



RPCC Meeting

April 25, 2025

Zoom Meeting:

<https://ucalgary.zoom.us/j/99937287722>

Attendees: Drs. S. Weeks (chair), G. Bendiak, J. Bertram, K. Busche, N. Lear, P. Lee, J. Ornstein, M. Sohn, C. Svrcek, Ms. M. Hsu, Mr. Paget, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

Regrets: Drs. A. Bass, A. Bromley, S. Coderre, J. Desy, A. Gausvik, L. Harper, M. Lee, M. Mintz, L. Willetts, T. Wu, Ms. A. Adel, Ms. S. Facchini, Mr. S. Ivaturi, Ms. A. Randhawa, Mr. M. Sobczak, Ms. G. Taneja

Call to Order:

The meeting was conducted via Zoom and was called to order at by Dr. S. Weeks (Chair) at 10:34am. Dr. Weeks gave the Territorial Acknowledgement and discussed the upcoming election and the history of the right to vote for the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Dr. K. Busche

Seconded: Dr. P. Lee

All in favor

Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2025

Dr. Weeks noted there was one edited correction made to the minutes from the last email sent out, which noted a date change to the Accreditation Update be changed from Fall 2027 to Fall 2028.

Motion: Dr. K. Busche

Seconded: Dr. P. Lee

All in favor

STANDING UPDATES

4.1 STUDENT REPORTS

Ms. Hsu updated the committee that the Class of 2027 have just completed their Spring Break week which has allowed for a nice break for the students to come back refreshed and ready for more learning. They recently received their second week placements for the Career Development Week (June 2-6th), and are now awaiting their final placement for week three. Ms. Hsu added that the UCLIC applications for the Class of 2027 are set to close on April 28th. Questions from the class about the AFMC Electives portal and how that will look for their class have been raised. They are awaiting more details and those questions to be answered at upcoming Clerkship Information Sessions. Ms. Hsu concluded by adding that certain members of the CMSA looked ahead at the curriculum for Unit 7 that includes obstetrics & gynecology education with maternal complications and some potentially triggering topics (eg child abuse, physical abuse). The CMSA and VP Academics have compiled an email to the students letting them know the week-by-week breakdown of these difficult topics so they are able to seek out resources or support if necessary. This email included providing different resources through the faculty and external sources. This was very well received by the students.

4.2 UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Bromley was unable to attend today's meeting, but there were no known updates at this time.

4.3 CLERKSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Busche informed the committee that today, April 25, is the last day of the legacy curriculum Class' clerkship rotations. He added that there are still a small number of students that have some remedial or makeup time to complete, along with some deferred and rewrite exams, but the majority of the Class is finishing and that has brought on a lot of excitement. Dr. Busche included that the second round of the CaRMS Match went well, noting that the average match rate across Canada is a 60% and our numbers were well above that. The Class of 2026 is doing well in Clerkship so far. With the new examination structure for this Class there is a lot more support coming to help the students including formative CARDS exams and each rotation will have their current formative exams transferred to the CARDS platform for use as a study tool. Dr. Busche reminded the committee that this new exam structure is progressive testing that will have the students writing exams that cover content from all the Clerkship rotations. There will be three progressive exams with each exam written over two days (consecutive Fridays). The first set is formative so the students can understand what the exams look like. The second two exams will be summative with the students required to pass one of them to be successful. For the Class of 2027, Dr. Busche included that there will be more information presentations to come including from the Clerkship Directors, the Electives and Selectives Director, and from Mike Paget about how the lottery works. They will now have a specific transition time at the end of the Pre-Clerkship to review and refresh some materials prior to beginning Clerkship. There will also be more comparison data of the Class of 2025 and 2026 coming with more in-depth analysis before the summer. Mr. Paget informed the committee that there are no significant differences noted so far between the classes and there has been a lot of good feedback about the Class of 2026's capabilities on rotations.

4.4 STUDENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dr. Bendiak updated the committee in Dr. Desy's absence. The update included the Clerkship exam process changes. Should there be students who need to rewrite a Clerkship exam, that exam would be designed based on the individual areas of concern for each student. Dr. Bendiak also informed the committee that at the recent SEC meeting, Dr. McLaughlin presented some of Dr. Wu's focus group feedback around unit exams and a proposal for the addition of more novel questions to be added to exams was passed. This motion will now allow up to 50% of the questions on unit exams to be novel (non CARDS based). This change will be implemented at the beginning of Blocks 1 (Class of 2028) and 3 (Class of 2027).

4.5 CURRICULAR MANAGEMENT

Dr. Weeks updated the committee in Dr. Harper's absence. The update included that at the April 15th Clerkship Committee meeting Dr. Haws presented and proposed a curricular change to Course 8, which included the new name of Clerkship Clinical Skills (CCS), addition and removal of content, and associated objectives. Prior to the presentation, Drs. Harper and Haws met to review the changes and objectives. Changes were implemented in response to student feedback, to allow more opportunities for EPA completion, and revisit problematic content in a



more focused way (eg. ABG and ECG). There was a proposal to change the attendance requirements of students to 100%, which was discussed in length. Evaluation of these changes will include student feedback, rate and nature of EPA completion, and OSCE exam performance. The motion to accept these changes was approved, with the caveat that the attendance component be re-worked as 100% was not felt to be reasonable at this time. Dr. Harper's update included that the academic technology team continues to work on making Freshsheet more functional, with the ability to visually map clinical presentations across the curriculum. This was noted as work in progress, presently the faculty is able to see where things are being taught but not able to identify that nature of the learning that is intended, and this mapping will continue to improve this process.

4.6 ACADEMIC TEAM UPDATE

Mr. Paget's update to the committee included the updates to Freshsheet and what is coming next with the functional maps and components being matched to content in learning sessions, as mentioned in Dr. Harper's update. These changes include that the students will be able to see their progress of learning in Freshsheet. Mike informed the Committee that the hope is to have this go live within the coming weeks. The Committee acknowledged the innovation with this tool and how impressive these added changes are going to be.

NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Clinical Skills Report

Dr. Ornstein presented the Clinical Skills Report for Block 1 for the Class of 2027 and Block 3 for the Class of 2026. She included the administrative structure for the Course including that the Course is made up of three components; Communication, Physical Exam, and Procedural Skills. Putting it all together sessions combine components. The overview included the schedule of the Course, how the content is delivered and the use of a multi-source feedback system which has patient perspectives, self-directed feedback, peer and facilitator feedback. The assessment includes CARDS and the OSCE.

Dr. Ornstein informed the committee that for the Class of 2026 Block 3 survey there were 123/188 responses, and the Unit response rate was 44/53. Clinical Skills sessions were rated between 3.42-4.09/5, with Block 1 for the Class of 2026 rated the highest with 4.41-4.61/5. The strengths indicated by the students include that the course is effective for learning and has applicable content. The weaknesses included there being a lack of facilitators, a lack of alignment with Block content, facilitator variability and not enough Clinical Skills time particularly in physical exam.

Dr. Ornstein informed the committee that for the Class of 2027 Block 1 survey there were 180/188 responses, and the Unit response rate was 56/60. Clinical Skills sessions were rated between 4.12-4.56/5 overall. The strengths included that the course is effective for learning, has applicable content, is engaging, and has hands-on active learning experiences. The weaknesses included having a lack of concise resources, facilitator variability, and not having enough Clinical Skills time particularly in physical exam.

Dr. Ornstein included that the changes to the Course between the Class of 2026 and Class of

2027 in Block 1 included the simplification of Putting it All Together sessions and facilitator recruitment, based on issues including variability and recruitment of facilitators, not having enough time to cover all content and releasing content late which impacted learning for the students. Going forward, Dr. Ornstein informed the Committee that there are still changes needed to ensure that there are adequate numbers of facilitators, and there is additional information available for the facilitators as they to sign up for sessions. Other issues being addressed include, lack of alignment with Block content, facilitator variability, and teaching hours issues will be addressed through the recruitment process of facilitators and possible make-up sessions. Other changes going forward include providing facilitators additional information for the formative OSCE to improve consistency, adjust timing for the formative OSCE to earlier in Unit 4, and ensuring its difficulty is similar to the Summative OSCE. She noted that the challenge could be if it is too early in Unit 4 students may still feel unprepared for the summative OSCE resulting in added stress. EPA 0s are being further implemented having the facilitators complete one EPA 0 per session. Resources that Clinical Skills need going forward include having Standardized Patients for videos, time in the schedule for makeup sessions, and a consideration of additional time for Clinical Skills in the curriculum. Dr. Ornstein brought forward the discussion points for this committee to include the teaching hours and the STAT days/schedule that conflict with Clinical Skills time.

Dr. Ornstein nominated Mr. Matthew Sobczak, Ms. Emily Walker, and Dr. Patrick Lee for the Clinical Skills Behind the Scenes Award for this reporting period.

Proposal: Dr. P. Lee motioned to approve Dr. Ornstein's Clinical Skills Report.

Seconded: Dr. C. Svrcek
All in Favour

Dr. Weeks updated the committee that the Southern Alberta Medical Program (SAMP) is moving forward with a building renovation for the medical school on campus. This renovation will not be ready for July 2026 but contingency plans being created. The plan is to have 30 overall students at the Lethbridge campus however this may not be first year intake and could be around 15-20 students. There is still discussion with what the Clerkship will look like including if it will be a UCLIC model, something similar to the rotation based model we have here, or something different. Dr. Busche informed the committee that there is a Clerkship Subcommittee that has yet to meet, but will be discussing more how the Clerkship will work for the Lethbridge students. Dr. Weeks added that there will be an ask for ~10 volunteers from the Class of 2028 to go down to Lethbridge near the start of Block 2 to have a trial period with the curriculum that will be run simultaneously in Calgary and Lethbridge. This will help identify gaps, or discrepancies between the two locations.



Meeting Adjourned at 11:47 am

Next Meeting: Friday, June 13th at 10:30 am where Professional Role and Indigenous Health will report. Dr. Weeks added that the May 23rd meeting is cancelled, and the Anatomy report will be presented at a meeting in the Fall. Dr. Weeks informed the committee that she will look to get some tentative committee meeting dates for 2025-2026 sent out in May.

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