

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the 500th Meeting
June 17, 2024**

Jason Rosenstock, MD, Chair
Bill Yates, PhD, Vice-Chair

Business of the Curriculum Committee on June 17, 2024

Motion	Vote Tally	Approved?
Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6/03	10 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of the Curriculum Committee Mandate with its Revisions	10 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of the ILS Working Group Mandate	10 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of the Specialty Care Clerkship Report	10 Yes, 0 No	YES

Voting Members Present: A. McCormick, MD, FAAP; A. Doshi, MD; B. Yates, PhD; B. Spataro, MD, MS; B. O'Donnell, MD; G. Null, MA; J. Waxman, MD, PhD; J. Rosenstock, MD; M. DeFrances, MD, PhD; M. Schmidt, PhD; M. McDowell, MD; M. Sergent, MPH, MSL; N. Agarwal, MD; O. Torres, MD, MS; R. Schuchert, MD; S. Truschel, PhD; T. Bui, MD

Ex-Officio Members Present: A. Gonzaga, MD, MS; A. Thompson, MD, MHCPM; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; L. Borghesi, PhD; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH

Invited Colleagues and Guests: A. Brown, MD; A. Clark, MD; A. Serra, MD, MPH; C. Alkawadri, MD; C. Alkawadri, MD; J. McGee, MD; K. Scott, MA; K. Maietta, MPPM; M. Wargo; R. Powers, PhD; R. Peterson, MD; S. Gonzalez, MD

All members and guests remotely participated.

Dr. Rosenstock opened the meeting at 4:00PM.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE meeting minutes from 6/03.

Standing Subcommittees

CCES: CCES continues to meet weekly and recently discussed the following: (1) **Educational Team Meetings:** These meetings aim to support faculty who struggle to teach particular learners, especially those with special needs. Faculty can contact Dr. Rosenstock to organize meetings with various stakeholders to find solutions for effective teaching and support; (2) **Educational Opportunities Listserv:** A new listserv for faculty interested in the educational mission has been created, with about 220 members so far. This listserv connects faculty with opportunities in service, curriculum development, and assessments, even if they don't have an official role or title; (3) **Policy Update:** The Mistreatment and Learning Environment Policy is being updated to reflect current practices, particularly the support provided by the Office of Learning Environment and the PAIR system for both graduate and medical students. This update is proceeding through the Educational Policy Council without requiring a committee vote.

CCQI: Gregory Null thanked the Curriculum Committee for considering the phase reviews and outlined plans for piloting and standardizing these reviews. The reviews will focus on three categories: alignment of course objectives with educational program objectives, performance outcomes, and student feedback. Upcoming reviews will involve collaboration with Dr. Buranosky. In addition, the Program Evaluation core is moderating a weekly series of discussions among faculty, MS1 students, and staff to review results of our school-administered survey and communicate action steps based on findings. This goal is to show the school's commitment to continuous quality improvement (CQI).

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Curricular Design Subcommittee: Dr. Lisa Borghesi gave an update on new procedures in relation to the Absence/Attendance Policy. To help ensure that students are getting the health care they need, we will begin (effective immediately) to pilot a new system across the curriculum: when students are seeking absences for key curricular events (orientation, exams, clinical skills sessions), they will be required to submit documentation from health care providers supporting that absence.

Additionally, she provided an update on addressing issues with the Wednesday workshops in the Foundations curriculum. These workshops include various courses and threads like Physician, Patient Society, Evidence Discovery and Reasoning, and Leadership. Two main challenges were identified: schedule compression due to deadlines and students' difficulty understanding their progress in the curriculum. The team resolved the schedule compression issue with input from course directors and leaders. To help students navigate the curriculum, they are creating one-page infographics that outline where students are and where they are heading in the Wednesday workshops. These will be shared in talks, on websites, and by course directors for easy reference.

Social Medicine: Dr. Thuy Bui gave a brief announcement that this week is the Juneteenth Celebration. She provided the following link to find activities and service opportunities related: [Home | Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion | University of Pittsburgh](#)

MD/MBA Dual Degree Program

The University of Pittsburgh Provost just approved a new academic program—a dual degree experience for up to five learners annually who can earn both an MD degree and an MBA through the Katz School of Business. The program, proposed by a group of students, aims to attract those interested in entrepreneurship, leadership, finance, and administrative medicine. Students must be admitted to both programs, begin in the MD curriculum, shift to Katz in September of their third year for one calendar year, returning to the School of Medicine after that. We will be recruiting for the Class of 2029, entering in fall 2025.

Curriculum Committee
Mandate: Revisions

Dr. Jason Rosenstock reviewed updates to the Curriculum Committee Mandate, prompted by changes in reporting procedures. Key updates include: (1) **Mandate Update:** Necessary due to changes in reporting, providing an opportunity to align the mandate with current practices; (2) **Student Representation:** Clarified language about student representatives being voting members; (3) **Title Corrections and Typos:** Updated titles and corrected errors; (4) **Reporting Changes:** Clerkship reports will now go to the Clerkship Directors Subcommittee, allowing for more discussion and action before becoming part of the segment report for the full committee. The full committee will review blocks, threads, and parallel tracks; (5) **Subcommittee Updates:** Reflecting new curriculum structures, such as changing the Performance-Based Assessment Subcommittee to the Assessment Subcommittee; (6) **Logistics Adjustments:** Removal of recusal requirement due to its impracticality and minimal impact. These changes aim to streamline processes and ensure the mandate reflects the current structure and practices.

The Curriculum Committee Mandate was APPROVED.

Integrated Life Sciences (ILS)
Working Group Mandate

To fulfill recommendations of the Curriculum Reform Task Force, the Curriculum Committee voted to form a working group on the ILS requirement in the Bridges phase of the curriculum. The working group mandate was reviewed and approved. A group will be formed, chaired by two experienced faculty members (one

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clinical, one foundational), with input from a student representative, the Bridges subcommittee, and other experts. Leaders will be voted on by the committee. Those interested in participating can reach out to the Executive Subcommittee. The goal is to standardize the ILS courses, making them consistent and relevant for all students.

The ILS Working Group Mandate was APPROVED.

**Specialty Care Clerkship: Annual
Report**

Dr. Stephanie Gonzalez, clerkship director for SCC, presented her annual report to the Committee. SCC has eliminated the oral health week, replacing it with a week of adult emergency medicine at community sites. Practical workshops and didactics were strengthened, which may have helped reduce the exam failure rate among students. Objectives focus on recognizing and managing common and emergency conditions in the specialties, with a curricular crosswalk ensuring alignment with the School of Medicine's goals. Outcome data showed a 100% H&P submission rate and an average 23-day grade turnaround. Mid-clerkship feedback remains difficult on this clerkship due to weekly site changes. SCC will continue as a required, pass-fail clerkship through the graduation of the Class of 2026.

The Specialty Care Clerkship report was APPROVED.

The next meeting is on Monday, July 1 at 4PM. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 4:56PM.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sergent, recording secretary.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE meeting minutes on 7/01.