

Annual Report of the USF College of Medicine Committee on Curriculum September 2010-August 2011

The Committee on Curriculum is responsible for the review and evaluation of the curriculum leading to the MD and DPT degrees.

Course Reviews:

The Committee reviewed the following courses this year:

- Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- Critical Care
- Pharmacology
- LCE
- Skin and Bones
- Urgent and Emergent Care
- Medicine and Pediatrics
- Clinical Problem Solving

Curriculum Modifications:

Several significant curricular changes were approved this year, to become effective for academic year 2011-2012. These include:

1. Pre-Clerkship Curriculum: the Committee reviewed progress of education within the newly revised first year, and based on the success of the curriculum, recommended a change in structure of the second year curriculum to make it similar. The new structure is now in place for 2011-2012.
2. Scholarly Concentrations: the Committee approved a new scholarly concentration called Medicine and Gender.
3. Colloquium, a selective course offered in year 2, has been approved for expansion into the first year. Therefore, students have the opportunity to learn about more than one topic OR have time set aside for Scholarly Concentration activities.
4. Creation of a "track" system in year 4, whereby students select a track based on their specialty of interest. Within this track, students complete 2-3 clinical selectives which will prepare them for internship in the chosen specialty. The plan over the next year is to create basic science selectives that will help students revisit material learned in the pre-clerkship years and apply to patients seen in the clinical setting. Then, beginning in 2012-13, students will be required to complete appropriate basic science selectives as well.
5. As part of this track system, the previously universally required 4th year courses, Critical Care and Skin & Bones, were inserted into tracks in which the subject matter was most applicable.
6. Grading rubric changes: The grading system was changed to Pass/Fail for pre-clerkship courses, and Honors/Pass/Fail for clerkship courses. The class rank system was discontinued.

Curriculum Retreat:

The retreat was held in July this year. We reviewed student performance in all years of the curriculum. We reviewed student feedback regarding the curriculum, and selected areas to target for the upcoming year based on this data.

The Committee received an update regarding the SELECT curriculum as well.

Areas for focus in 2011-2012 will include implementation of overall curriculum review, improvement of structure and function of clerkships in year 3 and development of basic science selectives for year 4.