Present: Paul St. John (Chair); Diana Darnell; Elizabeth Dupuy; Sean Elliott; Mindy Fain; Bill Grana; Ron Heimark; Randy Horowitz; Cindy Rankin; Sydney Rice;

Apologized: Kristi Grall; Carol Howe; Anna Landau; Adam Luber; Ted Price; Wyatt Unger

Resources: Jack Dexter; Nancy Koff; Gail Koshland; Kevin Moynahan; Amy Waer

Guest: Lara Meinke

Minutes: The minutes of September 15, 2010 were approved as written.

Announcements:

Musculoskeletal Annual Block Report
Dr. St.John announced that the review reports of the Musculoskeletal (MSS) Block have been received from the Tucson Curriculum Management and the Tucson Evaluation Subcommittees. The review process concludes with the TEPC establishing a workgroup to summarize these two reports and to make recommendations as needed. The practice has been for one TEPC member to lead the process by making a draft summary, which is then discussed and amended, if required, by the other members of the workgroup. Dr. Heimark volunteered to serve as the lead member for this MSS report. The final report with recommendations to the MSS block will be reviewed for a vote of confirmation at a November TEPC meeting.

Calendar for AY 2011-2012
The start and end dates for Year III in the 2011-12 academic year approved at the September 15 meeting were slightly modified to ensure financial aid requirements were met. The year will begin on July 1, but the Transition to Clerkships course will begin earlier. It is anticipated this is a one-time adjustment and that in subsequent years the beginning of Transition activities will coincide with the start of Year III.

The semester start and end dates for all class years in 2011-12 were approved by vote and are:

Year I
August 1, 2011 to December 9, 2011
January 3, 2012 to June 22, 2012

Year II
August 8, 2011, to December 9, 2011
January 2, 2012 to June 6, 2012

Year III
July 2, 2011 to December 16, 2011
January 2, 2012 to July 6, 2012

Year IV
July 11, 2011 to December 16, 2011
January 3, 2012 to May 11, 2012

TEPC members to serve the Tucson Evaluation Subcommittee (TEVS)
Dr. St.John reminded the committee that the requirements for TEPC members to serve on the Tucson Evaluation Subcommittee have not been fully met. Dr. Darnell currently serves, but two additional TEPC members are needed. Dr. Rankin volunteered to fill another of those positions. It was noted that the TEVS membership also includes a student member who is also a member of TEPC. This year, however, the student council appointed their own representative (not knowing the membership requirements). That student member has been active and has made valuable contributions to the subcommittee’s work.

Voting items
Year III-IV Curriculum
The final version of a revision to the Years III-IV curriculum was reviewed and discussed. Dr. Moynahan provided a brief explanation for the changes, which included restoring one week to all required clerkships (except Neurology, which is reduced by one week). The Year III electives block is now paired with the Neurology clerkship and floats within the clerkship rotations. Intersessions are reduced to 2 sessions; one at mid-year and one concluding Year III. The restructured
clinical curriculum for Tucson results in a close correspondence with that adopted by Phoenix. The final approval of this structure will be confirmed by electronic vote of all TEPC members.

Report on the USMLE Content Retreat
Dr. Waer reported to the committee that a recent retreat was held and attended by all block directors and other Years I and II content leaders. The retreat was held to provide a broad assessment of medical knowledge topics currently included in Years I and II blocks as that content reflects the USMLE Step I Subjects List. The process involved the deconstruction of the USMLE list, and its interpretation into some 1,800 MeSH terms by Dr. Dexter and others. The resulting list became a reference against which ArizonaMed MeSH term reports for every block were compared. The analysis revealed quite a number of terms in the USMLE list that were not identified in ArizonaMed. The retreat participants were assigned portions of the missing terms to ascertain whether the content was actually missing from the curriculum, or if that content was present but not identified with MeSH terms the analysis routine could capture. The value of the exercise is seen not simply to assure faculty, students and others that the curriculum content is complete with respect to USMLE Step I preparation, but that the process contributes to a larger understanding of where, and to what degree, content is expressed across Years I and II.

It was agreed by those attending the retreat that the exercise was a worthy effort. Preliminary discussion of the findings at the conclusion of the exercise suggested that very few USMLE subjects are not covered. A post-retreat analysis is underway with the errant subjects being tracked down in ArizonaMed sessions, which are then assigned MeSH terms that complement the USMLE list. When complete, a full report of the reconciled ArizonaMed MeSH terms will be presented to TCMS and TEPC. It was thought that not many medical schools have approached broad content identification in as systematic a way.

Discussion

Town Hall Questions
The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a review of questions and presentation slides for the upcoming Town Hall meeting on the curriculum. The date has been set for November 3, 4:30-6:00 pm, Kiewit Auditorium (in place of the regularly scheduled TEPC meeting).

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Minutes provided by
Jack Dexter, PhD
Office of Medical Student Education