



Staff Student Liaison Group – Year 1 and 2

Wednesday 14th March 2007

3.15pm

158, SAFB

South Kensington Campus

Minutes

Present: Mr S Chopra (Chair), Ms E Barry, Mr A Chopra, Dr M Croucher, Mr S Dubb, Prof T Firth, Dr S Gentleman, Miss J Higham, Dr C John, Dr W Kong, Prof J Laycock, Dr M Lowrie, Dr P Luther, Dr K MacLeod, Mr A Mohammed, Dr M Morrell, Ms S Raghuvanshi, Mr O Shariq,

In attendance: Mr A Bell, Mr S Armstrong, Mrs M Rodger, Ms J Shiel, Ms J Williams

Apologies: Dr M Barrett, Dr N Curtin, Ms L Doolan, Prof M Ferenczi, Mr S Hindocha, Dr K Meeran, Dr E Muir

Meeting opened at: 3.15pm

1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 6th December 2006

AGREED: a) that the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2006 be received and approved [SSLG1,20607-03].

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Minute 3.1 Student feedback to course leaders

REPORTED: a) that Year reps had fed back specific problems to PCC, MCD and P&T course leaders

3.2 Minute 4.2.5 PPD web based course

REPORTED: a) that feedback on this had been provided to the course leader.
b) that students would welcome slightly less web based work and more tutorials.

3.3 Minute 4.2.8 Teaching and Learning strategies

REPORTED: a) that these concerns would form part of the wider curriculum review being undertaken.
b) that students would be included in this process

3.4 Minute 8.1 Contact with personal tutors

REPORTED: a) that the ICSM SU President had emailed and spoken to students to remind them of the importance of doing this.

AGREED: b) that the ICSM SU President and Head of Pastoral Care should remind Year 2 students at the beginning of the academic year to continue regular contact with their personal tutors in Year 2

Action: ICSM SU President and Head of Pastoral Care

4. Spring term teaching

4.1 Year 1 - Endocrinology

REPORTED: a) that the course had been well received and students particularly liked the structure of lectures and tutorials.

4.2 Year 1 - Cardiovascular

REPORTED: a) that the students felt the course was well structured.
NOTED: b) that some of the learning objectives given in the guide did not match the lectures or slides.
c) that students felt that they would benefit from additional help within the ECG sessions, although it was pointed out that background reading on this subject was provided and students needed to be fully prepared for the session.
c) that students would welcome additional time built into the CVS sessions.

AGREED: d) that specific problems with learning objectives not matching should be sent to the course leader who would investigate.
e) that the course leader would consider the possibility of having additional demonstrators.
f) that longer sessions were not possible but that there should be sufficient time allowed between lectures/tutorials and lecturers should be further encouraged to begin on time and lecture for no longer than 50 minutes.

ACTION: CVS course leader and Year Reps

4.3 Year 1 - Anatomy

REPORTED: a) that the course was well received.
b) that there was some confusion over the format of the exams.
c) that the dissection sessions were particularly popular although at times it was felt that some demonstrators led too much to the detriment of student involvement.
d) that the Simbryo and Embryonic discs were very useful learning tools but the students queried whether they could be accessed from home computers.

AGREED: f) that the formative exam would give students some practice with the various formats used in the LSS summative exam.
g) that the Head of Anatomy would give further guidance to tutors and request that they allow students to be as involved as possible.
h) that students were encouraged to approach the Head of Learning Resources if they were having problems with home access of these discs.

Action: Head of Anatomy

4.4 Year 1 – Problem Based Learning

REPORTED: a) that students had found the Spring term cases more interesting than the Autumn term cases.
b) that students were concerned that some tutors did not check the referencing/research techniques used by their groups.
c) that the timing of some of the sessions for some groups were queried and it was felt that it would be useful if all cohorts could finish the course at approximately the same time.
d) that students would ideally like the on-line formative PBL exam to be sat under exam conditions or given more emphasis and felt that this would increase participation

AGREED: e) that these comments would be fed back to the Academic Lead
f) that the timetabling constraints meant that it was unlikely that the

course could finish at the same time for all groups although this would be considered in the future.

Action: Academic Lead for Dr and Patient and Curriculum Administrator (Yrs 1 and 2)

4.5

- Year 1 – Patient Contact Course**
- REPORTED: a) that the course was generally well received.
b) that students would like more specific essay titles for their assignments.
c) that travel to far flung sites should be alternated so that the same students were not having to travel great distances across the year.
d) that some clinics and GP surgeries were not prepared once students arrived and that this was probably due to internal communication failures
- AGREED: e) that the Theme and Course leader should be informed
- Action: Curriculum Administrator (Yrs 1 and 2)**

4.6

- Year 1 – Communication Skills**
- REPORTED: a) that the course had been very well received

4.7

- Year 1 Respiratory Course**
- REPORTED: a) that the course had run well and was well structured and well organised with tutorials and practicals being particularly useful.

4.8

- Year 1 Formative exams**
- REPORTED: a) that students requested having their papers returned.
- AGREED: b) that legally it was not possible to return exam papers but that the Head of Years 1 and 2 was looking at ways of making this process more open and helpful for students and would welcome suggestions.
- Action: Head of Years 1 and 2**

4.9

- Year 2 – Neuroscience and Mental Health**
- REPORTED: a) that the course ran on well from Year 1 NMH course. Students had liked having the private study sessions scheduled into their timetable.
b) that students would welcome more electronic assessment and revision materials.
- AGREED: c) that the course leader had requested revision questions from the lecturers but that so far this had not been forthcoming.
d) that students could approach lecturers directly for the current year in an effort to get some revision/assessment questions. The course leader should be copied into this correspondence.
e) that longer term the Graduate entry programme which would be delivered mainly through the web would provide further learning resources for MBBS students

4.10

- Year 2 – Human Life Cycle Course**
- REPORTED: a) that the course was well received and students liked the clinically related lectures and use of media in the presentations.
b) that additional revision/assessment either in electronic format or as T/F questions would be useful, although obtaining this from busy clinicians might prove difficult.
c) that the Head of Years 1 and 2 had prepared a paper that was working its way through the committee structure looking at the

problem of a heavy dependence on the use of clinicians for teaching.

d) that it was suggested that students could create questions themselves and share them on webct discussion boards.

- 4.11
- Year 2 – Personal and Professional Development Skills**
- REPORTED: a) that the course was considered useful and timely and a good change from the heavy lecture based sessions in Year 2.
b) that students would welcome additional scenarios and further website/books recommended.
- AGREED: c) that the Medical Defence Unions might be prepared to invest some money into teaching this subject and ICSM SU President would investigate this further and liaise with Academic Lead.
Action: ICSM SU President
- 4.12
- Year 2 – Problem Based Learning**
- REPORTED: a) that the cases were appropriate and well linked to the other teaching.
b) that although the critical appraisal skills session was considered difficult, students saw and appreciated the benefit of it.
- 4.13
- Year 2 – Pharmacology and Therapeutics**
- REPORTED: a) that the course was well taught and well structured.
b) that students appreciated having the slides posted after each session rather than at the end of each term.
- 4.14
- Year 2 – Molecules, Cells and Disease**
- REPORTED: a) that students were grateful for the re-scheduling and web streaming of the cancelled lectures.
b) that students found the course notes on the *Cell Cycle* and *Cell Behaviour* courses notes were not as useful as the others.
c) that students would appreciate a tutorial on the *Cell Cycle*.
d) that students would welcome some on-line revision and assessment questions for the Spring term teaching
- AGREED: e) that these comments would be fed back to both the Theme Leader and individual topic leaders.
Action: MCD Theme Leader
- 4.15
- Year 2 - Musculoskeletal course**
- REPORTED: a) that students had enjoyed the course
b) that some of the teaching within the three parts of the course seemed to be in the wrong order and that the pitch of the orthopaedics section seemed overly clinical.
c) that the course guide in places had copies of the slides only rather than lecture notes which was not particularly useful.
- AGREED: d) that these comments would be fed back to the course leader.
Action: LCRS Theme Leader
- 4.16
- Year 2 – Anatomy**
- REPORTED: a) that students greatly appreciated the input of Mr Andrew Unwin
b) that they found the course guides very useful .
c) that they would appreciate some self-test mechanisms for Anatomy of the limbs, similar to those used for the Anatomy of the head, neck and spine course.
d) that they would also welcome web streaming of some of the information within the Limbs course.
- AGREED: e) that this information would be considered and passed onto the

course leader for Anatomy of the Limbs.

Action: Head of Anatomy

4.17

Year 2 - Medical Ethics and Law

REPORTED: a) that this revised course had been very popular with the students
b) that students would like additional time for tutorials, although understood the constraints on resources.
c) that there was some anxiety about the format of the exam

AGREED: d) that the course leader was planning to hold a revision session where she discuss the format of the exam further.

Action: MEL course leader

5.

Removal of Vivas

RECEIVED: a) Paper SSLG1,0607-04 which had been approved by the Education Committee and would come into effect from 2007/8.

AGREED: b) that additional methods of scrutinising the exam process had been put into place.

6.

Learning Resources

REPORTED: a) that students should be further encouraged to use web ct and other electronic resources, but were reminded that these were an additional resource and not a substitute for attending scheduled teaching.

7.

Library

REPORTED: a) that work was planned at the library but that noise would be minimized.

8.

Quality Assurance

REPORTED: a) that SOLE for the Spring term had opened and the new system was being used for both Year 1 and 2. Participation had increased with the use of this system in the Autumn term.

AGREED: b) that students and staff should continue to encourage students to participate.

9.

Non-academic issues

REPORTED: a) that students had been warned to be vigilant around the CX campus due to various recent incidents.

7.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 23rd May 2007 at 3pm in 158, SAFB, South Ken

Meeting Closed at: 4.50pm

SC/JW
March 20th 2007