

UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY



www.upstate.edu/com/curriculum/

*Improve the health of the communities
we serve through education, biomedical
research and health care.*

Letter from Dean Ko

Curriculum *Office* FALL 2016

The Curriculum Office is responsible for managing, coordinating and evaluating the medical school curriculum. In addition, we provide support to the students, faculty, and administration.



Dear Students & Faculty:

“Autumn is for apples, it’s my favorite time of year. The air is crisp but not too cold, the sky is bright and clear.” This is the first line of a picture book that my 3 year old loves for me to

read to her every night. It also describes this season in Central New York. There is a lot of excitement in the air as the MS1 and MS2 students return to campus.

We were extremely excited about the launch of the new ‘UP’ Curriculum for our MS1 students. The new small group, problem-based learning course “Foundations of Reasoning in Medicine” (FRM) has started with extremely positive early feedback.

We are excited about the opening of the new Academic Building, and the fact that our fellow College of Nursing and College of Health Professions faculty and students will be in such close proximity to our students in the College of Medicine.

The developments from the new Interprofessional Education (IPE) office, with the retreat earlier this summer, and its many initiatives, will further advance our curriculum in teaching students to work with students from other healthcare professions in a team based approach.

Phase 2 is looking at issues related to the clerkship as they come up, as well as ways to restructure the 4th year curriculum overall (see the Phase 2 section of the newsletter).

Lastly, I want to wish all the 4th year students best of luck as they start their interview process for residency!

Sincerely,
Dr. Paul Ko
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical
Education



For questions regarding this publication, please contact Lisa at PhelanLA@upstate.edu or 464-7004



Update from the Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee shall be responsible for recommending curriculum coordination, development, objectives, content and methods of evaluation to the Dean.

Curriculum Committee—Paul Ko, MD

The curriculum committee recently reviewed the data from the 2016 Graduation Questionnaire (GQ). The GQ is given to all 4th year graduating medical students at the end of their 4th year and reviews all aspects of their entire medical educational experience. Data from the pre-clerkship courses, as well as the clerkship years were reviewed looking for areas of strength and opportunities. Overall we were extremely pleased with the trajectory of the curriculum, as our data showed some of the highest levels of satisfaction we've seen in the last 5 years. There were over 60 questions asking all aspects of the student experience, but one overall question I want to highlight is the question of how satisfied our students felt in the quality of their overall medical education. **Over 93% of our graduates answered Agree or Strongly Agree, putting us near the 75th percentile of all medical schools this year in this very important measure.** The Curriculum Committee did dive deeper into the data looking at our courses and clerkship, and realize there is still more work to be done. This information will be used as we review individual clerkship and courses, and decide on future directions to take the curriculum.

Update from the Phase 2 Committee

Phase 2—John Folk MD

Phase 2 continues to work with the new clinical evaluation form and the new scoring for the SPE post-encounter portion of each clerkship grade. We are aware that so far this academic year clerkships have not had many students who have reached Honors and High Pass compared to Pass. Dr Ko and the Curriculum Committee has addressed this issue and adjustments to the distribution of Honors, High Pass, and Pass will occur at the relative midpoint of the year based on the schedules of the clerkships in Syracuse, Binghamton, and the Rural Medicine program. While not every student will see a change in his or her grade, the distribution will follow our historical norms set at approximately the top 20% receiving Honors, the next 20% will receive High Pass, and the remaining 60% will be Pass. No student's grade will be lowered. We hope this will alleviate some of the concern regarding grades as the year progresses.



MS-4 Task Force

MS-4 Task Force—John Folk MD

Phase 3 of the curriculum is back on the agenda as we have organized a new MS 4 Task Force that is charged with bringing structure to the fourth year. We are undertaking a review of the literature on fourth year as well as making plans to propose changes regarding a set of objectives for the year, setting definitions and learning outcome goals for acting internships, electives, and components of the fourth year, as well as setting up an approach to student, faculty, and program evaluation that will inform how the changes we make will serve our fourth year students and how we can improve the program as we go forward. will be lowered. We hope this will alleviate some of the concern regarding grades as the year progresses.

Update from the Phase 1 Committee

Phase 1-Tom Poole, PhD

The UP curriculum was successfully launched for MS1 students on August 8th. We are now working to identify co-directors for the six units of the MS2 year that will be launched next August. It will retain its current length, but will start with a unit of foundations for the second year that will have principles of pharmacology and general pathology content. The other five organ-based systems units will follow a sequence similar to year 1, but with a greater emphasis on disease. The Foundations of Reasoning in Medicine 2 (FRM 2) course will incorporate evidence based medicine and clinical reasoning into the small group problem-based learning approach that started this year for MS1 students.

MS1 Curriculum Blocks for 2016-17

Molecules, Cells, Microbes (4 wks)	Molecules, Cells, Microbes (4 wks)	Musculoskeletal, Skin, Blood (5 weeks)	Nervous System (6 weeks)	WINTER BREAK	Circulatory, Respiratory I (5 weeks)	Urinary, Respiratory II (4 weeks)	SPRING BREAK	Gastrointestinal (5 weeks)	Endocrine, Reproductive (4 weeks)	GATEWAY EXAM
Foundations of Reasoning in Medicine (FRM) (19 weeks)					FRM (9 weeks)			FRM (9 weeks)		
Practice of Medicine (POM) - Clinical Skills (19 weeks)					POM - Clinical Skills (9 weeks)			POM - Clinical Skills (9 weeks)		

MS2 Curriculum Blocks for 2017-18

Foundations, Cancer (5 wks)	Blood, Immunity, Skin (4 wks)	Nervous System, Muscle (5 wks)	Cardiovascular & Respiratory (5 wks)	WINTER BREAK	Kidney, GU, Endocrine (5 wks)	GI (5 wks)	CCES & SUBJECT EXAM
Foundations of Reasoning in Medicine (FRM) (19 weeks)					FRM (10 weeks)		
Practice of Medicine (POM) II (19 weeks)					Practice of Medicine II (10 weeks)		

We are also looking at the effects of changing assessments in the UP Curriculum. The FRM course is assessed on short presentations and the quality of student participation. The POM course is having their exams separate from the unit exams. The Curriculum Office has obtained access to quality banked integrative clinical vignette questions from Kaplan that will be used for a portion of the system based unit exams.

Please check out our blog to follow the content of the new curriculum weekly!



<https://upstatedmedicaluniversitymsicontent1617.wordpress.com/>

Student Well-Being

As we kick off the new academic year, we want to remind students to take time to stay healthy mentally and physically by paying attention to their personal well-being. Doctors, though educators in health, can often be so busy in their careers that they ironically become some of the worst examples of health and “burn out”. Don’t let this happen to you – find healthy habits now and stick to them through your training and beyond! This can be done in any number of ways! From fun study breaks to consistent exercise and healthy eating.

Recently, the AAMC released an article that shares startling statistics about “burn out” and well-being in general. We recommend that you check out this article, its powerpoint slides and related Ted Talk.

<https://www.aamc.org/initiatives/462280/wellbeingacademicmedicine.html>

Upstate Medical University also has services to help with well-being:

Student Counseling Center:

<http://www.upstate.edu/currentstudents/support/scc/index.php>

Student Health:

<http://www.upstate.edu/currentstudents/support/health/index.php>

Academic Support Services:

<http://www.upstate.edu/currentstudents/academic/support.php>

You can also talk to your Basic Science Advisor or Clinical Advisor in your Learning Community.



The 15th Annual Student Clinician Ceremony

The 15th Annual Student Clinician Ceremony was held on Monday, June 10, 2016, in the Medical Alumni Auditorium in Weiskotten Hall. Dr. John Folk, Assistant Dean for Clinical Sciences, and Dr. Thomas Poole, Assistant Dean for Foundational Sciences, announced awardees for the **Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award** for teaching residents, and election of new members of Upstate's chapter of the national Gold Humanism Honor Society, and presented each honoree with their award. The Class of 2018 Class President, Gabrielle Ritaccio, led the recitation of the oath. A reception was held immediately following the ceremony.

The Society is sponsored through the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, and honors senior medical students for 'demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service.' The Society was organized to elevate the values of humanism and professionalism within the field of medicine and its constituent institutions. Candidates are nominated and then elected by peers within their class. Up to 15% of the class is eligible. Election of exemplars to the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) makes a significant statement to medical school faculty, students, and the public that an institution places high value on the interpersonal skills and attitudes that are essential for excellent patient care. New student members from the Class of 2017 are:

Kiran Aravapalli
Simone Arvisais-Anhalt
Bishen Bedi
Alexandra Bachman
Tara Brenner
Melissa Buchan
Kethia Eliezer A
bigail Franco
Ian Kratzke

Kaitlyn Kyi
Kimberly Laxton
Annette Liem
Kathryn Leyens
Sarah Lopez
Alicia Marhefka
Lauren McDonough
Shane O'Brien
John Pyun

David Quinzi
Kyle Richardson
Rhea Rubin
Heli Shah
Garrett Smith
Brielle Stanton
Elizabeth Wei-McIntosh
Yulia Vabishchevich
Olivia Yost



Student Spotlight

2016 Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship (ΑΩΑ)

Raju Chelluri, Class of 2017, SUNY Upstate Medical University College of Medicine, is a recipient of this fellowship award. His research is titled: *“Defining the Prostate Cancer Metabolic Landscape: Using Image Guided, Targeted Tumor Biopsies and Cell Lines for Gene Expression Analysis and Pathway Directed Pharmacotherapy.”*



The fellowship emphasizes a student-designed and student-initiated project with an academic mentor. Recipients of the fellowship have said that the awards have helped them to learn about the joys of scientific and scholarly discovery, and increase their critical understanding of scholarship and research in health care and science. Many recipients of the fellowship have followed up their work as student-researchers to become physician-scientists. The student receives a \$5000 award, with \$1000 available for travel to a national meeting to present the research results. **Congratulations Raju!!**



New Academic Building is now open!!



First-year students transition to medical school through MedSET

Medical Science Education Transition—is a four-week immersion into the College of Medicine curriculum. Pictured are members of the Class of 2020.





Intro to Rural Health

MS1&MS2 PRECLINICAL COURSE



Immersion Week

SUMMER EXPERIENCE BTW MS1 & MS2



RMED

MS3&MS4 CLINICAL COURSE

Upstate Medical University RURAL MEDICAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The mission of the Rural Medical Scholars Program is to identify, recruit, and nurture future small town physicians. We offer a unique, four-year curriculum through elective coursework. Course updates are as follows:

INTRO TO RURAL HEALTH UPDATE

The Rural Medical Scholars team welcomes 25 incoming students who will join Dr. Cinthia Elkins' Introduction to Rural Health course. This lecture-based course focuses on the health care system and practice needs of rural communities. MS1, MS2, and first-year Physician Assistant students participate. Our first guest speaker is Professor Richard K. Merchant, Medical Anthropologist. The topic will be cultural competency, civic engagement, and the current cultural crisis in our country.

RURAL IMMERSION WEEK UPDATE

Canton-Potsdam and Oswego hospitals hosted medical students for Rural Immersion Week this summer. The purpose of the program is to provide a recruitment opportunity to New York State small towns in need of future healthcare providers, while also providing a fun and meaningful experience for our medical students. Twelve medical students had the opportunity to job shadow and observe a variety of professionals, in addition to experiencing the benefits of living in a small town community. They gained an understanding of the local economy, public health issues, recreational offerings, educational resources, social influences and many of the elements that help define small town communities.



Small Town USA on a beautiful summer day



Ellen Villafuerte (MS2) scrubbed in



Immersion students at local radio station

RMED UPDATE

The Rural Medical Scholars team is heading to 18 small town communities across New York State to negotiate the clinical training experiences for 20 incoming MS3 students. Our rural sites for 2017 include: Auburn, Batavia, Canandaigua, Canton, Cortland, Geneva, Glens Falls, Hamilton, Hudson, Lowville, Norwich, Ogdensburg, Oneonta, Oswego, Pulaski, Plattsburgh, Utica and Watkins Glen.

On September 14th two Rural Medicine community preceptors will be honored at the Annual Fall Faculty Convocation. Gregory Healey, MD, Master Community Faculty, will be awarded the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and M. Lynn Pisaniello, MD will be awarded the President's Award for Outstanding Voluntary Faculty.



Matt Witte's (MS2) view from top of the fire truck ladder

From the Office of Evaluation, Assessment and Research



Welcome Class of 2020!

A warm welcome to all of the new MS1 students. We hope you have settled in and are off to a great start to medical school.

We'd love to hear from you. There are many ways to get your feedback to us:

- * complete your MedHub evaluations
- * send an email to evaluate@upstate.edu
- * use the suggestion boxes outside the auditoriums
- * stop by in person (see below about our new location)

Post Clinical Skills Exam Survey

Thanks to the Class of 2017 who completed the survey after the Clinical Skills Exam. The responses from the survey were aggregated into a report and will be reviewed by Dr. Paul Ko and the Clinical Skills Committee. Your feedback on the cases will help the Committee improve the exam for next year.



WE'VE
MOVED!

Please note our new locations! Our offices have moved from Setnor to Weiskotten (we are on the first floor, in the hallway before the entrance to the New Academic Building)

Lauren Germain, PhD – Director of Evaluation, Assessment, & Research –
Weiskotten Hall Addition, Room 1283

Colleen Dillenbeck, MA – Coordinator of Evaluation, Assessment, & Research –
Weiskotten Hall Addition, Room 1287

Don't forget you can now do

MedHub evaluations on your smartphone or tablet!

Here's how to get the app:

On your phone/tablet, type our MedHub address into the browser:

<https://upstate.medhub.com>

Select "Evaluations App"

Log in

NOTE: you can add the evaluation app to your home screen by selecting the "upload" button; once the app is on your phone, you won't have to log in each time in the future



Exams and Testing: It's all Good!!!

We've had a lot of changes in the testing environments in the past few months. SofTest, used for the MS1 and MS2 unit exams, has gone through a major upgrade was rolled out on August 8th. This is now available for download on the ExamSoft Portal. A mock exam is available for the students to get familiar with the testing environment.

We are also using Poll Everywhere which will become the replacement for Turning Point and Clickers. As Turning Point was phasing out the Clicker system and going to a cloud based technology, Upstate began researching many different cloud based polling applications. The Institution purchased a license for Poll Everywhere for many reasons but mostly because of its ease of use and various applications. The ability to be registered and used on many types of devices was a huge selling point as well (you don't have to have a smart phone or be totally technically savvy to participate in a poll). Poll Everywhere is being used in the MS1 year as the Clickers are being phased out with the MS2 being the last class to use them this year.



Academic Schedules

The Academic Schedules have seen a great change this year and also make the list of items for **You Said, We Did**. I heard you and made it my project last year to work with Educational Communications to make sure that we had a calendar that could be downloaded to your Smart Devices, laptops, etc.

This calendar can easily be downloaded to a Google Calendar. Once in Google, you can export it in either an ics or html format to be able to be brought into your GroupWise, iPhone or other calendars. (Hint: I used the .ics and put all of the course calendars into one MS1 and MS2 calendar in GroupWise so as to not clutter up my Calendar account.)

Links for these calendars can be found on the Curriculum Website and Blackboard site as well as on your Blackboard Course sites.

UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
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College of Medicine

HOME ABOUT ADMISSIONS PROGRAMS CURRICULUM FACULTY

Home > Curriculum

Curriculum

Curriculum Office Staff

Courses, Clerkships & Electives

Competencies and Objectives

Academic Schedules

Academic Schedules

- MSI Semester Schedule
- MSII Semester Schedule
- MEDSet Course Schedule
- Previous Schedules

Upstate MS1 Daily Schedule

MS1 Schedule

Today Thursday, August 11 Print Day Week

Thursday 8/11

5am

6am

7am

8am 8 - 8:50
Dynamic Genomes - WHA 9295

9am 9 - 9:50
Mendelian Inheritance - WHA 9295

10am 10 - 10:50
Anaerobic Bacteria - WHA 9295

11am 11 - 11:50
Cocci - WHA 9295

12pm

1pm 1p - 2p
Dr. Maimone Office Hours
COM GENERAL

2pm

3pm

4pm

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time + Google Calendar

Colleen B. Denniston
Exam and Evaluation Coordinator
dennistc@upstate.edu

AAMC Graduation Questionnaire (GQ) & Mistreatment

For 3 years in a row, 100% of our graduating students indicated on the GQ that they are aware that Upstate has a Mistreatment Policy, and for the class of 2016, 99% in Syracuse and 91.4% in Binghamton know the procedures for reporting mistreatment! The Mistreatment QR code is in every syllabus, and the link is on the cards handed out at 1st & 3rd year orientation. You can always type “mistreatment” in the search bar of the Upstate website to give you the link for the policy and procedures.

<http://www.upstate.edu/currentstudents/support/rights/mistreatment.php>

GQ—SYRACUSE	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016 NAT
Are you aware that your school has policies regarding the mistreatment of medical students? (Percent answering “Yes”)	98.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	95.7
Do you know the procedures at your school for reporting the mistreatment of medical students? (Percent answering “Yes”)	88.8	93.5	98.7	99.0	82.3
GQ—BINGHAMTON	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016 NAT
Are you aware that your school has policies regarding the mistreatment of medical students? (Percent answering “Yes”)	93.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	95.7
Do you know the procedures at your school for reporting the mistreatment of medical students? (Percent answering “Yes”)	76.7	97.2	82.8	91.4	82.3

Mistreatment QR Code
takes you to the Learning Environment website for anonymous reporting.



Reminder about Commendation/Concern Notes:

Dear Faculty,

Please remember that you can fill out a Commendation Note or a Concern Note on any student. All faculty have access to this form in MedHub.

The Commendation Note is for when a student goes above and beyond the call of duty. This form is different from the standard Clerkship Clinical Evaluation Form, which is used to evaluate third year students and write narrative comments on their strengths and weaknesses.

If you have a student about whom you are concerned, you should first discuss this concern with the student and the course/clerkship director, if applicable. Feel free to contact me as well. I meet with most students for whom I receive a concern note. One concern note does NOT impact a student’s file or future (unless of severe

gravity – e.g. cheating, drug abuse etc.). The concern note often prompts a discussion that then allows for important interventions and connecting students with needed services.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. **Paul Ko, MD**

Steps to create a Commendation/Concern Note:

- Log into MedHub:
<https://upstate.medhub.com>
- Click on Evaluations Tab
- Click on Initiate Performance Evaluation of a Student
- Select the course or clerkship
- Select the student
- Select Professionalism Commendation/Concern Report

Standardized Patient Program & Clinical Skills Center



The Standardized Patient Program & Clinical Skills Center announces a **software upgrade to B-Line Medical's SimCapture**, replacing B-Line's Clinical Skills as Upstate's software platform for medical simulation.

Of note:

- Remember to change your bookmarked URLs to <http://bline.upstate.edu>
- Simulations conducted prior to May 25, 2016 will now be housed at the Clinical Skills archive: <http://csarc.upstate.edu>
- Terminology changes:
 - ◇ "Project" in Clinical Skills = "Course" in SimCapture
 - ◇ "Case" in Clinical Skills = "Scenario" in SimCapture
 - ◇ "Checklist" in Clinical Skills = "Evaluation" in SimCapture
- Syracuse and Binghamton campuses' SPE data will all be housed in SimCapture, though the courses will be separated by a "Bing" or "Syr" prefix
- Some functionality changes mean that students may need assistance logging in to retrieve their SPE data/feedback
- 24-7 tech support is available at 1-888-228-3838 option 2, or support@blinemedical.com

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE UPDATE

The POM team is excited to start the 2016/2017 academic year! We welcomed a fantastic cohort of small group coaches with extensive clinical and teaching experience and are thrilled to welcome both our new students and returning students to POM! Our curriculum underwent extensive changes to make the students experience both more rewarding and user friendly including additional opportunities to interact with our standardized patients, increased flexibility with remote learning options and improved alignment with our organ based curriculum. We look forward to a great year!

The New Unified Pre-Clerkship (UP) Curriculum Launch Party



*Thank everyone for their support in the launching the new curriculum.
The M&I Orientation and new curriculum launch Party was a big success!*



Have you liked us
on Facebook yet?

Curriculum Office Closures

- Columbus Day**
Monday, October 10—closed
- Thanksgiving**
Wednesday, November 23—closing at noon
Thursday, November 24—closed
Friday, November 25—closed