) – Honors day is tomorrow. We are currently housed in both locations.

Subcommittee Reports

1. BMP (Ed Klatt) – none
2. CS (Bianca Lopez) – none
3. CM (David Parish) – Finished CM 1 phase. Working on gathering paperwork for the 4th years.
4. Year 3 (David Baxter) – CDSC met last week and minutes are submitted. Continuing work on the interprofessional task force and continued work on the issues with the shelf exam.
5. Year 4 (Steve Williams) – Finished training for GHLO. Writing a page for the year 4 elective catalog.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Minutes recorded by Katie Davis