CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC)

APPROVED - Minutes
Friday, September 13th, 2019

Present: Drs. Adam Bass, Hanan Bassyouni, John Bertram, Kevin Busche (Interim Chair), Ms. Karen Chadbolt, Melinda Davis, Erika Dempsey, Janeve Desy, Ms. Sue-Ann Facchini, Ms. Suzanne George, Ms. Tabitha Hawes, Martina Kelly, Ms. Shannon Leskosky, Tara Lohmann, Mr. Arjun Maini, Kerry McBrien, Leanna McKenzie, Ms. Lily Oakenfold (Admin), Mr. Mike Paget, Lothar Resch, Anthony Seto, Ki Smyth, Ms. Alexander Thomas, Dr. Phil Stokes

Guests: Dr. Anila Ramaliu, Family Medicine, Ms. Gillian Treacy, UME Program Coordinator


Dr. Busche called the meeting to order @ 12:35 p.m. and thanked members for attending. Members introduced themselves.

1. Approval of Meeting Agenda:
   Moved by Dr. A. Bass. Seconded by Dr. L. McKenzie. Unanimously approved.

2. Approval of June 7, 2019 Minutes: The June 7th, 2019 minutes are approved.
   Moved by Dr. K. Smyth. Seconded by Dr. L. Resch Unanimously approved.

3. Standing Updates
   3.1 Other Committees: UMEC: Dr. Busche reported that UMEC will be meeting next week. Clerkship: Dr. Busche reported that the second year class is being introduced to Clerkship and work is underway to implement the new clerkship schedule and format. SEC: SEC will be meeting on September 27th.
   3.2 Academic Technologies: Mr. Paget reported there is a brand new Blackbook website (http://blackbook.ucalgary.ca). AT is working with Dr. Yan Yu and the students to link Black Book schemes to the relevant material in the Calgary Guide. Development of recruitment is occurring in OSLER and as a result, UME Program Coordinators can recruit from the Vera project for their courses. This will remove Signup Genius and assemble all teaching opportunities in one place based on physician department, payment eligibility, master teacher status and good standing.
   3.3 Student Reports: Class of 2021 reported things were running smoothly overall, and are in the midst of ranking their sites for clerkship rotations. Ms. Haws noted that the UCLIC orientation will be presented in two weeks. Mr. Maini noted that the final exam for Course V is next week. Application for electives is ongoing and stressful. There is an AFMC working group to try to make things better for the application for electives. Dr. Busche elaborated, noting that students must apply through the AFMC Electives Portal, and that each elective that is applied for carries a cost, which may or may not be refunded if the elective is not available. It is a huge costs for students; there is a working group led by the Associate Dean from McMaster reviewing this. Students from the Class of 2022 reported they will be having their Course I mid-term next week.

4. Old Business:
   4.1 Year 2 Schedule Reorganization: Dr. Busche reported that the students had recommended a change to the schedule in year 2 of the pre-clerkship in order to provide a better running schedule and to provide a break in the summer in Year I. Dr. Busche explained that the timetable for Year I as it stand currently:
   • Course III, break, Course IV, ICP/Integrative, Electives, Course V to VII, with AEBM and Medical Skills running parallel.
   • Proposed: Course III, ICP/Integrative, Electives, Course IV, break, Course V to VII. The first drawback would be that Course IV would end the first week of July and this may be difficult for recruitment of preceptors at that time. The other issue is that this would put the pre-clerkship electives in April, meaning that all three classes would be in the clinical environment at one time and there is not enough capacity for this. Peds and Obs & Gyne are already at capacity. Therefore, this suggestion was rejected. It was noted that Electives are a mandatory course and can be seen as a bit of a break from classes. This would require ICP and Integrative to change significantly. Dr. Bass indicated that it would be difficult to run Course IV during the summer, and it would be extremely challenging for students who would be going to electives in either Internal Medicine or Family Medicine as they will not have been taught about electrolytes, etc. prior to their elective experiences. Mr. Paget noted that with some changes to the pre-clerkship schedule, clerkship could start one
Course Report:

5. Course Report:

5.1 Course IV Report: Drs. H. Bassyouni and A. Bass presented the Course IV Annual report (course dates – April 9th to June 21st, 2019), details attached with minutes. Highlights are attached, some of them as noted:

- Top 3-5 strengths: 1. Preceptors and teachers. 2. I-clicker review sessions. 3. Office hours. 4. Rapid turn around time for quiz and exam results (thanks to UME). 5. Patient presentations.

- Top Challenges/Limitations: 1. More Choosing Wisely emphasis in future. There are few relevant choosing wisely guidelines for nephrology, therefore challenging to incorporate. 2. Endocrine section objectives need work as they are not aligned with lectures, this will be a big task next year. 3. Scheduling of complex topics as a single chunk was changed to be split up into blocks of time (i.e. 1 hour, 2 days off, then the related small groups). This was well received, therefore, this model will be placed on other modalities. 4. Pathology teaching ceased. Dr. Bassyouni had requested whether a pathologist could lead this, but to date, this has not been accomplished. As a result no pathology questions were tested on rewrites, although they could be conditionally promoted to Year 2.

- Future Plans: 1. In scheduling lectures and SG sessions, these will be grouped together, similar to the lipid section. 2. Pathology lead and objectives will be improved. 3. Endocrine objectives will be improved. 4. Continued move to in-class problem-solving sessions with fewer lectures.

- Challenges: Pathology – small group of individuals. This will be reviewed with the help of Dr. Resch.

- Behind-the-Scenes Awards: Shauna Bonnett, Gillian Treacy, Mike Paget, Dr. Alex Leung, Dr. Kevin McLaughlin and Matthew Sobczak.
Goals: 1. Introduce more CARDS and innovative learning strategies such as flipped classroom. 2. Incorporate Choosing Wisely more widely. 3. Continued Nephrology move to more interactive sessions and less lectures.

Discussion ensued on how to bridge the gap in regards to PSA teaching. It was noted that Urology recommends PSA testing for prostate, however, according to the Canadian National Task Force Guideline [https://canadiantaskforce.ca/guidelines/published-guidelines/prostate-cancer/](https://canadiantaskforce.ca/guidelines/published-guidelines/prostate-cancer/), which is a body of many specialists, they do not recommend this. Dr. Kelly noted that in Family Medicine, they ask the students to try to use evidence-based medicine and make informed decisions and there are tools to assist in incorporating patients in making decisions. It was suggested that perhaps a debate on PSA screening and whether it should be ordered or not could be explored. Dr. Rosen noted that there are many controversial opinions in medicine, which is normal. It was suggested that perhaps the exam should provide more than one answer for this type of question, which would be correct for either answer or both. It was suggested that this topic could be explored in AEBM. Students noted that the schedule of Course IV this year was better than in the past, however, with Course III and AEBM at the same time, Course III was more of a struggle. There were also two exams on consecutive days (one each from AEBM and Course III). Students recommended that their experience would be markedly changed if the schedule was better integrated. Dr. Busche thanked Drs. Bassyoumi and Bass and their Committee for their work and the presentation.

The Course IV report was accepted.
Moved by Dr. E. Dempsey. Seconded by Dr. L. McKenzie. Unanimously approved.

6. New Business

6.1 Disease Prevention & Health Promotion: Dr. Kelly introduced Dr. Anila Ramaliu, who has a background in public health and is trying to follow-up on the report on Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Task Force. Dr. Ramaliu will work with the Course Chairs, to review the course teaching in what health promotion and disease prevention is in the courses and where the gaps are, and to provide content in those gaps. She noted she will write to the Chairs about this. Dr. Busche provided the background that the Medical Council of Canada has this on their blueprint, and many questions will be related to these subjects on the MCC part I exams. Dr. Ramaliu noted that most schools in Canada who do incorporate these two subjects, in an integrated system. Mr. Paget suggested that Dr. Ramaliu also speak to Dr. Janeve Desy in regard to exam questions that would pertain to this. It is a standard that universities should deliver.

6.2 Budget Changes/Impact on UME: Ms. Chadbolt reported that after a meeting with the Dean’s office, with Dr. Naugler, they were advised to develop some plans for a specific budget cut. A directive to hold off on payments to Course and Clerkship leaders/preceptors was implemented and UME was directed to wait to communicate until final decisions were made on the implementation of budget decisions. A decision was recently made to move forward on payments to Course and Clerkship leaders, and agreement letters have been sent. There are no changes to preclerkship for this fiscal year. Ms. Chadbolt asked members to please advise their teachers to sign these agreements as soon as possible, to enable payments to be sent. Dr. Busche thanked Ms. Chadbolt for her hard work in working long hours to develop different financial plans to accommodate the request for budget cuts. He noted that the Cumming School of Medicine is in debt and with the change in government, it is not known what the provincial government will do. Dr. Stokes thanked Ms. Chadbolt for this positive outcome, and requested that in future, perhaps some communication could be released to let them know, at the minimum, that the payments were on hold until further notice.

6.3 Student Evaluations Info. Document – Clinical Presentations/Procedures: Dr. Desy reminded members to please look at the Clinical Presentation and Procedures document to ensure that they are covered in the courses. Mrs. Oakenfold will send them out again to the members (completed). She noted that ultimately this will inform a blueprint of the course exam content. She asked that if there are any missing to let her know.

6.4 UME Program Portfolios: Ms. Facchini noted there are a number of changes to the portfolios of the UME Program Coordinators as pre-circulated. Two coordinator positions are vacant, with one replacement by Aimee Newton to date. She asked members to review the changes. Dr. Busche noted that changes are made to even out the workload of the coordinators as best possible and balanced, and to be cognizant that the coordinators have multiple other job responsibilities at the same time.

Dr. Busche thanked members for their participation and hard work.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 15th @ 12:30 – 3:00 p.m. in Rm. G384 (October 11th meeting was cancelled). Meeting adjourned @ 3:10 p.m.

Submitted by L. Oakenfold – Edited by Dr. K. Busche