

UIC COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AT CHICAGO
Curriculum Committee
Annual Report 2008-2009

The College of Medicine Chicago Curriculum Committee is charged with monitoring the course of instruction for all four years of medical school training. As part of its responsibilities, the Chicago Curriculum Committee reviews and approves new programs as well as evaluating ongoing courses. The Chicago Curriculum Committee meets on a monthly basis. Subcommittees of the Curriculum Committee, including the M1/M2, M3/M4 Subcommittees also meet on a monthly basis and report regularly to the Curriculum Committee. The Independent Study and the MSTP Programs also report to the Curriculum Committee. The Chicago Curriculum Committee reports monthly to the College Committee on Instruction and Appraisal to ensure Curricular activities are standardized with each of the other sites including Rockford, Peoria, and Champaign-Urbana.

Major themes for the year included:

- Thoughtful review and integration of the basic science curriculum.
- Study of both required and elective courses during the M3-M4 years.
- Require a lap top computer by incoming M-1 students, Fall 2009.

Specific accomplishments of the Chicago Curriculum Committee during this academic year include the following:

- Further integration of courses in the M1 and M2 years continued in the past year, and has had some positive outcomes in reducing numbers of lectures and approximating systems lectures in different courses into similar weeks of the curriculum.
- The combined examination in which the M-2 pathology and clinical pathophysiology were tested together initially met with some student concerns, but after the first examination they made an appropriate adjustment to handle the material.
- The M1-M2 subcommittee carefully considered reports on all the courses in the first two years and reported to this parent committee. Lectures were recorded as a voice over of the PowerPoint slides, and were available to the students on i-tunes U. Perhaps a third to a half of the class accessed these recordings, and the individual reports we heard declared the recordings to be very helpful. The Gross Anatomy course will be taught differently next year and we approved 12% of the grade to be based upon each student's dissection and presentation to M-1 colleagues.

- M3-M4 subcommittee reviewed and reported on clinical experiences, in the various hospitals, and reviewed courses and clerkships to make suggestions where needed to assure a good experience for the students.
- The committee discussed and approved the statement on conflicts of interest for students when commercial, usually pharmaceutical companies, provide lunch and/or other products.
- Preparation for the visit by LCME was the subject of many discussions to help those involved in every department to make their contributions. New this time was the review of the entire curriculum using a “curricular map” of the place in our curriculum the college objectives are met.
- The guidelines of the MD/PhD (MSTP) program were discussed extensively and passed.
- The committee adopted a requirement of the incoming M-1 students to have a laptop computer. A few courses are already expecting to incorporate this technology into their lectures, and others are considering how it may be helpful.
- The committee approved again this year the requirement that students are registered for the “Clinical Skills” examination, but are not required to pass before graduation.

Respectfully submitted,

Conwell H. Anderson, PhD. - Chair
Chicago Curriculum Committee