## MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, October 20, 2015  
**Time:** 4:00 – 6:00 pm  
**Meeting Location:** DHMC – Borwell 758  
**Approval:** Tuesday, April 19, 2016  
**Recorded By:** Alison D. Ricker

### ATTENDANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voting Members</th>
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<th>Non-Voting Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barnes, Aaron (4th Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>Nierenberg, David (Clinical-Pharmacology)</td>
<td>Cousineau, Laura (Library Sciences)</td>
<td>Ogrinc, Greg (SADME)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black, Candice (Clinical-Pathology)</td>
<td>Ramos, Joshua (1st Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>Dick. III, John (Yrs III, IV)</td>
<td>Reid, Brian (IS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chidawanika, Tamutenda (PhD Rep)</td>
<td>Rees, Christiaan (PhD Rep)</td>
<td>Eastman, Terri (On Doctoring)</td>
<td>Sharma, Swapna (Resident, DHMC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D'Agostino, Erin (2nd Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>Sachs, Marlene (CPEB)</td>
<td>Fall, Leslie (Faculty Dvlp)</td>
<td>Shoop, Glenda (Learning Srv/Curric. Design &amp; Evaluation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freemantle, Sarah (Basic Science)</td>
<td>Smith, Marietta (3rd Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>Frew, Julia (SBM)</td>
<td>Swenson, Rand (LCME)</td>
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<td>Johansen, Sarah (Chair)</td>
<td>Usherwood, Edward (Basic Science)</td>
<td>Jaeger, Michele (Registrar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manning, Harold (Clinical-Pulmonary)</td>
<td>Weinstein, Adam (Clinical-Pediatrics)</td>
<td>Kidder, Tony (Simulation Lab)</td>
<td>Jaeger, Michele (Registrar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merali, Natasha (1st Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>Lyons, Virginia (Year I)</td>
<td>McAllister, Stephen (IS)</td>
<td>(Associate Dean of Student Affairs)</td>
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<td>Montana, Philip (2nd Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>McAllister, Stephen (IS)</td>
<td>Nelson, Bill (VIG)</td>
<td>Ricker, Alison (Admin. Support)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morrow, Cathleen (Faculty Council)</td>
<td>X (Basic Science)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morton, Stephanie (3rd Yr. Rep)</td>
<td>Ogrinc, Greg (CCD-Continuous Curriculum Dvlp)</td>
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<td>William Hickey (Pathology)</td>
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Present = X / Absent = -- / Excused = 0
1. **Call to Order – Sarah Johansen, MD**
   Dr. Sarah Johansen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

2. **Approval of September’s meeting minutes – Sarah Johansen, MD**
   Dr. Adam Weinstein requested the September minutes be amended to reflect the inclusion of a deliberate focus on pediatric leukemia in the discussion for the course review of Year II: SBM Hematology.

   *Dr. Weinstein made a motion to approve the September 2015 minutes. The motion was seconded by Aaron Barnes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.*

3. **Announcements – Sarah Johansen, MD**
   
   The Biomedical Libraries will be hosting a session on Open Access Information on both the DHMC and Geisel School of Medicine campuses.

   Dr. Sarah Johansen wished to formally thank Cori Stebbins for her assistance with developing an orientation process for the Year 1 and new Graduate students beginning on the MEC. Dr. Johansen will ask Cori to create a template of the process for faculty members as well.

4. **Old Business – Sarah Johansen, MD**
   
   - **Membership – Sarah Johansen, MD**
     
     Dr. Sarah Johansen expressed gratitude for the names of potential new members to the MEC submitted by the group. There was some discussion as to the size of the membership and if spots were designated for specific units. Dr. Johansen reported that the charge allows for flexibility and reiterated the need for 3 members to fill current vacancies as well as an additional 2-3 members for the Spring to ensure a quorum at each meeting, given terms ending. Dr. Sarah Johansen will ask Rachel to share the list with the MEC membership for potential honing and then assistance with the vetting process.

   - **Course Review process – Sarah Johansen, MD**
     
     Dr. Sarah Johansen and Rachel Hammond are coordinating the Year 1 and Year 2 course reviews while Dr. John Dick and Alison Ricker are coordinating the Clerkship reviews.

5. **New Business**
   
   - **Consent Agenda**
     
     - BIOC 112 wording changes in course objectives

     See attachment(s).

     *The vote was taken by consent. The motion was passed by majority vote. There were no abstentions.*
• **Year I: HAE Course Review – Virginia Lyons, PhD**

This course occurs in the fall term in Year I. It currently has 80 curricular hours. This course was last reviewed in March, 2012.

The objectives correlate well with the course, as well as “embryonic development” and “organ structure and function” categories of the Step 1 brochure. Given the extensive use of flipped classroom methods the recommendation was made to develop a corresponding objective on independent learning.

Dr. Lyons described the incorporation of near-peer sessions in the lab with 4th year students coming back to the labs and teaching. She also discussed the subdivision of the iBooks for easier downloading.

The action plan will include the addition of an objective focusing on the independent nature of the course and a review of objectives for redundancies.

See attachment(s).

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Dr. Sarah Freemantle made a motion to approve the HAE Course Review and Action Plan. The motion was seconded by Aaron Barnes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

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• **Year I: Pathology Course Review – Bill Hickey, MD and Virginia Lyons, MD**

Dr. Virginia Lyons presented on behalf of Dr. Bill Hickey.

This course occurs in the spring Term of Year I. It currently has 63 curricular hours with a heavy percentage of lecture based sessions, although some are labeled as small group sessions. This course was last reviewed in 2013 without an action plan being presented.

There have been an occasional report of offensive remarks and graphic images. Students also report technology issues for access to Netpath off campus. A request was also made to establish a plan of communication when a faculty member is going to be absent. Also noted is a significantly high redundancy rate for objectives. A suggestion was also made to review normal images prior to lab sessions.

Dr. Hickey stated that small group sessions are meant to be discussion based but rely on the participation of the students; each group utilizes the same slides and questions, it is the discussion that makes the session unique. He emphasized that the format was chosen to present more complex new material felt best taught in small group setting. Others expressed concern that this was simply a small lecture. Dr. Hickey also addressed the issue of offensive remarks, as defined by one or two students, by stating that he had been present and did not feel the statement had been offensive or inappropriate, though he had spoken with the presenter and did not feel that the statement would be made again in an offensive manner. Drs Ogrinc, Hickey, the faculty member and students involved have met and discussed the situation that prompted the feedback. Dr. Hickey expressed concern regarding the graphic materials presented by the Chief Medical Examiner (M.E.). The M.E. teaches in the Pathology course without incurring any cost to Geisel School of Medicine, travel or time, Dr. Hickey does not believe this would continue if he addressed the graphic
nature of the slides, for what appears to be only one student complaint. It was noted that this session is highly rated by the majority of the students.

Dr. Nierenberg expressed concern that the fiscal issues of the organizations are impacting the education of our students and reiterated Dr. Hickey’s concern for a small department meeting the goals of the program.

Recommendations:
- Reduce the number of lecture based hours as advised by MEC/LCME, in a format that better reflects the actual methods of instruction.
- Arrange to meet with the course directors of Micro, Biochem, CTO, Immunology and Virology to review course sessions and objectives, to discuss overlap, and to be explicit about intentional repetition, while eliminating unintended redundancies in objectives and sessions which are determined by the faculty to be unnecessary to a collaborative and integrated overall curriculum.
- Sarah Freemantle offered to share normal images from CTO to encourage repetition and reinforcement of concepts
- Establish a communication plan when instructors are unable to arrive at sessions.

The MEC requests that the course create an action plan stating the intent of changes and timeline by November 10, 2015 for distribution and discussion at the November 17, 2015 MEC meeting.

See attachment(s).

Dr. Sarah Freemantle made a motion to review the Action Plan of the Year 1 Pathology course at the November meeting of the MEC and delay a vote until that time. Dr. Cathy Morrow seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- **Year III: ICE Course Review – John Dick, MD**

This course occurs in 3 sessions over Year 3. It currently has 30 curricular hours. It was last reviewed in August 2012.

The objectives correlate well with the course, with a few objectives being modified to better reflect Bloom’s Taxonomy. Competencies are being added for cultural competence and inter-professional education. The course has slightly more than 50% lectures. There is no final exam, but a series of quizzes and OSCE sessions are utilized for assessment purposes.

A review for redundancies noted that the Surgery clerkship covers the topic of “Giving Bad News” and Pharmacology incorporates the topic of “pain.” The course director will meet with both programs to ensure appropriate repetition and eliminate unnecessary redundancies.

Student feedback recommended the incorporation of PICO methods instruction from the librarians at the onset of the third year. This is currently being taught, at differing levels, in Pediatrics and Geriatric & Ambulatory Medicine (GAM). The course director is discussing this with the Clerkship directors and librarians to determine the appropriateness of the addition to the ICE Course. A new session is being added for discussion on providing health
care for the underserved populations. The timing for the second OSCE will be modified to more closely resemble actual CS sessions.

The action plan will include assessing redundancies and repetitions with Surgery clerkship directors for “breaking bad news” and Pharmacology course directors for “pain” topics. There is also an ongoing conversation to determine the best placement for PICO training with the librarians. There will also be additional course objectives to reflect culture competence and inter-professional education.

See attachment(s).

**Lynn Symonds made a motion to approve the ICE Course Review and Action Plan. The motion was seconded by Aaron Barnes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

6. **Adjournment – Sarah Johansen, MD**

Dr. Sarah Johansen, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 5:55 pm.

Action Items:
- Distribute list of potential MEC faculty to current group for vetting process
- Provide Dr. Hickey deadline of November 10 for action plan to MEC leadership

7. **Future Business**

- Incorporate a question into course review format to provide opportunity for course director to anticipate future concerns regarding faculty staffing, course structure or function of their course.
- Please add other future business items from prior minutes.

8. **Future Meetings**

***Please note these meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 4:00p-6:00pm***

- November 17, 2015
- December 15, 2015
- January 19, 2016
- February 16, 2016