

# Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) Minutes

## Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC)

February 7, 2020

12:30 – 3:00 PM

FMC, HSC, G384

**Attending:** Drs. S. Weeks (*Chair*), F. Aghajafari, A. Bass, H. Bassyouni, C. Brown, K. Busche, E. Cheng, M. Davis, E. Dempsey, A. Grant, A. Harvey, P. Lewkonia, L. McKenzie, J. Paw, L. Resch, W. Rosen, J. Schachar, A. Seto, P. Stokes, C. Svrcek, L. Willetts, and S. George, M. Paget, L. Palmer, D. Beninger (*Admin*).

**Regrets:** Drs. N. Brager, J. Chu, P. Couillard, J. Desy, J. Fagnou, R. Kachra, M. Kelly, M. Lee, P. Lee, T. Lohman, M. Louis, K. McBrien, C. Naugler, K. Smyth, I. Wishart, and K. Chadbolt, S-A. Facchini, T. Hawes, S. Leskosky, A. Maini.

**Guests:** G. Treacy, E. Weir, and C. Wong (*Program Coordinator*).

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 PM by S. Weeks (*Chair*). S. Weeks welcomed Dr. Adrian Harvey who will be on the committee in an ex-officio role as virtue of his position as Program, Faculty and Student Evaluations Director. S. Weeks welcomed back Dr. L. Willetts who will continue on the committee as a designated alternate for Dr. Heather Jamniczky's Anatomy Chair role.

### 2. Approval of agenda

The committee had no amendments to the draft agenda as proposed. S. Weeks asked for a motion for the Committee to accept the agenda.

**MOTION: Moved by - P. Stokes / Seconded by – H. Bassyouni**

That the Pre-Clerkship Committee approve the Agenda for the Pre-Clerkship Committee's Meeting for February 7, 2020.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 3. Approval of minutes of meeting held January 10, 2020

The committee had no amendments to the unapproved minutes as circulated. S. Weeks asked for a vote from the Committee to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2020 meeting.

**MOTION: Moved by - W. Rosen / Seconded by – S. George**

That the Pre-Clerkship Committee approve the minutes of the Pre-Clerkship Committee's meeting held January 10, 2020 as an accurate record of the business conducted at that meeting.

**VOTE: Yay – 14 / Nay – 4 / Abstain – 0**

**CARRIED**

### 4. Standing Updates

#### 4.1 Student Reports

L. Palmer gave the "Student Reports" update. She mentioned the class of 2022 had written their first Course 3 quiz on Monday. She mentioned students are enjoying Course 3, and that the class is also doing Applied Evidence Based Medicine.

#### **4.2 UMEC Update**

C. Naugler was unable to attend the meeting, S. Weeks gave the “UMEC Update” report in his stead. S. Weeks mentioned UMEC met last week, a lot of the meeting was going over policies that have not been revisited in a while, in light of an upcoming accreditation. M. Paget asked S. Weeks to elaborate on the “project requests proposal” that had been discussed at UMEC. S. Weeks explained UMEC approved a process by which anyone in UME proposing innovating within courses, will be required to fill out a form describing the proposed change and listing the stakeholders. S. Weeks elaborated this is not for minor changes, but for substantive changes with potential implications on: room booking requirements, finance, or personnel requirements. This ensures potential barriers to proposals are identified early in the process.

#### **4.3 Clerkship Committee (CC) Update**

K. Busche gave the update on Clerkship Committee. At the last meeting significant discussion occurred around shadowing for students in their Clerkship. K. Busche mentioned the committee had agreed to support shadowing in principle, but stipulations would be required around: increasing the workload on UME staff, restrictions on who would qualify (mainly those requiring opportunity for exposure to disciplines they do not have electives in), and ensuring insurance is in place. S. Weeks mentioned that if shadowing in Clerkship is allowed it would also have to be done in a way that won’t impact Clerks who are scheduled to be on that rotation. K. Busche also updated the committee that updating paediatric ITERs had been identified as the first big issue impacted by the recent Clerkship schedule change – it is going to be monitored on an ongoing basis. M. Paget mentioned that Clerkship had streamlined evaluations to be standard across rotations and allow feedback on rotation blocks. Consideration for similar streamlining in the Pre-Clerkship will be given.

#### **4.4 Student Evaluation Committee (SEC) Update**

No update was given.

### **5. Old Business**

S. Weeks invited L. Resch to deliver an update to the committee on the status of Pathology Teaching.

#### **5.1 Review of Pathology Teaching**

L. Resch delivered his review to the committee, concluding that most courses are operating in a silo in regards to pathology teaching, and UME is lacking an integrated comprehensive approach across the courses. L. Resch highlighted admission requirements for UME no longer include many science and math requirements resulting in some students having to take time to learn basic pathology and cell science. He proposed podcasts as a potential solution. L. Resch discussed not being able to set pathology questions on exams, where the questions are instead from an exam bank. L. Resch proposed when exams have clinical scenarios, the same scenario could be used to have a pathology related question. L. Resch mentioned that he has heard from medical students that they don’t feel like they know enough background knowledge to understand when a disease process is atypical. S. Weeks thanked L. Resch for his report, and opened it up for discussion and questions.

J. Paw mentioned podcasts on the basics of histology and pathology could be valuable and enduring content. L. Resch agreed.

E. Cheng mentioned among the best received presentations in Course 1 are the ones that are team taught by pathologists and infectious disease experts. E. Cheng welcomed involvement from pathologists for setting exam questions. L. Resch agreed.

P. Stokes described success utilizing the time and expertise of residents to produce podcasts.

S. George mentioned she did not have a pathology background, and appreciated L. Resch’s efforts to integrate it more. S. George inquired if pathology had any relationship to the longitudinal anatomy curriculum – L. Resch answered no.

J. Schachar mentioned as UME moves towards team teaching philosophy it is important for pathology to be integrated with each course, and liked the idea of clinical scenario questions where some could apply to pathology and some to other disciplines – she emphasized the inter-disciplinary approach is realistic. L. Resch agreed.

S. Weeks asked the committee to consider including pathology representatives, especially when Course committees are meeting for long-term planning – it is a good opportunity for brainstorming around how pathology could be integrated in the course's evaluation and delivery. S. Weeks mentioned she agreed with the ideas of team teaching, cards, and podcasts to help pathology better integrate. S. Weeks thanked L. Resch for his update.

## **6. Course Reports**

S. Weeks stated going forward financial metrics for courses would be presented to the committee with the course reports. She emphasized this is just to put it on people's radars, to show them how much things cost. Course chairs will receive more granular financial details if requested.

### **6.1 Course VI**

L. McKenzie, J. Paw, and J. Schachar delivered the Course VI report to the committee. J. Paw mentioned the course covers a woman's life from conception, to pregnancy, to geriatric concerns. J. Paw mentioned a big change recently has been switching from standardized patients to pelvic trainers simulation – this has been a challenge as some students want to learn on standardized patients – J. Paw thinks this will improve over time. Learning using simulations rather than real patients is the new standard. L. McKenzie mentioned there were multiple course coordinator changes throughout the year resulting in significant challenges. She thanked C. Wong for stepping into the role. L. McKenzie mentioned she is also stepping down as the pediatrics co-chair. The course co-chairs mentioned wanting to collaborate more with other courses moving forward, to avoid redundancy such as a lecture on Trans health in Course 4. The course co-chairs discussed difficulty with office hours to review small group preceptor notes (minimal turnout).

S. Weeks thanked L. McKenzie, J. Paw, and J. Schachar for their report. She acknowledged the loss of L. McKenzie leaving as pediatrics co-chair, and opened up the committee for discussion.

The committee had a discussion around the best use of preceptor's guides, improving turn-out to office hours, and more metrics around the financials.

<b>MOTION: Moved by – L. Resch / Seconded by – E. Dempsey</b> That the Pre-Clerkship Committee accept the Course VI report as given by L. McKenzie, J. Paw, and J. Schachar to the Pre-Clerkship Committee's meeting held February 7, 2020. <b>VOTE: Yay – 15 / Nay – 0 / Abstain – 0</b>
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### **6.2 Course I**

E. Cheng, and C. Brown delivered the Course I report to the committee. E. Cheng mentioned that this was a very iterative year, without significant change. E. Cheng discussed there had been more information to students on how the flipped classroom style learning works. S. George mentioned she liked how Dr. Kelly Burak had laid out how flipped classroom style worked, during his liver lecture. C. Brown thanked C. Svrcek and his team, for their work on reviewing the Heme units in the course – he mentioned he thinks it is critical to have C. Svrcek on the course team. E. Cheng mentioned they do have office hours that they were poorly attended. E. Cheng mentioned the course does have a preceptor guide, but it is very rarely requested. E. Cheng mentioned that C. Brown had taken over for D. Goodyear this year. E. Cheng mentioned that as the course is losing the anatomy course, as it goes into its own arena, the exam weighting will need to be rebalanced to account for this.

S. Weeks thanked E. Cheng, and C. Brown for their report, and opened up the committee for discussion.

C. Sverck mentioned it was a good exercise to review the Heme units in Course I – ensuring objectives and teaching were at an appropriate pre-clerkship level. A. Grant mentioned he had heard positive feedback about the only flipped classroom in his course and he recommended if you do podcasts to keep them short for more effectiveness.

**MOTION: Moved by – M. Paget / Seconded by – J. Schachar**

That the Pre-Clerkship Committee accept the Course I report as given by E. Cheng, and C. Brown to the Pre-Clerkship Committee's meeting held February 7, 2020.

**VOTE: Yay – 14 / Nay – 0 / Abstain – 1**

**CARRIED**

### **6.3 Career Exploration Program**

M. Davis delivered the Career Exploration Program report to the committee. M. Davis mentioned this was a pilot program to explore the ideas, and as such there is no Course Chair. M. Davis mentioned she would be presenting to "Cabin Fever" on this topic. The philosophy behind the program was to start broad, and then refine as the process moved forward – and that secondary career exploration was a "parallel plan" not a "back-up". M. Davis presented data that students have 330 days from the start of medical school to making choices around electives. Students need more opportunity to discover career options with earlier exposure to more specialities earlier in the medical teaching to make the decision easier and more informed. M. Davis mentioned the program was really comprised of three aspects: 1) 4 half days of facilitated shadowing, 2) large group sessions, and 3) career coaches who help tease out the student's interest. M. Davis mentioned they had recruited 165 coaches for this program, and there was even a wait-list of further interested coaches. M. Davis mentioned there was representation from every single R1 entry disciplines for the facilitated shadowing. M. Davis thanked S-A. Facchini for all of her work matching students to a desired discipline. This took a tremendous effort and is something that would need technical support in the future to reduce the program's demands on UME staffing.

S. Weeks thanked M. Davis for the report, and opened up the committee for discussion.

The committee had a discussion around offering shadowing times other than Monday afternoons, reflecting the reality of various disciplines.

A. Bass proposed making short videos where people in various disciplines answer a series of standardized questions to give insight into what their life in that field is like.

S. Weeks thanked M. Davis for all of her hard work on the program, she mentioned the class of 2022 were the first ones to benefit and that UME was looking at expanding the program.

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1 Coronavirus Update**

S. Weeks mentioned that UME is in touch with students regarding Coronavirus. S. Weeks mentioned Coronavirus was being treated no differently than an Influenza outbreak would, and that A. Harvey was working on making sure the UME policies were appropriate on this issue. S. Weeks mentioned Pre-Clerks should not be exposed to risk from a contagion: 1) they have no knowledge or expertise that would be helpful in the scenario and 2) they do not have experience with IPE or proper gowning. S. Weeks mentioned those two issues are different for Clerkship. A. Harvey mentioned for Clerkship, depending on level of risk, UME would have the ability to remove clerks from clinical exposure.

### **7.2 Multiple summative midterm/quiz/assessments for numbered course**

S. Weeks mentioned that with the coming changes to Anatomy curriculum, courses should ensure there is more than one summative assessment.

### **7.3 Possible IPE within Clinical Correlation**

S. Weeks discussed that UME is still looking for opportunities to embed IPE within the curriculum (led by I. Wishart). One idea was within clinical correlation sessions. S. Weeks encouraged courses to look at picking one of their clinical core sections and look at ways to incorporate IPE into their course.

### **7.4 ATSSL Hours**

S. Weeks mentioned ATSSL is open Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, but there is the possibility to book outside of those hours. S. Weeks mentioned asked people to avoid staying past booking hours and past lab hours. If conversations with students need to occur after hours, to please leave the centre to continue the conversation, as the ATSSL staff cannot stay past their scheduled work hours.

## **8. Next Meeting**

S. Weeks mentioned that the next meeting of the committee would be on April 24, 2020 and that Course Reports were due for Course II, ICP and for Integrative.

## **9. Adjournment**

S. Weeks asked the committee to vote on adjourning the meeting.

**MOTION:**

That the Pre-Clerkship Committee be adjourned and reconvene on February 7, 2020.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM by S. Weeks (*Chair*).

**Minutes:** Dave Beninger – February 10, 2020.

**Edits:** Dr. Sarah Weeks – February 11, 2020.