

**UPSOM Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the 501st Meeting
July 1, 2024**

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

Business of the Curriculum Committee on July 1, 2024

Motion	Vote Tally	Approved?
Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6/17	9 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of the Admissions Prerequisites with Recommendations	9 Yes, 0 No	YES
Approval of the Clerkship Segment Report	10 Yes, 0 No	YES

Voting Members Present: B. Yates, PhD; B. Spataro, MD, MS; B. O'Donnell, MD; C. Yanta, MD; J. Rosenstock, MD; L. Carlson, MS3; M. DeFrances, MD, PhD; M. McDowell, MD; M. Sergent, MPH, MSL; O. Torres, MD, MS; P. Drain, PhD; R. Schuchert, MD; R. Maier, MD, MA; S. Truschel, PhD; S. Iyer, MS2; T. Bui, MD

Ex-Officio Members Present: B. Piraino, MD; E. Ufomata, MD, MS; L. Borghesi, PhD; R. Buranosky, MD, MPH

Invited Colleagues and Guests: A. Clark, MD; A. Shoukry, MD; A. Chang, MS4; C. Alkawadri, MD; C. Newman; E. Reis, MD; G. Cooper, PhD; J. Maier, PhD, MD; J. Szymusiak, MD, MS; K. Scott, MA; K. Maietta, MPPM; R. Van Deusen, MD, MS; R. Peterson, MD; W. Mars, PhD

All members and guests remotely participated.

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

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE meeting minutes from 6/17.

Standing Subcommittees

CCES: CCES continues to meet weekly. Topics included Curriculum Committee membership issues, faculty leads, and a discussion on incorporating precision medicine broadly through the curriculum after a Precision Medicine Institute presentation.

CCQI: Dr. Jason Rosenstock emphasized the importance of ensuring that residents, graduate students, postdocs, and other non-faculty instructors who teach or supervise students are oriented to the learning objectives, required clinical conditions, and procedures of the curriculum they are teaching. This is particularly critical for clerkships, where residents often teach. All instructors must also be aware of their roles in student assessment. This orientation is a requirement under LCME Element 9.1. Traditionally, clerkship cards and PDFs are disseminated to teaching faculty, but there will be increased tracking to ensure compliance in preparation for LCME.

Curricular Design Subcommittee: Dr. Lisa Borghesi stated that the subcommittee is currently working on courses that have unfolded so far. This includes partnering with course directors and course leads to improve and enhance courses.

Social Medicine: Dr. Thuy Bui announced that Felicia Savage Freeman will participate in the [Racial Equity Consciousness Institute \(RECI\) Facilitators Academy](#) at the University of Pittsburgh Center on Race and Social Problems, becoming a certified facilitator in RECI cognitive behavioral training. Additionally, she discussed integrating social medicine topics like climate change into teaching, highlighting its impact on mental health. Recent research links climate change to anxiety and loneliness, particularly among students. Dr. Bui suggested incorporating discussions on how high temperatures affect cognitive function

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and mental well-being and encouraged thinking beyond individual interventions to systemic solutions.

Admissions Prerequisites

Dr. Beth Piraino, Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, presented an update on admissions to the Curriculum Committee. She reported on the incoming class of 2028, which consists of 148 students with a strong academic profile (average GPA of 3.88 and MCAT score of 515) and a high percentage of women (61%). She reviewed the current prerequisites, noting they were last updated in 2022. The prerequisites include one year each of general biology, general chemistry, and physics with labs, a half-year each of organic chemistry and biochemistry, one year of English or an intensive writing course, and a half-year of statistics. The only recommended course is a half-year of psychology.

A student proposed reviewing the prerequisites for potential changes, including adding introductory physiology and neuroscience (one semester each) to the recommended list. There was discussion about the alignment of prerequisites with other schools and the preparedness of students. The group agreed to vote on the proposal to approve the current prerequisites with the addition of physiology and neuroscience as recommended courses. The proposal was supported, and it was noted that recommended courses can be added more immediately than required ones.

The Admissions Prerequisites with recommendations was APPROVED.

MS3 Clerkship Segment Report

Dr. Raquel Buranosky, Associate Dean of Clinical Education, presented a segment report on the clerkship phase of the curriculum, using a new format developed by our Program Evaluation team. The format described teaching/assessment methods in the phase, how well it addressed program objectives, student workload and feedback, strengths and areas for development, and specific action plans. The phase has garnered high marks from students in terms of satisfaction around quality of educational experiences, and students do well on Shelf exams and Step 2CK. Clerkships prepare them for the Bridges phase, particularly acting internships. Students continue to wish for higher quality formative feedback (30% dissatisfied) and fairer and more transparent summative assessment (34% dissatisfied).

Action steps include promulgation of best practices, alterations in feedback and evaluation forms, discussion in Clerkship Directors subcommittee, the development of a performance dashboard, and consistent linkages of learning objectives to assessment items. The Committee approved the report and action plan, with specific deadlines for accountability.

The MS3 Clerkship Segment Report was APPROVED.

The next meeting is on Monday, July 15 at 4PM. Dr. Rosenstock closed the meeting at 5:18PM.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sergent, recording secretary.

Curriculum Committee members voted to APPROVE meeting minutes on 7/15.