



**Student Education
Group 10/07/14
Minutes**

Members unable to attend: Emily Schloff, Sarah Thompson (formerly Johnson)

Members in attendance: Reiko Sakai, Caleb Seufert, Dylan Hershkowitz, Brian Till, Will Manning, Jenna Arruda, Bryan Brown, Karl Kristianson, Nicholas Fields, Ben Clements, Dr. Jeffries

Minutes by: Brian Till

Chairperson: Bryan Brown

Guests: Dr. Stephen Everse, Alice Stokes (library), Gary Atwood (library), Leslie Boucher(library), Michael Cunningham (MCC), Liz Carson, Theresa Flanagan, Molly Markowitz, Darlene Peterson (Clerkship), Stephen Maurer, Rachel Carlson, Peter Seymour, Soroiya Thura

Library update (Alice, Gary, Leslie):

- Alice Stokes said the TBL room is nearly complete. She noted the library staff appreciates that students have been very flexible amid the renovations.
- She noted that, in past years, SEG has designed a rep to serve as a primary liaison. We've fallen away from that the last few years, and she hoped we might return to that relationship.
- She asked how students were feeling about the library's new layout and wondered if there were any ways that came to mind from SEG as to how to make students' lives easier or improve the services of the library.
- Brian asked what the plans are for the open corridor between TBL and the main library reading room.
- There are plans to put carrels from the center of the main section of the library now (near the temporary reference desk) in that space.
- Caleb asked when the Ethernet would be up and working again, and if power would be working for the carrels along the TBL side of the main room soon.
- Leslie said that power has been reconnected for the majority of the tables in the library, but efforts underway to get Ethernet connections back ASAP. Construction has been the limiting factor.
- Gary noted that Epocrates app is going away. He was interested to know where students get their drug information for the most part during clinical rotations. It was noted that Micromedex is available as an app to download, as is UpToDate, Visual dx, and many other useful apps. **The library staff is happy to help students get necessary passwords to access these programs on their mobile devices. (<http://researchguides.uvm.edu/mobile>)**
- Gary also asked whether students would be interested in the library acquiring chargers for mobile devices. He noted another library has started a program where students can check out portable battery packs to charge their devices.

- Karl suggested even just having chargers we could take out would be a terrific addition. He suggested SEG reach out the student body to make sure that the view is held broadly.

Intro to Foundations update (Dr. Everse):

- Dr. Everse feels it was a fantastic course. He says it started at 50% vaporware, and faculty turned it into a real course and deserve credit. He said that he asked faculty to throw away their old material and start again, and he found that most lecturers did.
- The overall organization of the course is very different than the courses it replaced, with more than 50% active learning hours. Dr. Everse noted he is thus very excited about the Larner classroom opening, as he's eager to move out of Carpenter. Dr. Everse also noted that several members of the faculty had asked, subsequent to teaching active learning session, if they could teach more in the format.
- Dr. Everse plans to meet with faculty in the coming weeks and see what feedback they have about changes for next year.
- He reports no failures, and 12 honors grades.
- Brian asked if there is data on how students did on the ethics portion of the course, given that some were concerned it would suffer in the merge. .
- Dr. Everse said he has not been able to look question by question to analyze that data. He did note that for that 90% of material went to a flipped classroom for ethics, with an IRAT to start with each session, so that Dr. Macauley could emphasize concepts missed in preparation for the session. He noted that, on the qualitative side, Dr. Macauley thought the ethics essays were some of the best he'd ever read. Dr. Everse attributed some of that to allowing the process to be taught over a larger number of weeks, rather than cramming them into two.
- Dr. Everse also noted that they brought an introduction to pharmacology into the course. The course now moves from a TBL on enzymes kinetics and receptors to a conversation on pharmacodynamics.
- Karl asked about overall student stress and the demands on Laurey Burris, as part of the ambition for the merge was to identify struggling students earlier.
- Dr. Everse noted that, historically, there were no students needing assistance in ICDM, and then as soon as CMB started, a larger number of students were quickly in trouble. He noted that he worked to arrange a steady build to the course, so that lower valued tests occurred earlier in the course when students are still learning how to study efficiently. He also noted that they introduced Friday sessions aimed at helping students to learn strategies for organizing information– how to concept map, how to compare and contrast, how to study by writing practice exam question, etc.. Some sessions were stronger than others, he noted, and he said the process taught them a great deal.
- Jenna asked about how EBM went.
- Dr. Everse said that study design is now being taught in A&D. Stats is taught in a small group and TBL. There are also EBM worksheets for each small group. They require students to design a research question based on whatever in the preparatory material sparked their interest, and then search the literature and databases to find evidence on the issue. In the first 10 minutes of sessions, 4-5 students would present their findings. Dr. Everse noted that, many times, this data would become super useful in the small group, as questions are no longer posted beforehand. For some students this is their first experience with UpToDate and other major databases.

- Caleb asked if answers were being released at the end of small groups.
- Dr. Everse said no, as he worries that releasing them dampens the incentive to prepare well and participate in the groups. Right now the groups start with assigned readings and distilled slides as preparatory material.
- Dean Jeffries is not in favor of releasing answers, and said that the key is having good facilitators. He noted that having the teaching academy up and running – which it will be as of early December -- will greatly improve the training of excellent facilitators who will perhaps work across the foundations curriculum.
- Nick Field noted that he sees the value in that argument, but that the policy should on small group answers should be the same across the curriculum. He also noted that given the format of testing – wrought memorization recall – there’s an incongruence.
- Dr. Jeffries noted that the institution needs to teach skills to be learners for life. Knowledge assessments often test information recall, but assessments of non-cognitive skills are also prevalent in the curriculum.

Bylaws (Brian):

- Brian submitted draft of changes to the bylaws, which are severely out of date. SEG discussed several issues, including policy for electing first years, now that communities are no longer an issue of consideration. The group also discussed a dismissal policy. The plan stands for an updated version of the draft to be sent out and for the group to vote to adopt them at the next meeting

Quick Annotations (Nick):

- Nick had heard that there was some indication this project was once again greenlighted to push ahead and asked for an update.
- Dr. Jeffries said that he had appropriated money to have a student funded over the summer to write quiz annotations. The planned hiring fell through, and significant work on the project did not happen. Dr. Jeffries suggested that SEG could bring this issue to the Medical Curriculum Committee for their consideration and action on a consistent curriculum-wide policy on this.
Follow-up: Dr Jeffries inquired as to the status of this project and Dr Tracy reports that each course is working toward question annotations, except Neuroscience.

PHP project presentation (Ben):

- Ben reported that the course scored very well, with only one mean scale on under 4 on Likert 5. Ben said strengths of the course include: Involvement with the community, project management skill development, and opportunity to collaborate with faculty. The course scored exceedingly well, and qualitative and quantitative assessments reflected students’ overall satisfaction with the engagement. Areas for possible improvement include: time demands during board study months, organization of the COMET site, and the Health Insights wrap-up session.

Test-taking accommodations (Dylan):

- Dylan said that students with accommodation are no longer taking tests at the COM campus but rather across campus, meaning that when there are tech issues, they are a great distance away.

- A student with academic accommodations present said that the center is a poor facility overall, flanked by intro language classes which can be heard during exams.
- Dean Jeffries was very receptive about looking into the issue.

Clerkship update:

- Darlene noted she has been working with Dr. Beatty and Dan Haddad to see if there can be more subspecialty exposure during bridge weeks. They're aiming for sustainable change. She also proposed that, while travelling for interviews, she stop at away sites and have discussions with those on clerkship rotations. She proposed having informal focus groups at various locations (Bangor, etc.), and Dean Jeffries agreed to provide coffee/donuts, pizza, etc.
- Jenna note that fourth year lottery previously occurred in three waves: a first where they pick medicine AI's, a second lottery for whatever AI you want, and third you pick all of your other electives. This means all the people who want to go into medicine are competing for slots against everyone else who doesn't want to go into medicine right now, which doesn't make a good deal of sense. Dr. Jeffries noted that the lottery for the current year will be a combined one, but did not have the details on how that would occur. In addition, there will be more medicine AI's overall (4 new positions monthly at Norwalk), which should help the problem.
- SEG will follow-up on this issue. One suggestion is to combine the first two lotteries.

SEG went into executive session to discuss projects for the coming year.