



# Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) Minutes

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## Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC)

### APPROVED

Friday, January 14, 2022

12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Meeting via Zoom

**Attendees:** Drs. F. Aghajafari, S. Anderson, H. Bassyouni, V. Bhella, A. Bromley, K. Busche, E. Dempsey, J. Desy, A. Harvey, R. Kapadia, M. Kelly, T. Killam, M. Lee, P. Lee, J. Paw, A. Seto, K. Smyth, C. Svrcek, S. Weeks (Chair), L. Willets, T. Wu, Mr. M. Bondi, Ms. K. Chadbolt, Ms. S. Facchini, Ms. K. Fu, Ms. S. Leskosky, M. Paget, Ms. N. Pigford, Ms. S. Sullivan (admin)

**Regrets:** Drs. L. Barss, A. Bass, G. Bendiak, S. Bhayana, N. Brager, E. Cheng, J. Chu, M. Davis, A. DiNinno, J. Fognou, S. Jarvis, D. Jenkins, C. Josephson, M. Jung, R. Kachra, M. Keir, T. Lohmann, K. McBrien, C. Naugler, E. Qirjazi, J. Rizkallah, W. Rosen, J. Schachar, N. Sharma, P. Stokes, I. Wishart, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. S. George, Ms. E. Lindquist, Ms. L. Palmer

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### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was conducted via Zoom and was called to order at 12:31pm by Dr. Sarah Weeks (Chair) and a brief overview of what the meeting would entail.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Agenda for January 14, 2022 was approved

All in Favor - Motion Approved

### 3. Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2021 PCC Meeting

Motion: Mr. M. Paget    Seconded: Dr. E. Dempsey

All in Favor - Motion Approved

### 4. Standing Updates

#### 4.1 Student Reports

Mr. Bondok, Class of 2024 reported students are very appreciative of the changes and updates they have been given around COVID and how it affects curriculum with good communication. Students are a little anxious about Course 3 content but no concerns to report at this point.

Ms. Fu was concerned how online learning would affect their curriculum now that UofC has announced online courses would be extended until mid February. Dr. Weeks informed Ms. Fu that the UME Management Team will be meeting next week to decide if changes will need to be made and will provide an update once a decision has been made.

#### 4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee

Nothing to report as there had not been a UMEC meeting.

### **4.3 Clerkship Committee Update**

Dr. Busche informed the committee that the Class of 2022 are preparing their CaRMS applications. A number of students missed time due to Omicron but clinical partners were very helpful working with them and UME helped re-arrange their schedules so they can make up their clinical time. Clinical work is still going on with only a couple of outbreaks on FMC units which lasted for a short period. Class of 2023 is starting Clerkship on January 17<sup>th</sup> with a mixture of electives, one four week mandatory block and two weeks of Community Engaged Learning/Inter-professional education. A decision was made by National UME Deans that the Class of 2023 would not be having visiting electives. The reasons included; the earliest the visiting electives could open was September which would mean both within schools as well as across schools, there would be a huge disparity in the number of visiting electives that any one student might be able to access. AFMC is installing a new online portal for booking visiting electives which will not be operational until until May, the unknowns of COVID and the remainder of elective time for Class of 2023 will soon be booked and students will fill virtually all of the available electives. There is hope to have some visiting electives for Class 2024.

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

Dr. Desy informed the committee there was not much to report on student evaluations as SEC Meeting for earlier this month was rescheduled. Second year students are preparing to start Clerkship. Course 7 was completed before Christmas break and results were released. Anatomy II and MS OSCE II results were released. Course 2 for the Year One students is now complete and results are released. The Year One students have been made aware that the Associate Dean's exams (ADT) are formative in nature and happen throughout pre-clerkship curriculum. Students will be informed of the ADT exam which will be opening next week.

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

Ms. Pigford reported to the committee that online modules are still in progress. Currently working on three modules; EDI Basics, Implicit Bias and Search and Selection. Ms. Pigford will keep everyone informed on the launch and happy to offer any resources or training or any requests until those get launched.

### **4.6 RIME Update**

Nothing to report in Dr. Kachra's absence, however, Mr. Paget did inform the committee that three Block Director positions have been posted and each position will have six months in the pre-clerkship curriculum. If interested, they are posted on the MD Program. <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/mdprogram/faculty/job-opportunities>

## **5. Course Reports**

### **5.1 Population health**

Dr. Lee reported there were no major changes in evaluations and feedback from the students and gave a brief overview of the course which is also attached for your review. It is the first course which is important when considering feedback. Broad focus on the distribution and determinants of disease and the role of physicians, society and the public health system in addressing it. Emphasis throughout on diversity and equity. Three main course components include Block One – Population Health, Block Two – Public Health and Block three – Pluralism and Social Innovation. Changes from the previous year involved mixed online / live delivery, evolving "Health Systems' Block and more exam preparation. Course breakdown was 50% lecture, 25% small groups and 25% TBL/people presentations. Dr. Lee reported they are still sticking with the same model they have been using over the past few years with 70% MCQ (55 item, single best answer and 30% essay (750-1000 words which they can take home) with 100% pass rate (164/164) this year. Student ratings overall remain similar to previous three years (response rate 120/167, 72%). The course's top strengths are solid brand (strong lectures, limited faculty and excellent TBL sessions), new students that are keen and receptive with a diverse and professional background with no expectations and routines and the evaluation

plan is transparent and fair. Top limitations involve social innovation sessions (poor fit with rest of course, loss of healthcare system content), connection to CHS/PHPM (little involvement of faculty, minimal exposure to PHPM residents/physicians elsewhere in the program) and discontinuity (buy-in to PH approach wears off when “real curriculum” begins, lack of clarity about Global health vs Population Health). Some anticipated course challenges (pandemic uncertainty, new HCS unit and compressed schedule). Behind the scenes special thanks to AV team (Bruce and Chris), Mike Paget and Nicolle Begert

Ms. Chadbolt compared 2019/20 to 2021/22 as 2020/21 was skewed due to changes brought on by COVID. She informed the committee that program coordinators work very hard recruiting preceptors which also helps keep costs down. Budget cuts made since 2019/20 resulted in the MD teaching rate now at \$125/hr down from \$133/hr. Financial report is attached for your review.

**Proposal:** To accept the Population Health Report as it was presented today.

**First:** Dr. K. Busche  
**Second:** Dr. J. Paw  
All in favour.

## 5.2 Course 5 Report: Dr. Dempsey, Dr. Kapadia

Dr. Kapadia gave a brief overview of Course 5 (Neurology, Neurosurgery, Special Senses (Ophthalmology and ENT), Geriatric Medicine, Palliative Care and Pain. Dr. Kapadia reported 2021 highlights included a new ophthalmology unit, geriatrics introduced shorter podcasts which was well received and clinical core returned. Course breakdown was very similar to previous years with a heavy component of lectures. Dr. Dempsey reported student ratings (N= 60, 38%). Feedback for individual teaching components is always much higher than for the course itself. Individual segment ratings did increase compared to previous years. Course strengths: clinical core, great instructors, new ophthalmology unit, review sessions and geriatric assignment. Course weaknesses included: timing offset with independent anatomy course, variability in lecture quality. Additionally, small groups prompts remain an issue, objective mismatch and geriatric small groups do not match with lectures. Course changes from previous course: separation from anatomy, new ophthalmology unit has gone from lowest rated to one of the highest. Clinical core was well received and an integral part of neurological skills development. Geriatric short snappers were created on dementia and delirium (15-20 min podcasts), each focusing on new objectives. Friday afternoon office hours throughout the course were poorly attended as it did not provide the level of support or engagement anticipated. Course issues encountered: stroke lecture not at a level of 2<sup>nd</sup> year medical students (too dense with trial data), objectives and lecture/small group/exam alignment. Planned changes would include review alignment between objectives, lectures/small groups and exam, update small group prompting questions and revamp stroke lecture. Dr. Kapadia reported that faculty support is the main resource for effective delivery of small groups, lectures and clinical core. There was excellent organizational and scheduling support through the UME. Evaluation criteria stayed the same this year with two midterm MCQ exams worth 35% and the final exam was worth 65%. There are three must complete components: Geriatric Reflection Assignment Clinical Core and the formative online exam.

Behind the Scenes Nominees: Dr. Fagnou for quickly producing neuroradiology podcasts, -Dr’s Pearce, Taylor, Wong and Zahra Goodarzi for short snapper podcast creation, and the Ophthalmology team for revamping their content and delivery.

The Course Report has been attached for your review

Ms. Chadbolt compared 2019/20 to 2021/22 noting the 13.9% increase but that Course 5 was the most economical course. In 2019/20 there were 199 hours in the UofC calendar and went down 187 hours in the last two years with the separation of anatomy.

**Proposal:** To accept the Population Health Report as it was presented today.

**First:** Dr. S. Anderson

**Second:** Dr. P. Lee

All in favour.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Immunization Challenge**

Dr. Weeks informed the committee that with COVID and the push for vaccines there are lower reporting rates for the influenza vaccine. The idea of a vaccine challenge to help encourage the students to submit their immunization records for influenza was suggested. For example, the challenge would be faculty vs student immunization and/or Pre-clerkship vs Clerkship. A prize for the group with the highest reporting rates would be distributed. The idea was left for further discussion.

### **6.2 Podcast Deletion**

Mr. Paget informed the committee that UME has a policy of deleting podcasts 14 months after they occur unless specifically set not to delete. Our podcasts are archived and not deleted, however during the service update before Christmas 2021, the auto delete switch was accidentally turned on, and unfortunately approximately 785 podcasts (pre-pandemic, 2018 or earlier) was deleted. Mr. Paget will be reaching out to the authors of those podcasts to let them know that their podcasts were accidentally deleted. As a faculty member you are always able to view all the content, podcast site online. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Paget though this link or offline <https://umepodcast.ucalgary.ca/>

### **6.3 Canadian Association of Medical Education (CAME)**

Dr. Weeks informed the committee that every year, CAME awards medical educators at different universities. Two members received this award this year: Dr. Theresa Wu for her work in Course 6 and Dr. Sarah Anderson for her work in Anatomy. They are being recognized nationally as outstanding national educators

**Meeting adjourned @ 2:27pm**

**Next PCC Meeting: February 4, 2022 @ 12:30pm**

**Minutes by: Shelly Sullivan**

**Edited by: Dr. Sarah Weeks**