University of Central Florida
College of Medicine
M1/M2 Minutes

Meeting Date: 10/09/2026 Start Time: 3:45 PM Adjourn Time: 5PM

Chair: Dr. Kauffman

Attendance:

Voting member attendance: Christine Kauffman, Analia Castiglioni, Nyla Dil, Shiva Kalindindi, Nadine Dexter, Hatem Kaseb

Student reps:

Discipline leads: Paul Sturgis, Taseen Desin

Other/online attendance: Phil Bellew, Marcy Verduin, Melanie Ortiz, Caridad Hernandez, Yanisa Del Toro, Melinda Ragland, Lissette Tolentino, Emily Fegan, Feroza Daroowalla, Adrew Quigley, Liz Ivey, Lucia Schweitzer, Caitlin Garcia, Michael Callahan, Nicole Brooks, Yelena Piazza, Laurel Poole, Melissa Cowan, Shazia Beg, Bernard Gros, Patrice Frederick, Scott Barron, Jeffrey Plochocki, Stanley Cayo, Emily Bradshaw, Elizabeth Oliveira-Sales, Kim Martinez, Alina Warner, Andrea Berry, Basma Selim , Dale Voorhees, David Harris. Garrett Jurss, Jennifer Neal, Lane Coffee, Mary Ann Reiner

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions
Approve minutes	• Minutes	• approved
Proposals for vote	• Foundations Task Force Report: o Task Force was established to address the imbalance in instructional compression between the M1 and M2 years, with an emphasis on reassessing Foundations content and incorporating foundational anatomy concepts o The task force recommended clarifying the purpose and expectations of the Foundations course for students and faculty, highlighting how it establishes the groundwork for the following systems courses, and improving session-level learning objectives. o **Option A:** proposes keeping the current eight-week Foundations course by reviewing and potentially reducing or modifying existing biochemistry, genetics, pathology, and cell biology content to accommodate introductory anatomy and histology. ▪ Students mentioned providing pre-matriculation packets	• Tabled for voting

	○ **Option B:** proposes extending Foundations to approximately 10 weeks to incorporate anatomy and histology content, potentially moving immunomicrobiology from IS-1 into Foundations ▪ this option could affect IS-1 and IS-2 scheduling and may require additional assessments. ○ discussed the need to determine which prerequisite concepts students should already understand, the potential use of pre-matriculation review materials, and the importance of coordinating content changes across disciplines while maintaining the integrated, systems-based curriculum. ○ Option A favored, but voting has been tabled pending further review of changes needed across the remaining IS courses. ○ The next phase of the task force will be organized to assess curriculum adjustments	
Announcements	• NBME Item Writing Workshop: October 16 1:30-3:30PM ○ workshop will take place virtually via Zoom ○ Faculty who have not yet RSVP'd are encouraged to do so to receive the pre-work. • NBME updated student score reports and no longer provides the mean score for each specific exam administered ○ Students will receive aggregate historical item-performance data from NBME's database, including historical p-values • Approved at CCom: PES recommendations were approved and have been sent out to the course faculty ○ From PES ▪ IS-2 Recommendations for 2025-26 ▪ IS-4 Recommendations for 2025-26 ▪ IS-5 Recommendations for 2025-26 ▪ FIRE I & II Recommendations for 2025-26	
Student report	• No student representatives were present due to last-minute scheduling conflicts • Student rep Viviana Rivera submitted a brief statement with the following updates: ○ appreciation to the faculty who participated in the clinical skills class meeting the previous day ○ overall course progression has been steady, while noting that concerns regarding clinical skills have been raised	

	○ Student representatives plan to follow up with faculty members regarding the notes taken during the meeting and any additional comments.	
Course director reports	• IS-1: ○ completed its first week, changes to the week-one curriculum included: ▪ moving basic pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics into Foundations ▪ expanding microbiology instruction to cover viruses, bacteria, fungi, and parasites within the first week ▪ providing an introductory overview of immunology. ○ First TBL session went well ○ Minor technical issues were reported • Clinical Sciences: students successfully completed their Foundations assessments and have begun IS-1 • The first Health Systems Science multiple-choice assessment was successful, students performed well on both the assessment and the revised essays. • IS-3: ○ ninth week compleated: endocrinology and reproductive systems, three clinical decision-making sessions (CDLs), three TBLs, an anatomy practical, and a midterm ○ Three student interest groups organized voluntary weekend sessions with faculty support to provide additional opportunities to learn procedures and dissections outside scheduled curricular time, involving approximately 80 students. ▪ discussed the logistical and curricular implications of activities done outside of scheduled cirriculum, including building access, staffing, anatomy lab resources, and associated expenses. ▪ Concerns were also raised about the potential unintended effects on the formal curriculum and the informal or hidden curriculum • Students are planning a breast cancer awareness event later in the month featuring patients, a breast reconstruction surgeon, and an oncologist. • declining attendance at some sessions reported, with attendance falling from approximately 30–40% last year to below 10% this year ○ Potential contributing factors: competing assessments, course pacing, and differences in student preferences regarding session formats and mandatory attendance	

Faculty Affairs		

Standing reports	• PES progress reports
	  ○ IS4:
	  ▪ Missing HSS objectives :
	  • 2415 - articulate individual social and environmental measures that can be utilized to prevent primary, secondary, and tertiary disease and promote health and well-being and create an environment that supports and enhances the health of the population.
	  ○ course organization and sequencing have been revised to provide a clearer progression from neuroanatomy to neurological pathology and then psychiatry.
	  ○ first exam has been scheduled before the break to help students avoid needing to study during their time off
	  ○ Dr. Ortiz reported improvements to the balance of independent learning and active learning, with in-person sessions scheduled on most days
	  ○ Additional in-person psychiatry sessions have been incorporated to address previous concerns about the course's format and delivery
	  ○ Development of the course planning timeline remains in progress
	  ○ potential scheduling overlap between the course's neuroanatomy component, beginning November 16, and anatomy instruction in IS-1 were discussed
	  ▪ overlap has occurred in previous years and that logistical plans are in place
	  ▪ importance of coordinating course schedules and managing faculty workload emphasized
	  ○ Next report November: IS2
	• M1/M2 Workload Monitoring: doing well and staying within workload capacity	