

Committee on Medical Education
Report to Members
Basic & Translational Research Block – Year 1
2006-2007 Academic Year
Class of 2011

Julie Tebo, Ph.D., director of the Fundamentals of Molecular Medicine Course presented her report to the Curriculum Steering Council on December 15, 2006. Overall, the course was well received by students with 69% rating the course as good to excellent. 88% of students rated the Problem Solving facilitators as good to excellent, a significant improvement over prior years. The addition of a patient to one of the Focused Topic sessions was well received as was the decision to eliminate Focused Topic sessions on Thursdays in order to provide 1 entire day per week reserved for research. With regards to the Focused Topic sessions, the Bioinformatics sessions continued to be rated lower than others despite changes that were implemented from the previous year. The Biostatistics session also received week ratings. The Problem Solving sessions were well received and overall felt by students to contribute to their ability to solve basic science and medically relevant questions.

In response to feedback from students and faculty, the following is recommended for implementation in the coming year.

1. Re-evaluate the Bioinformatics sessions and redesign this component of the curricular content.
2. Eliminate the Biostatistics session and replace with a biostatistics handout to be used for Journal Club support. This decision was also based upon recognition that biostatistics is fully covered in the second summer curriculum.
3. The course director will work with faculty to further enhance clinical relevance of basic science problem sets.
4. The course director will seek other opportunities for integrating patients with Focused Topic sessions.
5. The Biostatistics seminar will be replaced by a seminar on Oncogenesis.

The Curriculum Steering Council thanked Dr. Tebo for her efforts in organizing the Fundamentals of Molecular Medicine Course and accepted recommendations as noted above. Dr. Tebo will return to the Curriculum Steering Council in the future to discuss the Bioinformatics redesign.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew J. Fishleder, M.D.