Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) Minutes

Pre-Clerkship Committee (PCC) APPROVED
Friday, November 19, 2021
12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Drs. F. Aghajafari, A. Bass, H. Bassouini, N. Brager, K. Busche, M. Davis, J. Desy, A. Harvey, R. Kapadia, M. Kelly, T. Killam, P. Lee, J. Paw, E. Qirjazi, A. Seto, P. Stokes, C. Srcev, S. Weeks (Chair), T. Wu, Mr. S. Bell, Ms. S. Facchini, Ms. E. Lindquist, M. Paget, Ms. N. Pigford, Ms. S. Sullivan (admin)


1. Call to Order
   The meeting was conducted via Zoom and was called to order at 12:33 pm by Dr. Sarah Weeks (Chair) and a brief overview of what the meeting would entail.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda for November 19, 2021 was approved
   Motion: Dr. Patrick Lee  Seconded: Mr. Scott Bell, Class of 2023
   All in Favor - Motion Approved

3. Approval of Minutes from October 22nd, 2021 PCC Meeting
   Motion: Dr. Patrick Lee  Seconded: Mr. Scott Bell, Class of 2023
   All in Favor - Motion Approved

4. Standing Updates
   4.1 Student Reports
   Mr. Bondok, Class of 2024 reported that Course 2 going well so far and hearing a lot of positive feedback from students. Students would like more rheumatology practice questions.
   Mr. Bell, Class of 2023 reported they are done Anatomy and Course 6. Concerned that Connect Care was cancelled for early January and still nothing in the schedule. Dr. Weeks noted that Connect Care was pushed back and we are still waiting on information as to timing. Anything mandatory scheduled for that week would be online and the anatomy boot camps (not mandatory) will be taking place in person that week. Ms. Facchini noted that ICP and Integrative will be a combination of in person and online so students will have to be present in Calgary that week. Deferrals/rewrites will be taking place in person on January 7th.

   4.2 Undergraduate Medical Education Committee
   Nothing to report as Dr. Naugler was unable to attend
4.3 Clerkship Committee Update
Dr. Busche informed the committee that the Class of 2022 are finishing their last MSPR cut off rotations and UME staff are putting together their MSPRs. SAW will be hosting a number of upcoming sessions on personal letters, CVs, and interview skills for CaRMS which will be very helpful for students. Operating rooms are now re-opening and students are back in rotations as they were previously. Class of 2023 clerkship lottery is now complete with excellent results. No final decision yet for visiting electives. SAW will be hosting a session on “How to be a great clerk” in early January. Dr. Busche will be meeting with Ms. Lindquist and Mr. Bell to discuss what they can do to making electives booking better in the future.

Mr. Paget shared some good news with the committee that 93% of the class of 2023 got up to their fifth choice with the clerkship lottery compared to previous year at 66%. Class of 2022 had 3rd choice at 86.33%, 4th choice at 74.10% and 5th choice at 66.91%. Those who did not get their second choice still have time to swap and trade rotations between now and December 1st. Big thanks to the developer, Mr. Chaoji Liu for helping make this happen.

4.4 Student Evaluation Committee Update
Dr. Desy informed the committee there has not been a SEC Meeting since the last PCC meeting. The Research Committee (TOR) was approved through UMEC and is now up and running. A research tech was hired to support research for the medical students and set up some form of portal to connect supervisors with our students. She also reported they are in the process of putting together a multiple-choice approach session with SEC and SAW office. An email was sent to students asking for advice on the sorts of things they may be struggling with MCQ exams. Course 2 midpoint was on November 12th and results will be released very soon. The Course 2 final exam will be December 10th and AEBM exam is December 2nd. The Associate Dean’s exam is being redesigned using CARDS and students will have access to that in Dec/Jan. Course 6 final took place on November 18th, Med Skills II OSCE is taking place November 24th & 25th and Anatomy II results are now released.

Three Mentor positions for the SUCCESS program have been posted and interviews are scheduled to take place next week. This will allow more flexibility with scheduling of students and student meetings sooner than before.

4.5 Update on EDI Initiatives
Ms. Pigford reported to the committee that they are currently working on two e-modules for CSM which are the EDI basics and the Search and Selection modules; the goal to have both completed by January. A survey will be sent out focused on inclusive language so an update will be given once they receive feedback from the group.

Dr. Weeks announced that Dr. Jack Javier is the now EDI Chair. Dr. Javier is an infectious disease specialist that works out of the Peter Lougheed Centre and represents our indigenous physician population.

4.6 RIME Update
In Dr. Kachra’s absence, Mr. Paget gave a brief update to the committee.

The current structure has unit blocks that run through the first 18 months as well as longitudinal courses. Testing was done to see if pre-clerkship would be divided into three 6-month blocks with Year 1 comprising of first two blocks and Year 2 the third block. Each six-month block will be comprised of four units of six weeks. Each week will have one to three clinical presentations (MCC) and a mixture of small and large group sessions. Each session will integrate important concepts of the patient social context and their unique experiences. Spirality may exist in multiple forms over 18-month pre-clerkship. The “Week” structure assumptions, include; trying to have no more than two hours of structured instruction within half day, two 2-hour large groups, small group sessions and two 2-hour flex sessions for novel teaching methods anatomy on alternating weeks.
Mr. Paget gave an overview showing some slides of Course 1, unit 1 – Tissue Oxygenation, Clinical Presentations and thanked the team for all their great work. The slides will be circulated to the committee for review.

5. Course Reports
5.1 Course 4
Dr. Bassyouni reported that Course 4 (Nephrology, Endocrinology and Urology) ran from April 6th to June 15th, 2021. New elements included: nephrology developed a series of short topic specific podcasts, a joint session with Communications course on topic of diabetes in Indigenous peoples. Also, cultural aspects of diabetes management that was examined through lectures, patient presentations and SG cases. Overall course rating was significantly better than previous two years with 31% of students responding to the questionnaire. Course strengths included: teaching faculty, review sessions, patient presentations, office hours, clinical core and diabetes assignment and CARDS. Weaknesses included: volume course material, challenging material, objectives documents, fewer pathology lectures. Ms. Bassyouni noted an issue that some pre-recorded lectures need to be converted to podcasts. Dr. Bass reported the creation of a substantial number of dedicated podcasts (not just recorded lectures), now at 70% coverage for the course (nephrology content) which received positive feedback. Planned changes will be the need to create podcasts, introducing more interactive in-person lectures to support podcasts next year and review of small groups cases. Evaluation criteria included two quizzes that were 17% each and final MCQ worth 66% noting that the number of student numbers decreased by 8 and the passing rate was better than previous years. Special thanks to the team for all their hard work. Items for discussion with PCC: how much change should we pursue with RIME. Dr. Weeks gave a brief overview of the course costs.

Proposal: Dr. Weeks proposed to accept the Course 4 Report as it was presented today.

First: Mr. Mike Paget
Second: Mr. Scott Bell
All in favour.

6. New Business
6.1 Annual Reports
A PCC Annual report checklist was provided for PCC members to follow when creating slides as well as a PowerPoint template. A PDF will be kept on record for the Annual course reports.

6.2 AFMC CGQ
Dr. Weeks informed the committee that every year the AFMC CGQ surveys graduating medical students across the country and that data is then given back to the schools. This data is an essential component of accreditation documents. The University of Calgary Class of 2021 results were recently received and had an outstanding response rate. The AFMC have now introduced a new survey very early on in medical school as well as just prior to starting clerkship. Dr. Weeks shared AFCM CGQ Result Slides: Pre-Clinical Education, Professionalism, EDI and “other medical topics” slide on various topics which will be circulated to the committee for review.

Dr. Weeks asked the committee’s approval to move the February 11th meeting to February 4th and thanked everyone for attending.
Meeting adjourned @ 2:09pm
Next PCC Meeting: January 14, 2022 @ 12:30pm
Minutes by: Shelly Sullivan
Edited by: Dr. Sarah Weeks