# Foundations Committee Minutes

**Date**  
September 28, 2021

**Time**  
9:00 – 10:30AM

**Co-Chairs**  
*Edith Wang, Matt Cunningham*

## Attendees

*QUORUM REACHED: 11*

- **Academic Chair:** Matt Cunningham; **Executive Chair:** Edith Wang

**Voting Members:** Bruce Silverstein, Catrin Pittack, Gerald Groggel, Holly Martinson, Karen McDonough, Leo Wang, Mark Whipple, Natasha Hunter, Rebekah Burns, Ruxandra Ionescu

**Guests:** Julien Goulet, Anna Liss Jacobsen, Sara Kim, Kristen Hayward, Rachel Liao, Martin Teintze, Jaime Fitch, Michael Campion, William Sayres, Abena Knight, Brant Schumaker, Esther Chung, Karla Kelly, Kellie Engle, Kate Weaver, Nick Cheung, John Willford, Peter Fuerst, Meghan Kiefer

**Regrets**  
*Voting members:* Alyssa Stephenson-Famy, Amanda Kost, Chris Hague, Cierra Dauenhauer, George Hodges, Isabela Covelli

## Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>LEAD</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ATTACHMENTS</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Approve June minutes</td>
<td>Matt Cunningham</td>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Attachment A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2    | E-vote passed:  
- May minutes  
- FCM Lessons Learned  
- CPR Lessons Learned  
- [Attendance & Absentee policy](#) revisions  
- Bylaws revisions | Edith Wang | 5 min | Attachment B | Announcement |
| 3    | Foundations Phase Remediation for Blocks and Threads Policy | Edith Wang | 15 min | Attachment | Discussion / Decision |
| 4    | Energetics & Homeostasis Lessons Learned | Bruce Silverstein / Kate Weaver | 15 min | Attachment D, E | Decision |
| 5    | AAMC Graduation Questionnaire | Sara Kim | 20 min | Attachment F | Discussion |
| 6    | Prerequisite Workgroup Report | LeeAnna Muzquiz | 25 min | Attachment G | Discussion |

**Next Meeting:** October 25, 2021 at 4PM
1. Approval of June Minutes

**Discussion:** The committee reviewed the June meeting minutes.

|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|

**Decision:** The Foundations committee approved the June meeting minutes.

2. E-Votes Passed

**Announcements:** Quorum was not reached at the June Foundations Committee meeting. Agenda items needing a committee vote were approved via e-vote:

- May minutes
- FCM Lessons Learned
- CPR Lessons Learned
- Attendance & Absentee policy revisions (see June minutes for details on the revisions)

The Foundations Committee also approved revisions to the Bylaws over the summer break, changes include:

- Updating operational information
- Removing gendered pronouns
- Applying the Educational Quality Improvement (EQQ) unit’s LCME style guide
- Cleaning up language, with the goals of:
  - Making it less wordy
  - Increasing consistency across the four sets of bylaws
  - Improving readability

3. Foundations Phase Remediation for Blocks and Threads Policy

**Discussion:** The Curriculum team developed a new, proposed policy to establish a timeline and procedures around remediation for Foundations Phase Blocks and Threads. Currently, there is not a designated block of time when students must complete remediation coursework. This has led to some students remediating one block while they are enrolled in another. This practice is problematic for both student academic transcripts and from an educational perspective. Additionally, this practice causes administrative burden in tracking remediation course completion and ensuring students are abiding by the Student Progress Committee’s policies (students must remediate Foundations Phase coursework by the time they take Step 1).

The new policy proposes defined times for remediation during the Foundations Phase: “Foundations Phase Block fails and Thread failure to achieve mastery in Term 1 and/or Term 2 will be remediated in summer quarter between first and second year. Students will register for an Independent Study remediation course for each fail and complete all coursework by the end of summer quarter. Foundations Phase Block fails and Thread failure to achieve mastery in Term 3 will be remediated in winter quarter of second year. Students will register for an Independent Study remediation course for each fail and complete all coursework by the end of winter quarter.”

**Key takeaways from the Committee’s discussion of the policy:**
- This policy would impact very few students with block fails (between zero to three). This policy primarily impacts failure to achieve mastery in Threads.
• This policy does not cover retakes. Retakes are determined by the Student Progress Committee. Students would have to expand and re-enroll in the block they failed the next time it was offered.
• The Triple I requirement will not be impacted by this policy. There are Triple I options for students who need to complete remediate coursework.
• Communication flow should be:
  o Block instructors are responsible for communicating a block fail to students.
  o Thread directors are responsible for communicating a failure to achieve mastery in a thread. ACTION: The Curriculum Team will reach out to the Thread Directors to make sure this is feasible and agreeable.

☒ DECISION REQUIRED?

Decision: The Foundations committee approved the Foundations Phase Remediation for Blocks and Threads policy.

4. Energetics & Homeostasis Lessons Learned

Discussion: Changes for the E-21 cohort include:
• Add more “Pharm Phacts” lectures (thyroid, adrenal, pituitary). Additionally, teaching will focus on differentiating what is thread vs. non-thread material
• All endocrine lectures will be re-recorded in a more conversational style with personalized figures and improved quality.
• Lecture weight will be divided into several smaller lectures: bariatric surgery, hormones and weight, social determinants of health and obesity.
• Micronutrients session will be renamed to “Clinical Nutrition.”

See meeting handouts for details.

☒ DECISION REQUIRED?

Decision: The Foundations committee approved the Energetics & Homeostasis Lessons Learned.

5. AAMC Graduation Questionnaire

Discussion: The committee reviewed the results of the 2021 (E-17) AAMC Graduation Questionnaire (GQ). The response rate was lower than in previous years at 63% (in 2020, the response rate was 79%). Many AAMC GQ survey items are part of the UW School of Medicine’s (UWSOM) LCME accreditation status reports. The UWSOM submitted status reports in August 2021. The LCME will likely want to see higher response rates on this important survey. Next year, UWSOM will need to do targeted outreach to ensure we are getting more responses as well as broad regional representation.

Key takeaways:
• UWSOM students consistently answer that they are “satisfied / very satisfied” with the quality of their medical education. UWSOM slightly exceeded the national average this year.
• UWSOM students consistently feel prepared for residency training.
• The proportion of UWSOM students reporting they plan to work in a small city/smaller area, or an underserved area consistently ranks higher than the national average.
• In answering the question, “My medical school has done a good job of fostering my development as a physician,” UWSOM students are comparable to the national average. However, UWSOM lags
behind the national average for the question: “My medical school has done a good job of fostering and nurturing my development as a person.”

- UWSOM lags behind the national average for: “My knowledge or opinion was influenced by perspectives of individuals from different backgrounds” and “The diversity within my medical school class enhanced my training and skills to work with individuals from different backgrounds.”
- UWSOM students rank faculty members’ professional behaviors high, typically exceeding the national average. While UWSOM is higher than the national average, there were decreases in ratings from the Y2Q data for the same cohort.
- Basic Science disciplines’ ratings for preparing students for clinical clerkships and electives improved from last year’s GQ data.
- 99% of students are aware of the Mistreatment policy.
- 95% of students are aware of mistreatment reporting procedures (we exceed the national average of 91%).
- Overall mistreatment has decreased a bit from last year, but we are still above the national average. Public humiliation is the number one source of student mistreatment (27% this year, 23% last year).
- Reasons students did not report mistreatment include:
  - Didn’t think reporting was important
  - Didn’t think anything would be done
  - Fear of reprisal

Committee feedback included:
- Would it be worthwhile to parse out mistreatment data by the different clinical tracks offered at UWSOM?
- The Learning Environment Committee should consider how to distribute this data more widely to preceptors and clinicians working with students.

6. Prerequisite Workgroup Report

**Discussion:** This agenda item was tabled until the October 2021 meeting.