

UGMS Committee

Minutes

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Professional Development and Conferencing Services Boardroom

PRESENT: Mr. G. Beckett (Acting Chair), Drs. J. Kibble, D. MacPhee, A. Goodridge, G. Farrell, A. Dorward, S. Moffatt, D. Boone, Ms. S. Ackerman, Ms. E. Hillman, Mr. J. Thorburn (Student Representative) and Mr. A. Kennedy (Student Representative)

APOLOGIES: Ms. L. Glynn, Drs. S. Shah, N. Bandrauk and D. Allison

Agenda Additions

There were no additions to the agenda at this time. It was noted that quorum had not been obtained.

Review of Minutes of November 7, 2007

It was noted that on page two, the first bullet under the Assistant Dean Report should read “.....and that *the level of participation is waning* on committees or attendance at Faculty Council.”

Business Arising

Dr. Kibble advised that Dr. Donovan is now the Community Health representative on the Sub-Committee on Student Assessment and there are also two student representatives.

It was also noted that the Committee is awaiting a response from Dr. Jenny Harris regarding the reply sent to her addressing her request for deviation from the Protected Time Policy.

Adoption of CanMeds Roles

Members were advised that there is a proposal to discontinue use of MSOP objectives and replace them with CanMeds. The MCC Objectives will continue to be used.

Discussion ensued.

Concerns were expressed with regards to discontinuing use of MSOP because they may be important for accreditation purposes.

It was suggested that it might be a good idea to adopt CanMeds now as the over-arching objectives and decide later if they should replace MSOP once clarification has been received.

It was agreed that clarification should be obtained from Dr. Peters and the Medical Education Leadership Team regarding this matter prior to the January 9 meeting at which time the matter will be discussed again.

It was noted that there was a general sense of acceptance for adoption of CanMeds objectives in the undergraduate medical curriculum.

Pandemic Policy

Members were advised that Memorial University and Eastern Health are currently looking at developing a pandemic policy.

Mr. Kennedy noted that CFMS now has a pandemic policy and suggested that this could be reviewed for the possibility of adoption. It states that medical students should not be used in medical care during a pandemic. He also felt that there should be someone here at the medical school with the authority to say that clinical clerks must go home even if they want to stay. As well, there should be something explicit in the policy with regards to medical students during a pandemic because of the expectations under the affiliation agreement with Eastern Health.

After some further discussion it was summarized that prior to the next meeting the CFMS Policy will be reviewed by Mr. Kennedy and Dr. Farrell will review other policies as applicable. The matter will be discussed again at the next meeting at which time Dr. Bandrauk will be asked to speak to her document.

In case there is an epidemic/pandemic before a policy is created, members felt that it should be noted that there was general support for the principle that undergraduate medical students should not be exposed to potentially life threatening clinical situations.

Policy on Student Health

The draft of this policy was discussed in some detail. It was felt that in item 2, the word “documentation” should be defined, as well as what would trigger the removal that is noted in 1b. Additionally, there should be a report required that confirms the student is feeling better and fit to return.

Upon closer review, the following changes were also suggested:

- Item #1 may be changed to read “...student who *manifests* a physical or mental...”
- Item #1a may be changed to read “affects the student’s ability to *successfully complete the requirements of the academic curriculum.*”

- Item #1b may be changed to read “...may be directed *at the discretion of* the Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education *appropriately and independently corroborated* to withdraw....”

Mr. Kennedy suggested that it would be a good idea to bring this document to the body of the MSS at their next meeting to get their suggestions and Mr. Thorburn agreed to do this. Any feedback will be forwarded to Dr. Moffatt who will rework the policy proposal and will also include information from the general MUN calendar as applicable. It will then be passed on to Dr. Farrell for his review prior to discussion at the next meeting.

Committee Reports

Assessment Committee

Dr. Kibble advised that regarding the matter of committee membership, there are now two clerkship student representatives but two pre-clerkship representatives are still required. As well, clinical representation is still required. A letter will be written to Ms. Glynn regarding this.

It was noted that a summative assessment policy is being developed with the hope it will be ready for submission to this Committee for review at the January or February meeting.

A proposal has also been made to the dean to hire another educational specialist and a needs assessment for clerkship has been started and is currently in the early stages.

Informatics Committee

Dr. MacPhee reported that there is a need for a more formal introduction for the students to D2L, etc. possibly provided during the first year orientation week. Student Affairs seems to be okay with this and Ms. Dray will be approached to coordinate with HSIMS.

It was noted that the UGMS Committee will need to begin looking into intellectual property rights as they affect medical education activities. Mr. Beckett advised that an agreement with faculty will have to be developed as there is no pre-existing MUN policy.

Dr. MacPhee also stated that guidance is needed with regards to what is required for wireless connectivity. The committee would like feedback from faculty and students in this regard in order to understand what the needs are for clinical clerks and clinical faculty in particular.

Mr. Thorburn agreed to seek feedback from students on how many use PDA's and how many need wireless as well as how important they feel wireless is for the curriculum.

Other Business**Animal Lab in Pre-Clerkship Curriculum**

Documentation on this issue was reviewed by members and it was clarified that this issue revolves around the pig lab in the pre-clerkship. It was felt this was a valuable experience and should not be removed from the curriculum.

Mr. Thorburn noted that it was one of the highlights of first year and students could opt out if they were not comfortable, without being penalized. There is strong support among the students for the lab to remain in the curriculum.

After further discussion there was general agreement to keep the lab as it currently is. The Dean will be advised that members feel this is a reasonable part of the curriculum and unless there is a change as a result of the curriculum review process the current situation will remain as it is. It will also be noted that this lab is optional and students can choose not to participate without academic penalty.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

G. Beckett
Acting Chair

/mjm