

Educational Policy Committee

June 25, 2008

Chair: Dr. Ron Ben-Ari

Recorder: Jay Hendershott

In Attendance:

Basic Science Reps: Robert Stellwagen, Jie Li, Karen Tsoulas

Clinical Reps: Ron Ben-Ari, Glenn Ault, Wayne Kaufman, Theresa Woehrle, Darin

Signorelli, Sarah Peyre, Maura Sullivan, David Woodley

Ex-Officio: Allan Abbott, Donna Elliott, Maurice Hitchcock, Janis Brown, Ray

Mosteller, Julie Nyquist, Pamela Schaff, Joel Schechter, Clive Taylor, Dwight Warren, Jo

Marie Reilly, Jan Trial

Students: Melissa Lechner, Tom Kelly, (guest students: Janak Chandrasoma, Alexis

Dixon, Ben Weinberg, Haig Yeniromshian, Patrick Kilday, Tim Stoddard, Trevor

Angell)

Special Voting Representative:

Staff: Sandy Mosteller, Jay Hendershott

Guest:

The meeting convened at 3:58 pm

Agenda Item

Approval of Minutes

Discussion

The minutes of May 14, 2008 were not approved due to lack of time because of the Dean's presentation.

Additional Agenda Item

Announcement from Dr. Taylor

Dr. Taylor informed the committee that the new Vice Dean For Medical Education, Dr. Henri Ford, will be assuming the duties performed by Dr. Taylor. Dr. Taylor has been asked to stay on for a year or so as a "consultant"/transitional person to try to facilitate the process and make the transition as smooth as possible. Dr. Ford will begin attending EPC. Dr. Taylor explained the Dean's "Mission Based Budgeting" and expressed the student concerns of the budgeting to the Dean who agreed to come to the EPC meeting.

Agenda Item

Year I/II Curriculum Committee Report

Discussion

Dr. Stellwagen announced that this will be his last EPC meeting and Dr. Harvey Kaslow will be taking over as Chair of Year I-II Committee. Items discussed at the last Year I-II meeting were;

1. The academic calendars were finalized at the last Year I-II meeting.
2. There was a presentation for the upcoming Cardiovascular System in Year II which will be very similar to what it has been.
3. Reports were heard from the skin system, how it went in Year II and the Neuroscience System in Year I. Skin system was fairly similar to previous years and no major issues. Students were very pleased with the Neuroscience system and the new system chair Dr. Kumari who did an excellent job.
4. The committee included the student letter from the students that went to Dr. Ben-Ari and ultimately to Dr. Taylor as mentioned above.

Action

1. Dr. Harvey Kaslow will be the new chair of the Year I-II Committee and will be reporting from that committee to the EPC.
2. Academic calendars were finalized for 2008-2009.

Follow-up

None

Agenda Item

Years III/IV Curriculum Committee Report

Discussion

Dr. Signorelli:

1. Dr. Schaff presented and discussed the Medical Student Educator retreat of May 12.
2. Faculty evaluations of students document from the Year III-IV Committee was discussed and there were no changes to the document. However, the students suggested that the faculty actually see the student's grade when the evaluation is done, i.e. honors, pass or fail.
3. The grading policy needs to be voted on by the EPC. It was presented to the committee with two minor changes and the policy was approved unanimously.
4. Dr. Schaff reported that the Year III-IV committee adopted the statement of duty hours from the OB/GYN clerkship and modified it for all clerkships as a policy. This was adopted from the Stanford Medical School policy with some minor changes to adapt to clerkship length. A draft of the duty hours was presented as a new policy to the committee for acceptance. The EPC committee voted unanimously to accept the duty hours document.
5. As of two years ago the clerkship "must see cases" were also SPP cases. A new prototype encounter interface called the Clinical Experience Portfolio will serve to log student patient/SPP encounters on MedWeb. This will standardize the way in which students keep track of their patient encounters and SPP cases. This new interface will better track these experiences.

Action

1. The grading policy was voted upon and unanimously accepted.
2. The duty hours document was unanimously accepted.

Follow-up

None

Agenda Item

Discussion with Dr. Carmen Puliafito, M.D., Dean, Keck School of Medicine

Discussion

1. Dean Puliafito introduced himself to the EPC Committee. He stated that he will be looking at the LCME accreditation coming up in November, 2009 for which Year III-IV Curriculum is of particular interest, however he will basically look at everything in Educational Affairs to determine if improvements can be made.
2. One initiative that Dean Puliafito is personally interested in is encouraging more medical students to take a year off to do bench research and this year, three students have received a Dean's Research Scholarship.
3. Dean Puliafito has been meeting with the medical students and many of his discussions have centered around the student health issue as well as financial aid counseling.
4. Dean Puliafito stated that student debt was an issue that is being reviewed. Keck School only increased tuition 2% which is less than the other schools and colleges in the University for this new academic year. More scholarship funding for students has been identified. A Medical Education Fellow is also being proposed.

The students brought their concerns about small group learning and appropriation of qualified small group instructors in Years I - II. Finding an adequate number of small group instructors has been and continues to be a problem at Keck. The students feel that small group instruction is what distinguishes Keck from other schools. The Dean expressed his interest and is in favor of responding to a proposal to address this issue. Dr. Puliafito is open to suggestions for incentivizing instructors and encouraged the development of a proposal to address this problem. Dr. Harvey Kaslow, as chair of the Year I-II Curriculum Committee, will organize an ad-hoc committee of interested faculty and work on a plan to be presented to the Dean. Dr. Puliafito requested that the proposal be one page and delineate which areas are the biggest problem. Difficulty in getting clinical instructors away from their clinical responsibilities was expressed. Dr. Puliafito expressed his desire to "pull the books and see the curriculum" in the context of small groups.

Action

A proposal to address recruiting qualified small group instructors to staff the MDL small group sessions will be developed.

Follow-up

Dr. Kaslow and the Year I-II Committee will be developing a proposal to present to the Dean concerning ensuring adequate numbers of small group instructors in Years I - II.

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 pm

The meeting dates for the 2008-09 academic year are:

August 13, 2008
September 10, 2008
October 08, 2008
November 12, 2008
December 10, 2008
January 14, 2009
February 11, 2009
March 11, 2009
April 08, 2009
May 13, 2009
June 10, 2009

The above dates are all Wednesdays. The meetings will be held from 4:00pm - 5:00pm in the Norris Medical Library conference room unless noted otherwise.