

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Date	April 4, 2022
Time	4:00 – 5:30PM
Co-Chairs	<i>Heather McPhillips, Sherilyn Smith</i>
Attendees	Academic Co-Chair: <i>Sherilyn Smith</i> ; Executive Chair: <i>Heather McPhillips</i> Voting Members: <i>Audrey Mossman, Carolyn Bell, Cindy Knall, Courtney Francis, Esther Chung, John Willford, Kris Calhoun, Laura Goodell, Leanne Rousseau, Matt Cunningham, Peter Fuerst, Ryan Richardson, Zach Gallaher</i> Guests: <i>Cynthia Sprenger, Jung Lee, Jaime Fitch, John McCarthy, Jeff Seegmiller, Meghan Kiefer, Martin Teintze, Nick Cheung, Kathy Young, Bruce Silverstein, Judy Swanson, Michael Campion, Kelley Goetz, Gerald Tolbert, Ruth Lewinski, Karla Kelly, Aidan Loeser, Kellie Engle</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QUORUM REACHED: 14	
Regrets	Voting members: <i>Ben Trnka, Elizabeth Buhler, Eric LaMotte</i>

Agenda

	ITEM	LEAD	TIME	ATTACHMENT	ACTION
1	Approve February and March Minutes	Sherilyn Smith	5 min	Attachment A, B	Decision
2	E-votes passed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change workgroup Revisions to the Grade Appeal Committee's bylaws 	Sherilyn Smith / Kellie Engle	5 min	Attachment C, D	Announcement
3	Waiver of Ecology of Health & Medicine Week 7 graduation requirement for the E-19 cohort	Bessie Young	10 min		Endorsement/ Decision
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy update for 2022: Academic Requirements Policy 	Kellie Engle	10 min	Attachment E	Decision
5	Explore & Focus Committee feedback on PEAC's clerkship grading approvals	Esther Chung / Matt Cunningham	30 min	Attachment F	Decision
6	Triple I Discussion	Heather McPhillips / Cynthia Sprenger	40 min		Discussion

Next Meeting: May 2, 2022

1. Approve February and March Minutes

Discussion: The February minutes were reviewed. Edits were suggested for the March minutes. The Curriculum team will revise the minutes and bring them to May's meeting for a vote.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[12] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
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Decision: The Curriculum committee approved the February meeting minutes.

2. E-votes Passed

Announcement: Curriculum Committee approved the following motions via e-vote:

1. Climate change workgroup charge

Following up from the student presentation at [December's meeting](#). The following charge was approved: "In 2021, a student group completed a planetary health report card for the UWSOM. This report card is a student-driven, metric-based initiative to inspire planetary health education and sustainable healthcare in medical schools globally. Medical schools are evaluated across five sets of metrics (Curriculum, Interdisciplinary Research, Community Outreach and Advocacy, Support for Student-Led Initiatives, and Sustainability). UWSOM's results were published alongside 62 other medical schools across the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. The UWSOM ranked in the bottom quartile for all U.S. medical schools. The UWSOM scored lowest on the Curriculum metric. In December 2021, Curriculum Committee voted to recognize climate change as an important aspect of the curriculum and, if possible, should be implemented into the E-22 curriculum and beyond. The Curriculum Committee charges a workgroup to address these goals.

In scope:

- Review where climate change content should be added in the curriculum
- Identify existing content to be removed
- Recommend assessment methods
- Recommend how faculty will be recruited and onboarded to teach this content

2. Revisions to the Grade Appeal Committee bylaws

Language was changed to address the distinct phases (Foundations Phase vs. Clinical Phases) and to support a more robust recruiting system for student and faculty members.

See meeting handouts for details.

3. Waiver of Ecology of Health & Medicine Week 7 graduation requirement for the E-19 cohort

Discussion: The committee discussed waiving Ecology of Health & Medicine (EHM) - Week 7 as a graduation requirement for the E-19 cohort for the following reasons:

- Week 5 was waived for this cohort.
- There have been faculty changes.
- Week 7 was taught only once at the very beginning of the pandemic with an ad hoc curriculum created for the E-17 cohort. This week included a quiz largely based on Step 2 questions around health systems and systems improvement. Faculty have since reviewed the quiz and determined several updates and revision would be needed (it was not used for the E-18 cohort).
- As of the E-21 cohort, the Themes in Medicine course will no longer exist. This content is transitioning to the Integration Weeks and will also be integrated in other ways.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited faculty, staff and time resources. These resources could be reallocated to planning for the E-20s (weeks 5, 6 and 7). 		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[12] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
Decision: The Curriculum committee approved waiving the Ecology of Health & Medicine Week 7 graduation requirement for the E-19 cohort		

4. Policy Update for 2022: Academic Requirements Policy		
<p>Discussion: In light of the sweeping changes to the Foundations Phase Curriculum starting in the 2022 academic year, a number of UW School of Medicine (UWSOM) policies need to be updated. The committee reviewed proposed edits to the Academic Requirements policy for endorsement, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding new blocks under required components for the Foundations Phase for the E-22 and subsequent classes Removing EHM and adding the Integrations Weeks under the Patient Care and Explore & Focus Phases Adding credit requirements for the E-22 and subsequent classes <p>The committee discussed whether tuition will be raised in light of the additional requirements. ACTION: The Curriculum team will reach out to the Vice Dean for Academic, Rural and Regional Affairs about tuition costs. This information will be shared with the Curriculum Committee, regional faculty, and students in the spirit of transparency.</p> <p>Additional revisions will be needed if the block and theme name changes approved at the March Foundations Committee are approved by the University of Washington Curriculum Committee. This policy will be brought back to Curriculum Committee for review and endorsement if and when these changes are approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Air, Fluids and Salts > Respiration and Regulation</i> <i>Introduction to Medicine, Health and Society > Medicine, Health and Society 1</i> <i>Medicine, Health and Society > Medicine, Health and Society 2</i> <p>See meeting handouts for details.</p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[12] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
Decision: The Curriculum committee endorsed revisions to the Academic Requirements Policy		

5. Explore & Focus Committee feedback on PEAC's clerkship grading approvals		
<p>Discussion: The Explore & Focus (E&F) Phase Committee requested revisions (in purple) be made to two of the clinical grading motions approved by Curriculum Committee in March 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The final exam weight can be different by department and the cap should be set and approved by the Patient Care Committee and Explore & Focus Committee (for implementation starting with the 2023-2024 clerkship year).</i> <i>UWSOM There should be set a uniform standard for passing final exams, based on national percentile. This standard should be set and approved by the Patient Care Committee and Explore & Focus Committee</i> 		

Important notes:

- Representatives from required E&F clerkships attended Patient Care Committee discussions on clinical grading. Additionally, input was solicited from these clerkship directors.
- There has not been discord between the two clinical phase committees, however it was felt that both should be recognized when formalizing processes and implementing significant changes.

Considering input from the Program Evaluation and Assessment Committee (PEAC) and the Patient Care Committee (PCC), Curriculum Committee decided that the exam weight and uniform standard for passing should be the same across phases. The final exam weight can be different by department, which gives the shorter E&F clerkships flexibility.

The process for setting and approving these points will be determined by the clinical phase committees. These points will be set and approved prior to the start of the 2023-2024 clerkship year. The PCC and E&F academic co-chairs will keep Curriculum Committee informed of developments.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECISION REQUIRED?	[13] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
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Decision: The Curriculum committee approved retroactively modifying the language of these approved motions, as per the discussion: adding Explore & Focus Committee to both bullets, changing the language to “set and approved,” and modifying the first sentence of the second bullet to “There should be a uniform standard...”

6. Triple I Discussion

Discussion: The committee discussed the scholarly graduation requirement called the Triple I. In the summer between years one and two, students must complete 6 credits through either RUOP, GHIP, Scholarship of Discovery, or Scholarship of Integration. For the past two years, this requirement has been waived due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The waiver has expired, and the requirement is in place for the E-21 cohort. The tuition for this requirement is approximately \$6,000. The E-21 cohort asked Curriculum Committee to waive the Triple I requirement, for the following reasons:

- The COVID-19 pandemic is not over.
- Many students were not informed of this requirement/felt blindsided.
- Many students have previous research experience, including paid research opportunities/summer jobs.
- During the interview process, some students were told they could get a Triple I waiver with their previous research experience.
- There are equity concerns, some families expected to be able to work during this period. This is an economic hardship disproportionately felt by underrepresented minority students.

The UWSOM communicated the following to students concerning the Triple I requirement:

- Triple I was waived for the last two years primarily due to lack of access (for example, labs being shut down). Availability/access is not an issue this year.
- The School will ensure this requirement is clearly communicated with incoming students.
- There are significant benefits to participating in scholarship, including enhancing residency applications.
- There is an LCME requirement: “A medical education program is conducted in an environment that fosters the intellectual challenge and spirit of inquiry appropriate to a community of scholars and provides sufficient opportunities, encouragement, and support for medical student participation in

the research and other scholarly activities of its faculty.” (Standard 3: Academic and Learning Environments, Element 2: Community of Scholars/Research Opportunities). From the 2018 LCME accreditation/site visit, the UWSOM received a “Compliant with a need for monitoring” rating.

- Regional sites are well underway planning and utilizing resources (staff, time, etc.) to implement the Triple I requirement this year.
- Past student feedback led to Triple I being structured and scheduled the way it is. The current model provides students with access to financial aid in the summer. Six credits was chosen because it is the minimum required to be eligible for financial aid.

Curriculum Committee discussed how to improve Scholarship of Discovery and Scholarship of Integration, with the goal of delivering a structured product that advances students’ knowledge in addition to providing research experience.

Improvement ideas for Scholarship of Discovery:

- Hold an online discussion group for students to discuss their experience, general research, and troubleshooting.
- Hold panels with clinician-scientists.
- Hold panels with residents to share what they got out of research and scholarly work and how it continues into residency.
- Hold a seminar with a Health Sciences librarian to cover different kinds of reviews and how to research medical databases (this is already a requirement for Scholarship of Integration).
- Hold small group discussions with BIPOC leaders at the UWSOM involved in scholarship (community-based, advocacy, clinical, translational, and basic science research).

ACTION: The Curriculum Team will pull together historical information (including a recent workgroup report) about the Triple I for the new Associate Dean for Curriculum. This information will be used to assess how the requirement has changed, identify gaps (in terms of quality), and inform plans to achieve equity. Leadership will continue working with students to improve communication around the Triple I requirement and work together to make equity improvements.