



# Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) Minutes

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## Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC)

**UNAPPROVED**

Friday May 14, 2021

12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Meeting via Zoom

**Attendees:** Drs. F. Aghajafari, S. Anderson, V. Bhella, N. Brager, A. Bromley, C. Brown, K. Busche, E. Cheng, E. Dempsey, J. Desy, A. Harvey, R. Kachra, M. Kelly, T. Killam, M. Lee, P. Lee, T. Lohman, W. Rosen, A. Seto, N. Sharma, K. Smyth, P. Stokes, C. Svrcek, S. Weeks (Chair), T. Wu, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. K. Chadbolt, Ms. S-A. Facchini, Ms. E. Lindquist, Ms. S. Leskosky, Mr. M. Paget, Ms. T. Pander, Ms. D. Jean (admin)

**Regrets:** Drs. L. Barss, A. Bass, H. Bassyouni, G. Bendiak, S. Bhayana, J. Chu, M. Davis, A. DiNinno, J. Fagnou, S. Jarvis, D. Jenkins, C. Josephson, M. Jung, R. Kapadia, M. Louis, K. McBrien, C. Naugler, J. Paw, E. Qirjazi, J. Rizkallah, J. Schachar, M. Slawnych, L. Willetts, I. Wishart, Ms. S. George, Ms. T. Hawes, Mr. A. Maini, Ms. L. Palmer

**Guests:** Dr. P. Chu

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### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was conducted through Zoom and was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Dr. S. Weeks (Chair).

Welcome to members and a brief overview of what the meeting would entail. She thanked the members who attended the interim-accreditation for their extra work and support during this process.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda – Passed unanimously

### 3. Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2021 – Passed unanimously

### 4. Standing Updates

#### 4.1 Student Reports

Ms. Lindquist announced that the class is currently awaiting their marks for Course 4 Quiz 1 and preparing for Quiz 2, which has been moved online again due to COVID. She noted that this has been a stressful time for students traditionally, and this year in particular it is even more so due to COVID changes and the fatigue of online learning. Ms. Lindquist added that there have been a lot of students taking leaves of absences.

#### 4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee

Dr. Weeks announced in Dr. Naugler's absence that the committee has passed the EDI chair position posting and hopes that will get underway soon. She also updated the committee on the interim accreditation that recently had occurred, noting that preliminary results have been received and still awaiting the final reports. The reports will include areas where we are doing well and areas that need improvement.

#### 4.3 Clerkship Committee Update

Dr. Busche updated the committee that the Class of 2021 Graduation Ceremony is this evening, all online.

Dr. Busche included that the Competency Committee meets the following week to go over all the students

and make recommendations to SARC about graduation. Dr. Busche also updated the committee that they have introduced the Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA) evaluations and almost all of the students have them completed. Those that don't will be reviewed at the Competency Committee with some leniency due to this being the first time the students have had these evaluations. He reported that our first round match rate was 93.9% with the national average being 94.2%. The Class of 2022 is in full swing of clerkship and so far feedback is very positive, mostly the general feeling of relief that comes with being in a clinical environment. Dr. Busche confirmed for the Class of 2022 there will be no visiting electives, therefore the entirety of their clerkship will be done locally. All exams for clerkship, have moved to an online format due to the new COVID restrictions. The last update Dr. Busche provided was that the Class of 2023 clerkship schedule is almost complete, awaiting the CaRMS timeline to be set, and if there is need to do the boot camp week should that be something that will need to happen again for the class. Further discussion among the committee included the timing of the clerkship lottery and visiting elective opportunities going forward.

#### **4.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update**

Dr. Desy updated the committee that with the COVID restrictions all exams have been moved online. Course 4 final exam discussions have occurred with the Registrar due to the concerns about giving the final exam online, and finding a way to facilitate a final exam in person, pending the restrictions at that time. Dr. Desy will continue to communicate with the Class any further changes to the Course 4 final, including the possibility of delaying the current exam date should students still not be able to be in person at the time.

#### **4.5 Update on EDI Initiatives**

Dr. Sharma indicated that the census has closed with an over 30% response rate, so the data will be analyzed and there will be more information to come. The EDI committee also held interviews and sent an offer for an education specialist.

Dr. Weeks included an update on requests for course leads to look at each course with an EDI lens and determine if there are any biases or disparities in any lectures or small group, as well as to review and build content that could better impact the learning of the students.

#### **4.6 RIME Update**

Dr. Kachra updated the committee that they are still in the early stage of data gathering with meeting with different PCC members and other relevant groups through the medical school. He included that he has reached out to other schools to meet and see how they have gone through these changes and how they addressed their challenges. He presented a timeline for the RIME Project, from now until the roll out date of 2023, image attached.

### **5. Course Reports**

#### **5.1 Course 7 Report**

Dr. Stokes presented the Course 7 Report. Discussion included that the course had changed slightly this past year including it being brought forward four months to August rather than December. It was all delivered online and was shortened by removing some patient presentations and clinical correlation sessions. Dr. Stokes noted the strengths of the course included teaching to the level of a generalist, organization, and the summary podcasts. The challenges that he added were that the course is too short, not enough reference to Choosing Wisely, one lecturer posed a problem for students, and having clinical correlation virtual was a hard challenge. Changes for the future include returning to in-person teaching, new lecturers, no longer having the session on family violence as it is duplicated through other courses, and incorporating dermatology, pharmacology, and disease prevention/health promotions as per school-wide initiatives.

Ms. Chadbolt sent the course financials. Costs were 66.6% lower this year than previous years; due to having all course material delivered online, with no clinical core in-person sessions due to COVID.

**Proposal:** Mr. M. Paget proposed to accept the Family Medicine Clinical Experience Report as it was presented today.

Second: Dr. Bromley  
All in favour.

## 5.2 Medical Skills Report

Dr. Rosen presented the Medical Skills Course Report. Discussion largely included the cancelation and rescheduling of some aspects of the course breakdowns. Certain challenges with the OSCE included the use of Task Trainers for Physical Exam, extra wiping down, swapping of trays, examiner in different rooms, and other precautions as necessary. He noted the strengths including dynamic and strong leadership, relevance to clinical practice, medical skills centre / SP program, and marked improvement in evaluation process of OSCEs. The challenges include the complexity of longitudinal units, perception that some components are not as valuable, new process for student feedback, lack of cohesiveness among units of the course, and preceptor variability in small groups. Dr. Rosen added that a lot of the components had to adjust and have some changes due to COVID, including added podcasts, webinars, and Zooms. Changes included more OSCE stations, marking scheme for OSCEs changed to an EPA format and students now receive comments from the OSCEs. Additional challenges were preceptor recruitment and higher cancellations for Physical Exam, Communications, scheduling issues between in person and Zoom session conflicts, and dealing with a loss of in person interactions.

Ms. Chadbolt sent the course financials. Costs for Medical Skills I was 22.5% higher for the 2020-2021 year compared to the 28.4% drop in the 2019-2020 year (MSI OSCE was moved to September). Costs for Medical Skills II was 24.9% lower in 2020-2021. Most of the changes come from the COVID pandemic less in person activities meaning for less SP's and preceptors.

**Proposal:** Mr. S. Bell proposed to accept the Integrative Report as it was presented today.

Second: Dr. A. Bromley  
All in favour.

## 6. New Business

### 6.1 OPED Resources

Dr. Weeks introduced the Guest Speaker at this meeting - Dr. P. Chu, the Associate Dean of Professionalism, Equity and Diversity. Dr. Chu indicated steps the Cumming School of Medicine is taking towards equity diversity and inclusion. From the medical education perspective a lot of the focus has been on what content is being brought into the curriculum design and how it will be revamped to incorporate issues around health disparity and differences in health and healthcare between different population groups. The University is setting guiding principles across the campus to maintain certain levels of products and teaching that are accessible to everyone. Lots of resources are available for educators and students through the Taylor Institute. Dr. Chu also included different offices around campus that are great resources.

### 6.2 IT Safety and Security

Mr. Paget's presentation included understanding what software to choose for teaching events, understanding the considerable issues with "free" software in the context of FOIP as well as solutions for teaching challenges. He also previewed our new approach to recognize faculty efforts. Mr. Paget included the

process of implementing new software. Looking at new software, there are steps that need to be addressed. Does it solve a problem, is it a retrieval process, will it be something that will be used on a regular basis and if it is mandatory? Mr. Paget addressed that when looking into new software ideas that the trifecta of medical education should be considered, the students, the faculty, and the administration. Mr. Paget noted the concerns of free services including the selling of data of their users to advertisers. Our current supported toolset includes video distribution, survey mechanisms, participation tools, and web based, ad free, content delivery.

### **6.3 Patient Advocates**

Dr. Weeks introduced the idea to the committee that Course II is looking at starting each education session with short video patient narratives about what the teaching will be about. A consent form for patient advocates has been developed and approved. Mr. Paget added that the payment for this was previously gift cards and variable across courses. This will now be increased and standardized.

### **6.4 Family Medicine Resident Medical Education Elective**

Dr. Weeks briefly discussed that the Family Medicine team has created a resident medical teaching elective. This should roll out in July and it will include residents being paired with a Master Teacher and teaching during courses. This will help get more educators for our school going forward, also further emphasizing the importance of family medicine and generalism with the curriculum.

Dr. Weeks thanked everyone for attending and for their discussion. She let the committee know that the next meeting will be on Friday June 11<sup>th</sup> via Zoom and will include the introduction of the new Course I Chair.

**Meeting adjourned @ 3:01 p.m.**

**Minutes by: Danielle Jean**

**Edited by: Dr. Sarah Weeks**