



**Present:**

Tracy Lower, MD  
Erik Constance, MD  
Susan Hingle, MD  
Holly Hoefgen, Class of 2008  
Karen Lee, MA

Fritz Lower, MD  
Nancy McCann-Stone, MA  
Drew Peterson, Class of 2009  
Nicole Roberts, PhD  
Carol Thornton, MLS

**Absent:**

Robert Abrahms, MD  
Peter Borgia, PhD  
Reginald Bulkley, MD  
Phillip Davis, PhD  
Mark Francis, MD  
Debra Klamen, MD, MPHE  
Regina Kovach, MD  
Jody Lack, MD  
Erica Nelson, MD  
Gary Rull, MD  
Sandra Shea, PhD  
Nicole Sommer, MD

**Guests:**

Jean Afflerbach  
Cherie Forsyth  
Ivajean Mitchell  
Stacie Skelton

## MINUTES

The May 5, 2008, meeting of the Year Four Curriculum Committee was called to order at 1:05 PM.

**1.0 Review of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held March 3, 2008, were reviewed and approved unanimously.

**2.0 Curriculum Reports**

**2.1 EPC/Executive Committee**

Drs. Lower and Roberts announced that at the last EPC meeting there were updates from several Subcommittees; additionally a discussion was held regarding potential liability problems with SIU students going abroad (see item 3.6 below).

**2.2 Departmental Reports**

None of the departments present had issues to report.

**2.3 Doctoring**

No report

**2.4 Student Report**

Ms. Hoefgen reported that all was going well with her Class as they complete their Year Four responsibilities. An area of concern by several students is the issue of Intensive Clinical Electives (ICEs), which is also on the agenda (see item 3.2 below).

Mr. Peterson reported that several students in his Class were asking about the possibility of a Medical Spanish elective offering. There seems to be considerable interest and he felt it would be highly subscribed if available. Dr. Lower echoed the pressing need for this course and stated that she would follow-up again with qualified faculty to determine their availability and willingness to teach this course. She also asked Mr. Peterson to query his classmates to determine both the level of interest and the optimal time to conduct this course.

**3.0 Curriculum Issues/Updates**

**3.1 Request for Waivers**

Dr. Lower reminded the group that faculty from two courses had previously requested and were granted waivers to Year Four Policies. Dr. Hingle provided information regarding the 2-part elective, Medical Students as Teachers: Teaching Teachers to Teach, comprised of 1-block extended elective

and 1-week full time elective during Y2 students' clinical skills week. She was requesting a waiver of the policy that precludes students from taking an extended elective when they are enrolled in a required clerkship. In addition to those already registered, there are at least two students who are interested in taking this course, but because they are enrolled in the Neurology Clerkship during a portion of the extended elective, they would not be permitted to register for the course. She was asking the Committee to grant this waiver, indicating that Dr. AbdelSalam had voiced his willingness to release the students from routine clerkship activities during this time.

The other elective faculty requesting a waiver is Dr. Klamen for her extended elective course, Year Four Medical Students as Medical Educators. This elective requires Y4 students to work with Y2 tutor groups, therefore, it is necessary for the start and end dates to coincide with the Year 2 blocks which do not correspond to the 5-week blocks delineated on the Y4 Calendar.

A thoughtful discussion ensued regarding the educational merits of these courses, with the group voicing strong support for granting policy waivers as requested.

In a related discussion, it was noted that some students may not be aware that a policy waiver is possible and thus reject registering for such courses based on that assumption. Ms. Hoefgen asked if verbiage could be added to the description that indicates policy waivers are possible and instructing students to contact the faculty for further details. Dr. Hingle indicated that she would add this to the course description at the next renewal period.

### **3.2 Intensive Clinical Electives**

Dr. Lower called the group's attention to the description of an Intensive Clinical Elective which had been approved by the Elective Subcommittee and the Year Four Curriculum Committee previously. This description serves as the guide for the Elective Subcommittee's recommendations regarding the acceptance or rejection of a course as an Intensive Clinical Elective (ICE).

Currently the Graduation Requirements assert that students shall take one ICE from the approved list. She explained that a request had been made for the Committee to consider including other courses in specialties such as Radiology, Pathology, etc. for use by students to meet the ICE requirement. A lively discussion ensued regarding the description of the ICE and the expectations for the level and type of experience Intensive Clinical Electives offer to students' preparation for residency. It was voiced that additional ICEs could be solicited when the Call for Electives is issued in the Fall, and that the Elective Coordinators could be instrumental in this endeavor. All course submissions are reviewed by the Elective Subcommittee to determine that the standards are met based on the category of elective defined. This issue will be examined in greater detail by the Elective Subcommittee prior to the time the Call for Electives is issued, and recommendations will be provided to the full Y4CC.

### **3.3 New Elective Submission**

Dr. Lower called the group's attention to the description for a new elective, OB/GYN Residency Readiness Rotation, recently submitted by Dr. Nelson. She indicated that the Elective Subcommittee had discussed the course and approved it; and because the scheduling process was already underway, it was determined that this could be added to the Elective Catalog with the expectation of full Committee approval. She explained the problems encountered by students registering for Surgical Residency Readiness elective and the requirement that had been indicated that those registering for this elective must have an Elective Advisor from the Department of Surgery. Adding this course alleviated this problem for students who planned to go into Obstetrics and Gynecology and preferred an Elective Advisor from that Department. In a brief discussion, the group voiced support for this elective and reiterated that it would make a fine addition to the residency readiness curricular initiative envisioned by the group.

### **3.4 Neurology Clerkship Rotation**

Dr. Lower explained to the group that the Y3 Option Period Clerkship rotation had been filled based on conversations between students and the Neurology faculty. The rotations in Y4 had been lotteried, but in a show of esprit de corps, students voluntarily were switching rotations with others to make the interviewing process easier for all. Drs. Lower and Constance had asked the students to be mindful of others and she commended the Class for their willingness to make changes in their schedules to help a classmate.

**3.5 Specialty Pathways**

New Pathway - Dr. Fritz Lower called the group's attention to the Pathology Specialty Pathway recently submitted for approval. He and Dr. Murphy developed this Pathway with emphasis on both good clinical skills and excellent communication skills when dealing with other clinicians. He indicated that this had been considered by the Elective Subcommittee and it was their recommendation to the full Y4CC that this be accepted for the current academic year. In a brief discussion, the group voiced approval and it was decided that a notice should be sent to the students advising them of this new Pathway opportunity.

Student Registration – Dr. Lower indicated that several students had selected Specialty Pathways during the initial registration process, as indicated by the list distributed. She also stated that an update to the Pathway research project currently underway will be forthcoming.

**3.6 Certificate of Insurance – Out of the Country Rotations**

Dr. Constance reported that he had been working with the Legal Department to make certain that students were in compliance with the new regulations for travel outside the Country. He explained that there were two important issues to be considered. The first pertains to the matter of malpractice and the requirement that ensures students will not pursue clinical involvement beyond her/his level of training. The second addresses the subject of the School's liability and requires that students purchase travel and emergency rescue insurance. He stated that a checklist was being compiled for students and would be distributed shortly.

**4.0 Announcements****4.1 Academy for Scholarship in Education – Faculty Development Series**

**MAY 16, 2008** – Half-day workshop (9:30 am-12:30 pm) in the SCLP C/R at 825 N. Rutledge, Rm 3690; Lunch provided; Presentation by **Dr. Gregory Northcraft**, Prof of Bus Admin & Harry J. Gray Prof of Executive Leadership at UIUC on the topic of "Negotiation and Conflict Management".

**MAY 19, 2008 - Geoff Norman, PhD**, Assist Dean PERD ,Prof, Depart of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics at McMaster Univ, will present at 8:00 AM in the Telehealth Conference Room/1252, 913 N. Rutledge, VC to Lindegren 310; Topic: "Principles of e-Learning: Better Design for e-Instruction." Dr. Norman will also present at 12:00Noon in Dirksen C/R, 801-4th FI with VC connection to Wheeler 104; Topic: "Cognitive Perspective on How People Learn."

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 - Georges Bordage, MD, PhD**, Prof, Depart of Medical Education, College of Medicine, Univ of IL at Chgo, will present at 12:00 Noon in the Dirksen C/R, 801 N. Rutledge/4th FI - VC to Lindegren 310. The topic: "Quality of Research Reporting".

**4.2 CCX Orientation**

In Dr. Nelson's absence, Dr. Lower announced that at the request of the Class of 2009, a SCCX Orientation will be held at 5:00 on Thursday, July 10, 2008, in the South Auditorium. This session will expand upon the information distributed previously in the Y4 Orientation packet, discuss scoring, provide performance tips, and answer questions. This will serve as the primary orientation to the examination and will be recorded and available for those who are unable to attend.

**5.0 Other****5.1 Next Meeting: Monday, June 2, 2008**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.