

March 9, 2006 CME Minutes

1. Dr. Altose introduced new CME member **Dr. David Preston** replacing elected member Dr. Peter Zimmerman.
2. **USMLE Step 1 Requirements Policy Revised**
After discussion at its **February 9** meeting, the CME approved the **USMLE Step 1 Requirements Policy** based on discussants' feedback. In consideration of input from Dr. Chris Brandt, Committee on Students Chair, the **CME approved by consensus** today that students who do not pass on their *second* attempt will meet with the Committee on Students (CoS) for the University Program or with the Medical Student Promotions and Review Committee (MSPRC) for the College Program. In the policy approved on February 9, students did not meet with the promotions committees (CoS or the MSPRC) until failure on the *third* attempt. (A complete, updated USMLE Step 1 Requirements Policy is found in the [February 9, 2006 CME Minutes](#).)
3. **Basic Science Curriculum Council**
Dr. Amy Wilson-Delfosse, mentioned her meeting with a Year I student focus group subsequent to **modification of the Mastery Exam block schedule**, approved at the February 23 CME meeting. Students uniformly viewed the change as positive, improving the schedule with respect to study time and layout.
4. **New Curriculum Update**
Dr. Terry Wolpaw, Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs, praised the numerous individuals contributing to the **March 3 education retreat** for flawless operation and wide variety of workshop learning opportunities for attendees. Evaluations are currently being analyzed.

Dr. Wolpaw provided an update on faculty teaching opportunities for the new curriculum. Dean Horwitz has reaffirmed his commitment to **small group teaching**. After having read relevant literature, Dean Horwitz concluded:

- Small group teaching is valuable.
- The effect size between expert and non-expert facilitators in terms of student achievement is so small as not to be an important factor. An *effective* facilitator is the key.
- Case Inquiry Groups will meet two hours, three times a week and will have nine students in each group.
- To expect a 12-week commitment from teaching faculty is unrealistic. We need to be more flexible. A more realistic expectation is that one person will teach from 4 to 6 weeks. Others may opt for longer if interested.

Dr. Wolpaw highlighted progress to date. Design teams have laid out the day-by-day curriculum for every week. Faculty are currently involved in writing cases. Teams are deciding who will give the framing lectures and how medium group activities will be

arranged. We have begun actively recruiting small group facilitators and are moving forward with faculty development.

Dr. Altose added that the focus is on recruiting case-based small group preceptors. It is anticipated that these faculty will become involved in case development. The importance of preceptor training has been recognized and plans for faculty development are proceeding.

Dr. Wolpaw mentioned the latest issue of *Academic Medicine* for its focus on the shift from the faculty teacher as content-giver to facilitator of learning.

Dr. Altose mentioned the impressive presentation on the **eCurriculum management system** recently given by Dr. Tom Nosek and Mrs. Ginger Saha. The entire approach to the syllabus will change. A concrete and explicit calendar will provide detailed:

- Learning objectives
- Resource references
- Case outlines

Dr. Preston inquired whether the chairs are onboard with recruiting facilitators.

Dr. Wolpaw replied that the Dean intends for small group facilitating to be considered a top teaching priority. It should serve as an important way to fulfill teaching expectations associated with the promotions process. Dr. Wolpaw has already begun recruiting by word of mouth.

Dr. Preston mentioned that clinicians' RVUs (relative value units) are being watched and that their patients are being watched. (RVUs are used to "describe, quantify, and pay for physician services." They "track productivity and evaluate job performance." <http://www.managedcaremag.com/archives/0312/0312.compmo.html>)

Dr. Wilson-Delfosse added that basic science faculty have the same problems of freeing up time as clinicians.

Dr. Altose felt the most effective scenario would be for the Dean to address the department chairs on an individual basis. Dr. Preston felt that involving the chairs in recruiting would be a significant asset.

Dr. Wolpaw recognized the merits of a diversified recruiting effort as approaching different constituents. She perceived basic science as being more department-focused, whereas clinicians have a sense of the flexibility of their own schedule.

Dr. Wilson-Delfosse emphasized the need for an "inclusive" recruiting mechanism so that faculty do not feel left out. The first wave of invitations has been sent. ListServ e-mailing was avoided due to its impersonal nature. Additionally, another format may be better suited to contact teaching alumni, who may not use their e-mail.

Dr. Wolpaw stressed that all faculty are invited to teach. In the first batch of invitations, recipients were asked to refer any other faculty who might be interested in teaching. Dr. Wolpaw mentioned recruiting is currently focused on Blocks 1 and 2.

Dr. Dan Wolpaw suggested expanding recruiting since attending schedules come out now for the whole year.

5. **Clinical Curriculum Council**

Dr. Dan Wolpaw, Clinical Curriculum Council Chair, mentioned the upcoming **Year II OSCE** for University students taking place at the end of April. College students have their OSCE at the end of March. The OSCE will take place at the Skills and Simulation Center, with its director, Dr. Kathy Rosen, involved.

Dr. Wolpaw distributed a handout of **Advanced Core learning objectives** for each of the four month-long experiences: the Aging Adult, Undifferentiated and Emergent Care, Chronic Disease Management, and Perioperative Medicine and Pain. Faculty need to begin creating clinical rotations for the students based on these learning objectives.

Dr. Robert Haynie is overseeing “**Bridge**” **Week**, a program designed to help students from both the University and Clinic programs with the transition from the pre-clerkships to the clerkships this July. A group of third and fourth year students has volunteered to participate in the planning. A consultant from the University of California at San Francisco has been providing helpful input based on their own four-day curriculum.

6. **Information Technology Update**

Dr. Thomas Nosek, Associate Dean for Academic Computing, announced successful finalization of the **eCurriculum Management System**. Clerkship directors have been approaching him with the request to convert their material to that same format. Some residency directors also wish to use the system for their residents. Learning objectives and the activities associated with them are posted online. Dr. Nosek and Mrs. Saha used the system to create the first of four interactive instructional sessions on Medical Informatics for the new Block 1. Dr. Nosek has also been working with Dr. Georgia Wiesner, design team leader for Block 2. Dr. Nosek accepted Dr. Altose’s invitation to provide a demonstration of the new eCurriculum Management System under the CME report at the next Faculty Council meeting. In response to a discussant’s question, Dr. Nosek explained that currently the system is not accessible to everyone in an effort to prevent unwanted changes. However, he will figure out how to make an online demonstration available for interested faculty. Course managers are working with design team faculty to cut and paste content that faculty created in a Word document into the eCurriculum Management System. All items in the eCurriculum Management System are contained in a database and any desired reports on the data can be generated by the system.

7. **Library Update**

Mrs. Virginia Saha, Director of the Cleveland Health Sciences Library, is currently examining projections for next year’s budget. Dr. Altose has offered the CME to advocate on behalf of the Library. Mrs. Saha is anticipating a huge resource load for the new curriculum—whether print,

electronic, or both—and the needed licensing arrangements. Students will have to be able to get to their resources. OhioLINK is working on acquiring licensing for *Access Medicine* (a collection of McGraw Hill texts). Mrs. Saha expects to acquire 40 seats at a good price. This number dwarfs the 4 seats we now have for *MDConsult*. Dr. Terry Wolpaw mentioned that Health Science librarians are currently working with the design leaders, and faculty have been impressed with both the amazing resources and teaching skills of Ms. Kathy Blazar and Ms. Kathy Meneely. Mrs. Saha was very pleased with today's training session for University Hospitals Dermatology residents. The main snag is when the user has trouble activating his/her Case ID. These problems should be reported to the Case help desk at 216-368-HELP. Navigation problems are secondary right now. Mrs. Saha hopes to travel with this demonstration to Metro and other affiliates.