**Biomedical Sciences Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**  
SMHS  
**Tuesday, January 7, 2020 – 2pm in room E493**

**In attendance:** Marc Basson, Kurt Borg, Pat Carr, Xuesong Chen, Joy Dorscher, Jane Dunlevy, Minnie Faith, Mark Koponen, Ken Ruit, John Shabb, Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm.  
**Members not in attendance:** Jon Allen, Megan Denis, Jesse Ewaldt, Walter Kemp, Bibhuti Mishra, Dev Pant, Min Wu, Susan Zelewski, Rick Van Eck.

**Minutes Submitted by:** Alissa Hancock  
**Minutes Reviewed by:** John Shabb  
**Minutes Approved by:** Approved by consent.

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<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>SUMMARY</th>
<th>ACTION/FOLLOW-UP</th>
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<td>1. Welcome/call to order</td>
<td>Dr. Shabb called the meeting to order at 2:01pm in room E493</td>
<td>Informational</td>
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<td>2. Approval of Minutes 12.10.19</td>
<td>Introduced Minnie Faith the committee. Her title is Director of Student Success and will focus on STEP 1, and is a professor of basic science.</td>
<td>The 12.10.19 minutes approved as written.</td>
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<td>3. Standing Items</td>
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  i. Assessment (Carr/Borg) | Tabled |
| 5. New Business | b. Midyear Survey from CSCS (Zelewski) | Tabled |
| | c. Block Reports  
  i. 2019 Blocks 3, 4 report (Dunlevy)  
  ii. 2019 Blocks 5, 6 report (Borg)  
  iii. 2019 Blocks 1, 2 (Dunlevy) | Tabled |
| | d. Curriculum Redesign Transition Year Planning (2020/2021)  
  i. Wi-Fi capacity in the SMHS building (Hammami) | ACTION ITEMS:  
  Dr. Dorscher will update BSCS on SBHE approval process. For the trimester schedule.  
  Interruptions in WiFi connectivity disrupted CBSE assessment in E101 during December assessment week. Nasser Hammami explained that the four Wi-Fi access points in E101 do not work efficiently. Any device that uses WiFi, including cell phones, will contribute to the WiFi congestion. One recommendation is that all peripheral devices be turned off during assessment. He is working with NDUS |

MSC = motion made, seconded, carried
to have an assessment done on the Wi-Fi connecting points to maximize capabilities of the current network. As a temporary solution Information Resources has a Verizon hotspot that can be brought to Grand Forks from Fargo to have available if there is a problem again during the next assessment week. This will require Education Resources to notify Information Resources in advance of similar assessments that will require extensive internet access. Mr. Hammami will update the BSCS by April 15th of a planned evaluation of the Wi-Fi mesh network within the SMHS.

ii. **Campus Connection and transition year scheduling (Dorscher)**
The redesign of the medical curriculum requires transitioning from the current semester system to a trimester system. The request includes reconfiguring the tuition schedule into three equal payments. A proposal has been submitted to the State Board of Higher Education to be reviewed first by the SBHE Budget and Finance Committee before final approval by the SBHE. It is not yet known if the proposal will be on the agenda for the next scheduled SBHE Budget and Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Jan 21. The next SBHE meeting is scheduled for Jan 28.

According to the Registrar, the transition to trimester scheduling will not be an issue for Campus Connection.

iii. **Block 6 transition year scheduling (Carr)**
For the next academic year, a Unified Session (Block 6) will be split by the nine-week summer elective. Each section of this unit will be independently assessed.

iv. **Two-strike dismissal rule (Carr/Basson)**
The current pre-clinical medical curriculum two-strike policy results in automatic dismissal of any student that fails two blocks. A main purpose for the two-strike rule is to identify students early in their training who are not academically suited for medical school. Early dismissal will reduce the debt load for these students.

This policy needs to be revisited, given major changes in instruction and assessment that will occur in the redesigned curriculum. Dr. Basson relayed that the Dean may be receptive to a temporary suspension of the two-strike rule during the transition period until sufficient data are gathered to determine if/how this policy should be reinstated.

After general discussion, The following issues relevant to the two-strike rule were surfaced:

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Mr. Hammami will update the BSCS by April 15 on Wi-Fi mesh network evaluation.

Education Resources subgroup (Carr, Van Eck, Dunlevy, Borg) will develop an proposal for academic dismissal to apply to the transition year taking into consideration assessment, definition of failure, remediation, and policy requirements. The group will report back at the next BSCS meeting.
1. Assessment: Summative assessment strategies must be clearly articulated for each component of a redesigned unit. This includes determining the extent to which standardized exams will replace in-house exams.

2. Definition of “Failure”: Once it is understood how students will be assessed, a clear definition of “failure” needs to be developed.

3. Remediation: Any remediation strategy for students who fail a course must work within a curricular schedule that does not have time set aside expressly for remediation. The impact of remediation on credit load, vacation time, and dedicated time for Step 1 prep will need to be considered.

4. Policy: Current academic policies will need to be rewritten so that students so that it is very clear what constitutes dismissal do to academic performance. It may be necessary to devise an interim policy for the transition period. Any future dismissal policy should be administered through the Medical Student Academic Performance Committee.

6. Other Business

Meeting adjourned at 3:39pm

Next meeting January 21, 2020.