

Annual Report of the USF College of Medicine Committee on Curriculum
September 2005-August 2006

The Committee on Curriculum is responsible for the review and evaluation of the curriculum leading to the MD and DPT degrees. The Committee conducts a structured, highly detailed review of all required courses and clerkships every two years or more frequently when problems are detected. This process includes the review of all outcome measures, course materials, student assessment of overall course and faculty effectiveness, course directors' responses to previous reviews, previous committee recommendations, and actions taken to address any areas of concern or needed improvement. The reviewer interviews the Course Director privately as part of the review preparation and the Course Director meets with the entire Committee on Curriculum when the course review is presented and discussed. The USMLE sub-score analyses provide information on the adequacy of the course content as does the performance-based assessments of clinical skills including OSCE and CPX. The Committee met monthly with the exception of July in order to carry out its responsibilities. In addition, an annual retreat was held in October. The following courses/clerkships were reviewed during the academic year 2005 – 2006:

Imaging Anatomy
Anatomy
Medical Physiology
Medical Neuroscience
Profession of Medicine
Critical Care
Pathology
Internal Medicine
Family Medicine
Pharmacology
Introduction to Behavioral Medicine

The Internal Medicine and the Family Medicine clerkships received abbreviated reviews since these clerkships no longer exist in the form they were taught during the review cycle, both clerkships having been restructured as a result of the PACE process. In addition to the clerkship reviews among the other actions of the Committee were the suspension of the Year 4 Colloquium course pending further review; the approval of the concept of scholarly concentrations with the provision that the details of each concentration will receive further review; and reviewed the status of the pre-matriculation program.

Significant Committee time and effort was focused on the LCME reaccreditation process. A critical and extensive portion of the self study report involves review of the MD educational program. Committee members were involved in authoring the report and the draft report was submitted to the entire Committee for further review and approval. The Committee also determined priorities and strategies for addressing issues raised by the self study report. Examples of several of the challenges expressed in the report are:

- Continuation of the efforts to increase content integration, particularly in Year1
- Increase student engagement in active learning, i.e., the need to reduce lecture hours and increase self directed and small group learning

- Continuation of efforts to promote awareness of the institutional objectives as expressed in USFCARES

The entire report, including an executive summary is available on the Office of Educational Affairs web site under the LCME tab

(<http://hscf.hsc.usf.edu/ocme/lcme/selfstudy.htm#internal>).

The Committee also focused its attention on another LCME report, "The 2006 LCME Independent Student Analysis". This report contains an analysis by the student body of the educational program as well as other aspects of the student experience. The Committee found this report to be very well done. It provides an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of the required courses and clerkships longitudinally from the perspective of each class. The Committee is in the process of determining how to best use the information in the report to affect improvements. The student report is also available on the Office of Educational Affairs web site

(<http://hscf.hsc.usf.edu/ocme/lcme/2006%20LCME%20Independent%20Student%20Analysis%20revised.doc>).

In May, a mini-retreat was held in order to devote additional time to several issues including the self study report and the Year 3 Oversight Committee report. The Oversight Committee is a subcommittee of the Committee on Curriculum and is tasked with monitoring the implementation of the newly revised clerkship experiences. Particular attention is being devoted to critiques provided by faculty and students concerning two of the clerkships, Primary Care and Special Populations and Inpatient Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. The Year 3 Oversight Committee will revisit this issue in late fall/early winter when more data is available.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg R. Nicolosi, MBA, Ph.D.
Chair, Committee on Curriculum
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