TUCSON EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (TEPC)
MINUTES
November 17, 2010 (approved with changes 12-01-10)

Present: Diana Darnell (Vice Chair); Elizabeth Dupuy; Kristi Grall; Bill Grana; Randy Horowitz; Carol Howe; Adam Luber; Cindy Rankin

Apologized: Sean Elliott; Mindy Fain; Paul St. John (Chair); Ron Heimark; Anna Landau; Ted Price; Sydney Rice; Wyatt Unger

Resources: Susan Ellis, Jack Dexter; Raquel Givens; Gail Koshland; Jack Nolte, Kevin Moynahan

Guest: Laura Meinke

Minutes: The minutes of October 6, 2010 were returned for correction.

Announcements:
Life Cycle Annual Review
The Life Cycle Block final reports from TCMS and TEVS have been submitted. The review plan requires that TEPC summarize both reports into a single, final report with recommendations to the block. Dr. Grana volunteered to lead the committee in this process. Dr. Heimark is leading the parallel effort for the Musculoskeletal Block Annual Review. These summaries, with recommendations will be discussed and approved at a TEPC meeting within the next months.

Voting items
Calendar for AY 2011-2012
The start and end dates for Year IV 2011-12 academic year were modified to begin on January 2. This change aligns the calendar with TEPC policy that requires Year IV students to follow the holiday schedules for the institutions of their elective rotations.

Elective Proposals
The Healer’s Art – A journey into the heart of medicine
Dr. Horowitz provided the committee with the background of this proposed elective. The Healer’s Art has been offered at the College of Medicine in the past, but had not been renewed for the past few years. This course has been adopted by 60 or more medical schools across the country, and was first designed by Rachel Remen, MD, at UCSF School of Medicine. It will be directed by Patricia Lebensohn, MD. The course encourages inquiry by students and faculty into the experiences that shape and provide meaning to their practice of medicine and to their identities as physicians. It has been offered through FCM program for some 13 years and has been a very popular among interns and residents. Approval of the proposal will codify the experience as an official elective for medical students, although it is offered for COM transcript credit only and will not contribute to graduation credit. The proposal was approved.

Interdisciplinary Disability Seminar Series
This elective is a non-patient contact, classroom experience and is predominantly based in critical review of literature. Speakers from various disciplines (e.g., law, community services) will be featured on occasion. Students will be required to prepare and lead classroom discussions on journal, and other readings of various disability topics. The proposal included language suggesting this elective would be open to graduate students. The committee was uncertain of policies concerning the enrollment of graduate students in College of Medicine electives. It was decided to return this proposal to the Electives Subcommittee for clarification in this regard.

Discussion
Update on the Electives Subcommittee – Susan Ellis
Ms. Ellis provided the committee with an update on the activities of the Electives Subcommittee. The purview document establishing the subcommittee under TEPC was provided. It was noted that this subcommittee has been functioning for quite a few years. Its participants currently include Jim Warneke, MD (chair); Bill Johnson, MD; Ron Schifman, MD; Ziad Shehab, MD; Andrew Tang, MD, Scott Willard (Medical Student), with support of Amy Waer, MD; Susan Ellis and Kerryann Gillooly. The current personnel do not meet the membership requirements by discipline (lacking a basic scientist member). It was thought because this is a subcommittee of the TEPC, that the TEPC could retain the current faculty roster,
but clarify the appointment schedules for the subcommittee. It was generally agreed that members would serve 3-year rotating terms without limits, and that at least one member should be a basic scientist. A revision to the purview statement will be drafted for consideration at the next TEPC meeting.

**Reviewing Block Objectives and Matching to Educational Competencies – Diana Darnell**

Dr. Darnell presented an effort for consideration, that TEPC require all blocks and courses to 1) establish course-wide objectives 2) link those objectives to the ArizonaMed Core Competencies, and 3) establish procedures by which these objectives are regularly reviewed and updated. It was argued that, not only is this effort sound educational practice, the objectives will provide a valuable resource for the pending accreditation review. Dr. Darnell provided examples of blocks with good objectives, and those whose objectives have not been well developed.

By linking broad course objectives to the core competencies, the block director will illustrate how those competencies are being translated into measurable objectives for expression in sessions and other activities. It was noted that process has been an accreditation requirement for residency programs for some time, and that TEPC need only to make a directive to block directors to make it so. A model, or set of guidelines will need to be developed so that the rationale of such policy is clearly understood and will produce intended outcomes. These will be brought before the committee for formal consideration at a future meeting.

**Post-Town Hall discussion**

There was general consensus that the Town Hall meeting of November 3 was a success. It was thought that the open format of this first Town Hall meeting was appropriate, but for the next that TEPC may wish to pose a particular problem for discussion. It was noted that the college administration conducted a town hall meeting with students, which was also in open format. TEPC student members remarked that such meetings with students should allow any subject to be raised. Future town hall meetings are to be planned and scheduled with regularity.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

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