

Annual Report of the USF Morsani College of Medicine (MCOM) Curriculum Committee September 2013-August 2014

Overview

As stipulated in the Faculty Council Bylaws, the Curriculum Committee reviews, advises, and makes policy recommendations to the MCOM Dean on program curricula leading to the MD degree (both CORE and SELECT) and the DPT degree.

The 4-year MD degree program is administered centrally via the Office of Educational Affairs (OEA). The OEA has established faculty committees comprised of course and clerkship leaders that are responsible for the design, implementation, and management of the curriculum along the four instructional years of the program. The organizational structure is shown below in relation to the advisory role of the Faculty Council Curriculum Committee. Some faculty members on the Curriculum Committee are also Course directors, and therefore serve in both capacities.

The 3-year DPT degree program is administered centrally via the School of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Sciences (SPTRS), and reports directly to the MCOM Dean by the SPTRS Director (not shown below). A separate SPTRS Curriculum Committee plans and manages the DPT program curriculum, however there is MD/DPT inter-professional education designed into Year 1 of each program that is regularly reviewed by the MCOM Curriculum Committee.

Serving as *ex officio* non-voting members of the Curriculum Committee were;

- The MCOM Chief Academic Officer - Dr. Alicia Monroe and Dr. Bryan Bogner (replaced Dr. Monroe in 2014)
- The Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education - Dr. Frazier Stevenson
- The Associate Dean for Education Affairs at Lehigh Valley - Dr. Alan Otsuki and Dr. Robert Barraco (replaced Dr. Otsuki in 2014)
- The Director of the SPTRS - Dr. Sandy Quillen
- The Director of the Pre-Clerkship Leadership Committee (Years 1 & 2) - Dr. Stan Nazian and Dr. Craig Douplik (replaced Dr. Nazian in 2014)
- The Director of the Clerkship Leadership Council (Year 3) - Dr. Barbara Lubrano

MCOM Faculty Council
Dr. Ledford -President
Curriculum Committee
Dr. Douplik –Chair(voting members)
6 Basic Science Faculty
6 Clinical Science Faculty
2 LVHN Faculty
1 DPT Faculty
1 Student Representative
Policy Committees
Administrative Committees
Clerkship Leadership Council
Dr. Lubrano –Director
Clerkship Directors
Career Track Directors
& Elective Course Directors
Pre-Clerkship Leadership Committee
Dr. Nazian –Director
Course Directors
Co-Course Directors
Proficiency Monitors
Year 1
Year 2
Year 3
Year 4
MD Program Curriculum
Office of Educational Affairs
Dr. Monroe -Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Stevenson -Assoc. Dean for UME
Advisory & Review
Design, Implementation, & Management

The Faculty Council and the Committee approved an amendment to the Faculty Bylaws in March 2014 with the following revisions as pertaining to the Committee on Curriculum:

Article IX: POLICY COMMITTEES

Section 3: Committee on Curriculum

The Committee on Curriculum shall advise the Dean on matters related to undergraduate medical education and physical therapy education. The Committee shall develop, review, assess and recommend changes to the content, curricular structure, learning environment and educational goals of the UME program and shall evaluate the courses,

curriculum and program outcomes as a whole. It will update the faculty regularly on changes and program outcomes. It will also develop standards for the evaluation and improvement of teaching quality.

The Committee shall be composed of six members from basic science departments, six members from clinical science departments, two members from the Lehigh Valley Partnership Campus, and one member from the School of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Sciences who have responsibilities for curriculum design and planning within their departments and a representative from the Student Council of the Morsani College of Medicine. Each core faculty member of the Committee shall serve for a term of three years. The three-year terms shall be staggered such that one-third of the core faculty members shall be replaced each year. The senior administrative officer(s) responsible for educational affairs (Vice Dean for Educational Affairs, Associate Deans for UME and Physical Therapy Education), Director of Pre-clerkship Curriculum, Chair of Committee of Clerkship Directors, one Chair from a clinical department, one Chair from a basic science department and the Presidents of the first, second, third, and fourth year Medical and first, second and third year Physical Therapy classes or their designates shall be non-voting ex-officio members of this Committee.

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The Curriculum Committee met monthly this past year with 1 cancellation in April 2014. Meeting agendas and minutes were posted to the Faculty Council website for communication to the broader MCOM faculty.

Review of Courses and Clerkships

Year 1 and Year 2

The Committee approved the Pre-Matriculation Summer Program elective (3 weeks) to be offered for entering first-year medical students who may benefit from an early exposure to the medical curriculum, such as students who identify themselves as: a first-generation college student, ESL, economically disadvantaged, non-traditional students, non-science majors, differential learners and learning-disabled. The pre-matriculation program contains two essential components that are integrated and applied in a didactic, small group learning curriculum: Introduction to Medical Sciences curriculum (Biochemistry, Genetics, Immunology, Anatomy, and Neuroscience) and weekly Case-Based Learning sessions. The course directors will be Drs. Gamsby and Gulick, and the program director will be Dr. Smith.

The Committee approved a Preclerkship proposal from Dr. Douppnik, Preclerkship Director, to incorporate the organ system blueprint NBME exams into the Year1/Year 2 Medical Science courses, in a continued effort (including the mandatory USMLE CBSE) to better prepare students for the USMLE STEP 1 exam as well as the transition to the Year 3 clerkships. These end-of-course exams will be implemented for the Year 1 (Courses 1-4) and Year 2 (Courses 5-7) in AY 2014-2015 and AY 2015-2016, respectively.

The Committee approved a second Preclerkship proposal from Dr. Douppnik, Preclerkship Director, to move curricular content within the Year 1/Year 2 Medical Science courses (please see attached diagram). Years 1 and 2 each contain 650 hours of required contact hours per year. This initiative stems from the fact that, due to the shorter time frame of Year 2 (29 weeks) versus Year 1 (35 weeks), there is a greater 'density' of instructional contact hour delivery in Year 2, by approximately 4 hours per week. Subsequently, students have requested a more even content hour distribution. With this proposal, in AY 2014-2015, 19 hours of core principles in pathology content currently taught in Yr 2 Course 5 will move to Yr 1 Course 4, and be introduced as "Core Principles-Prelude to Year 2." This movement will preserve the existing sequence of content delivery. [Please refer to attached summary diagram of the content movement]. An additional 1.5 hours on pathology content from Course 5 will assimilated into Course 3, and 2 hours of cancer-related content from Year 2 courses will be assimilated into Course 1b. In conclusion, this content movement has decompressed Year 2 by decreasing its content hours by a total of 48.5 hours and moving them into Year 1. Additionally, there will be planned movement of GI content between Courses 5 and 6. Overall, the difference of contact hours between Years 1 and 2 will decrease to less than 2 hours per week. There will be no future plans for additional content movement between Years 1 and 2 once this proposal has been implemented.

The Curriculum Committee reviewed Courses and Clerkships this past year. This AY 2014-15, a Course Review subcommittee was formed to allow dedicated time for the committee members to focus on this task. For each individual course review, 2 committee members were assigned to perform the review based on a Course Summary Report completed by the Course Director, in addition to the submitted supporting materials (course syllabus, student course evaluations, etc.). Additionally, a new Course Review form was utilized by the committee members, which was approved by the committee and implemented this AY 2014-2015. This modified form incorporated the current LCME requirements as well as preserving the course content questions from the original form. This revised Course Review form better aligned with the LCME objectives, as well as reducing the redundancy of materials submission by the faculty. Both course reviews were then presented, discussed, and approved with modifications by the full Committee. Final recommendations were then forwarded to the Course director(s) and OEA leadership for follow-up consideration.

The committee reviewed and approved the following courses with two years of experiential data:

- Year 1—Course 3: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Systems
- Year 1—Course 4: GI, Renal and Reproductive Systems

The committee also reviewed and approved an update on:

- Years 1 and 2—Scholarly Concentrations Project

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Year 3 – USF Tampa

An external review of the Primary Care & Special Populations Clerkship was evaluated in September 2012, and together with the previous years' external reviews of the Med-Peds and Neuropsych clerkships, the Committee recommended the formation of a Workgroup to re-structure the Year 3 Clerkships with the following goals: 1) preserve and improve clerkship integration, 2) incorporate recommendations from external clerkship reviews where possible, and 3) optimize alignment with the new Lehigh Valley Year 3 clerkship curriculum approved in 2011/2012.

The following clerkship structure received broad support among the Workgroup and Year 3 Clerkship directors. This re-structuring plan, which includes two 2-week electives (not included below), was implemented in AY 2013/14.

USF-Tampa

- ☑ BCC6173 : Introduction to Clerkships (1 week)
- ☑ BCC7184 : Primary Care Clerkship (8 weeks)
- ☑ BCC7110 : Adult Medicine Clerkship (8 weeks)
- ☑ BCC7185 : Maternal, Newborn, and Pediatric Care Clerkship (8 weeks)
- ☑ BCC7164 : Surgical Care Clerkship (10 weeks)
- ☑ BCC7154 : Psychiatry/Neurology Clerkship (10 weeks)
- ☑ BCC7000 : Doctoring III (longitudinal, Friday PM)

The Committee reviewed and approved the following clerkships with one year of experiential data:

- Year 3—Adult Medicine and Peds
- Year 3—Surgical Care

Grading Policy

The Committee has discussed the student/faculty comments regarding the modified grading policy in the third year. The student sentiment is that the elimination of the “PC” (pass with commendation) grade reduces student motivation, and faculty feel that the “P” grade does not accurately reflect the effort/performance of students who have exceeded the minimum passing requirements but did not attain an honors grade. The Associate Dean of the UME plans to monitor this situation, and the Committee and the clerkship directors will revisit this topic after the LCME site visit and after data has been collected on the students' success with the residency match as well as further faculty data.

Year 3 – USF Lehigh Valley

The Committee reviewed all clerkship proposals and syllabi to be initiated at Lehigh Valley in AY 2013-14. The LVHN curricular framework (alternating 3 week inpatient/3 week outpatient blocks) was approved in AY 2011-12, and committee reviewers focused on whether the new USF Lehigh Valley clerkships were sufficiently 'comparable' to the existing USF Tampa clerkships with regard to learning objectives and assessments. All of the following LVHN clerkships and courses were approved.

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USF-Lehigh Valley

☒ BCC6173S : Intro to Clerkships SELECT

☒ BCC7184 : Primary Care Clerkship

☒ BCC7110 : Adult Medicine Clerkship

☒ BCC7185 : Women's Health and Pediatric Care Clerkship

☒ BCC7164 : Surgical Care Clerkship

☒ BCC7154 : Psychiatry/Neurology Clerkship

☒ BCC7231S : SELECT Year III

During the past Committee review process, faculty reviewers regularly noted deficiencies and wide variability in both the LVHN and Tampa clerkships syllabi. A 'template clerkship syllabus', which aligns with the MCOM objectives is now applied across all clerkships for consistency and completeness. This standardization would facilitate future reviews of the clerkship curricula by both internal and external reviewers.

Year 4

Year 4-USF Tama and Lehigh Valley

A new 4th year Patient Safety Education Program (PSEP) proposal from Dr. Jeff Fabri and Dawn Schocken was approved and implemented AY 2014-2015. The program is a 1-day required workshop to be scheduled multiple times during the 4th year in ensure availability for all MSIV's.

Year 4-Lehigh Valley

The committee reviewed and approved two LVHN courses implemented in AY 2014-2015:

- SELECT Year 4 curriculum-- focuses on leadership, patient-centered care, public health, and health care policy. The format will consist of a prologue, monthly longitudinal coaching and formal teaching sessions, and an epilogue/retreat at the end of the year.
- SELECT Year 4 Capstone Experience/Project—mandatory course which includes an applied or experiential component as well as a final written scholarly product and formal presentation.

Review of Curricular Integration

MD Program Objectives:

New MCOM Program objectives replaced the previous USFCARES program objectives. The new MCOM program objectives align with AAMC-developed core competency domains for undergraduate medical education. All required course and clerkship content across the 4-year curriculum will be 'mapped' by the OEA using these program objectives. This will 1) ensure all program goals are being met, 2) help to identify curricular gaps, and 3) be in compliance with LCME requirements.

Curriculum Mapping:

A Content Review subcommittee, comprised of Committee members, has been established to perform the task of curricular mapping throughout Years 1-4 by utilizing data culled from the newly developed ISEEK database. This ambitious process is already underway and will greatly aid in creating a more comprehensive and accurate curriculum map.

Comprehensive Assessments:

New comprehensive year-long assessments were approved for student progression within the Preclerkship and Clerkship curricula, to be implemented in AY 2014-2015.

- USMLE Step I Review Course--proposed by Dr. Specter. This 6-week course (18 contact hours) will review the content areas in the curricula of Years 1 and 2 and enhance students' preparation for USMLE Step 1.
- Comprehensive Clinical Performance Examination (CCPX)—a case-based examination to assess students' levels of knowledge, attitudes and skills in patient care in: Ambulatory Care, Surgical Care, Maternal Child Health, NeuroPsych, Emergency Medicine, and Medicine/Pediatrics. This 6-hour exam is designed to prepare students for the USMLE Step 2.

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4th Year Curriculum:

This AY 2014-2015, a revised format outlined by Dr. Stevenson for the 4th year curriculum was implemented. All students must select and complete a career Track, where 2 months must include approved clinical electives and no more than 5 months can be dedicated to one specific area. Inclusive to this, all students must also complete a Track-approved 'Return to Basic Science' course selective. Two months remain available for interviews and board study. The Committee plans to receive updates on this Year 4 curriculum through feedback from Year 4 course leaders.

Review of Program Outcomes

The Committee reviewed a number of MD program outcomes and benchmark metrics at its annual retreat (cf. material posted on Faculty Council website). Some highlights are listed here;

MD Program

☑ Year 1 Comprehensive Exam performance (c/o 2017)

- 172 students passed, 5 passed after remediation, no failures

☑ NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Exam performance (c/o 2016)

- 199 avg. score (for first time takers)

☑ USMLE STEP I (c/o 2016)

- 99% USF pass rate (158/160)-up from 95% for the previous class; 100% SELECT pass rate

☑ USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (c/o 2015)

- 99% USF pass rate (Passed first try/tested=118/119);100% SELECT pass rate

☑ Step 2 CS (c/o 2015)

- 100% USF pass rate-up 10% from 90% for previous class (Passed first try/tested=41/41); 100% SELECT pass rate

☑ Residency Match (c/o 2014):

- 91% Match rate (106/117)

USF Independent Student Analysis (12/2013):

Clinical Education:	Year 3	87.2% satisfied
	Year 4	92.4% satisfied

Preclinical Education:	Year 1	59.7% satisfied
	Year 2	59% satisfied
	Year 3	50% satisfied
	Year 4	45.7% satisfied

USF Independent Student Analysis (12/2013):

“I am satisfied with the SELECT curriculum content”

Year 1	75% Agree/Strongly agree
Year 1	74% Agree/Strongly agree
Year 1	58% Agree/Strongly agree

- AAMC Graduate Questionnaire—contains data collected from recent graduates regarding the medical school curriculum and allows the administration the opportunity to monitor content delivery, especially in the areas within the social sciences, which are deemed important by the AAMC. The Committee recognizes that public health is an area of concern, as 30.3% of USF graduates rated the public health instruction as inadequate (compared to 22.1% of graduates nationwide). The Committee recommended that the teaching faculty begin to repeatedly identify to the students the areas within their curricula which pertain to public health, as sometimes this information may be overlooked and not recognized by the students unless it is specifically highlighted to them by the faculty.

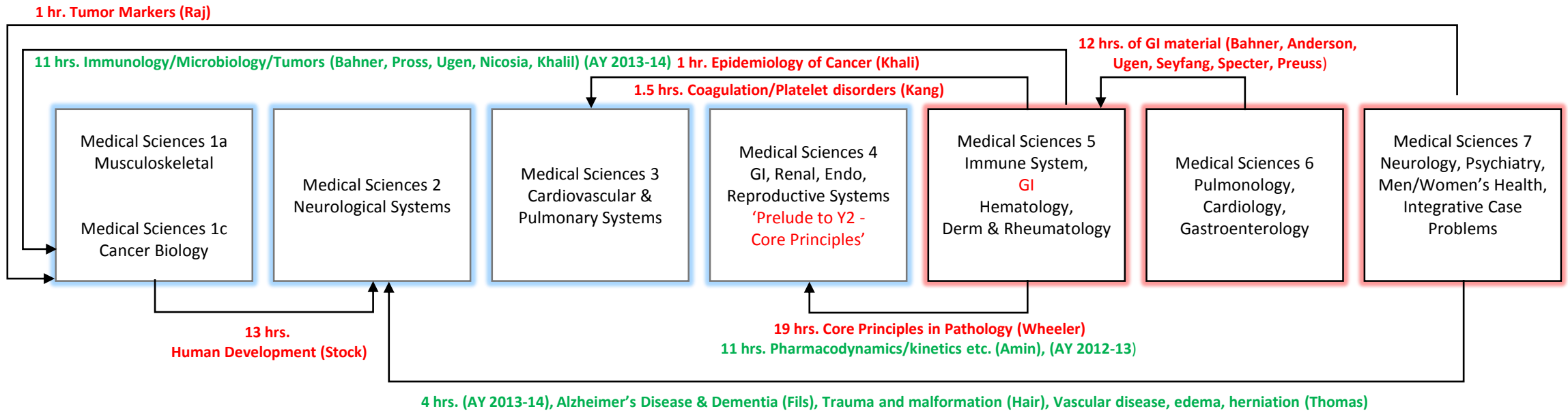
Looking Ahead

The USF MD program is scheduled to have its LCME re-accreditation site visit in February 2015. Review of the planning and preparations for this site visit is expected to be a significant time commitment for the Committee in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary H. Lien, MD
Chair of the MCOM Curriculum Committee
September 5, 2014

Proposed Y2 → Y1 content movement plan for AY 2014-15: 22.5 hrs as detailed below



Y2 → Y1 content movement that occurred in AY 2012-13 and AY 2013-14.

TOTAL Y2 → Y1 content movement = 48.5 hrs.