

# Curriculum Connections

*A newsletter of the Education Council*  
October 1997

## Curriculum Diagram

The block diagram of the new curriculum is being republished for the benefit of students, faculty and staff. The new approach for years one and three has been implemented and planning continues for years two and four.

<b>YEAR ONE: Organization and Function of Normal Human</b>						
<b>Body Macrostructure &amp; Development</b> (anatomy, embryology, some radiology)						
<b>Cell &amp; Molecular Biology and Metabolism</b> (biochemistry, some CTB)						
<b>Organ system and Function</b> (physiology, CTB neuroscience)				<b>Introduction to Clinical Medicine</b> (includes physical diagnosis & clinical experience)		
<b>YEAR TWO: Disease Pathogenesis, Pathogenic Agents, Pharmacotherapeutics</b>						
<b>Pathogens, Response and Disease Process</b> (microbiology, immunology, related pathology)				<b>Pathogenesis and Pharmacotherapeutics</b> (systematic pathology, pharmacology)		
<b>Introduction to Clinical Medicine</b> (includes physical diagnosis and clinical experience)						
<b>YEAR THREE: Basic Clinical Experiences</b>						
Internal Medicine 8 weeks	General Surgery 8 weeks	Neurology/ Psychiatry 8 weeks	Family Medicine 6 weeks	Geriatrics/ Ambulatory Medicine 6 weeks	Obstetrics/ Gynecology 6 weeks	Pediatrics 6 weeks
<b>YEAR FOUR: Advanced Clinical Experiences (Each Course has Multiple Selectives)</b>						
Subinternship 4 weeks	Rural Medicine 4 weeks	Critical Care 4 weeks	Ambulatory Clinics 8 weeks	Health of Public 4 weeks	Electives 12 weeks	
Not Illustrated: Orientation, Longitudinal Interdisciplinary Case Conferences, Summer Opportunities, (Research and Clinical), USMLE preparation time, Longitudinal Issues in Medicine, and residency interviewing time						

## Standardized Patient Programming Coming to Wichita Campus

The University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Department of Family and Community Medicine has received the first installment of a three-year, \$300,000 grant to implement a standardized patient program for students in Third-year family practice clerkships.

"Standardized patient programs have proven to be a highly valid way to assess clinical skills," said Doug Woolley, associate professor, Family and Community Medicine, and coordinator of the project.

These types of programs are so successful that the National Board of Medical Examiners is developing standardized patient testing for future board certification exams. "Our students will need to be familiar with this assessment method," said Woolley.

In preparation for the program, exam rooms on the Wichita campus are being outfitted with videotaping equipment and a patient trainer will soon be hired to instruct about a dozen people who have been hired to portray the same medical case consistently time after time. Training is expected to be completed by Jan. 1, 1998.

"The goal is to have patients who are so highly believable that even an experienced community physician would not suspect that the patients' symptoms are simulated," said Woolley.

The program will expose students to key problems in family practice that they might not encounter in a preceptor office, such as the new diagnosis of HIV, sexual dysfunction, dementia, and family conflict involving violence or substance abuse. Cases that cover organ system disease will be added as the program advances.

Though the grant is for family practice clerkships, Woolley says that over time, the standardized patient program will expand to include adult geriatric clerkships and other third and fourth year primary care clerkships, finally including the nurse practitioner program and family practice residencies.

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## **Student Curriculum Advisory Committee Formed**

David Calkins, M.D., M.P.P., acting associate dean, Medical Education, and associate dean, Primary Care, Kansas City, has formed a Student Curriculum Advisory Committee to gather opinions and suggestions regarding the new curriculum. The committee met for the first time in September and plans to meet monthly.

Jennifer Abel-Jackson, Class of 2000 and Education Council member, chairs the group. She encourages any interested students to attend. Contact [jjackson@kumc.edu](mailto:jjackson@kumc.edu) for more information.

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## **Health of the Public Clerkship**

### **Focuses on Population-Based Medicine**

Before the 19th century, only three of every 10 newborn babies lived beyond the age of 25. Of those seven who died, two never reached their first birthday, and the rest died before they were six. Today, fewer than one in 20 children die before reaching adulthood. This reduction in death occurred before the advent of antibiotics and of modern medicine, chiefly due to improvements in nutrition, sanitation, and other public health projects.

Despite this, traditional methods of teaching in medical school have de-emphasized community-based health measures and are based exclusively on the management of individual patients. Understanding the health of populations, however, can provide students with new perspectives on the needs of their patients and their community.

The Health of the Public clerkship is designed to instruct senior medical students about population-based approaches to health care. Using some of the basic concepts described under the auspices of Community-Oriented Primary Care, students in this clerkship will learn how to define specific populations, ascertain their health care needs, formulate interventions to meet those needs, and evaluate the impact of those interventions. These concepts will be developed and reinforced as the student moves through a series of modules designed to provide learning opportunities about health services organization and delivery, and community dimensions of medical practice. These modules will include practical experiences supplemented by course reading material, case studies and workshops.

Students taking this clerkship will be invited to think in new ways about access to health care, financing, quality care, and environmental and occupational health. They will acquire new perspectives on the needs of special, high-risk groups of patients and learn how to address those needs. They will learn the importance of the system in which they practice and how to influence that system to provide better care for their patients.

This clerkship will officially begin in the summer of 1998, but a select group of students from the class of '98 are now being invited to participate in a pilot program next February. For more information, contact one of the course directors in Kansas City, Edward Ellerbeck, M.D., M.P.H., associate professor, Preventive Medicine, 913-588-2829, or Caroline Kim, M.D., assistant professor, Pediatrics, 913-588-6332.

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## **Faculty Development Workshops Planned**

To assist faculty on both campuses, the Medical Education Support Unit is hosting development workshops on a variety of topics. All offerings are accredited Continuing Medical Education activities.

The objective of each session is to help faculty apply specific teaching techniques that will enhance student learning in both classroom and clinical activities.

Programs are from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Sudler Auditorium, Kansas City, and the Wichita Room, Wichita-ITV, unless noted. Faculty are asked to register at least two days in advance by calling Postgraduate Education in Wichita, 316-261-2636, or the Medical Education Support Unit, Kansas City, 913-588-7200.

Scheduled workshops include:

- **Standardized Patients, Thursday, Oct. 16**  
1:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m., Wichita Room, Wichita, and Sudler Auditorium, Kansas City-ITV.  
Presenter: Daniel Klass, M.D., National Board of Medical Examiners
- **Facilitating Small Groups, Friday, Nov. 7**  
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Presenter: LuAnn-Wilkerson, Ed.D., University of California Los Angeles
- **Career Development, Friday, Dec. 12**  
Presenter: Macaran Baird, M.D., Health Partners

Scheduled workshops include: (continued)

- **Effective Lectures, Friday, Jan. 16, 1998**  
Presenter: Bob Klein, Ph.D., professor, Anatomy and Cell Biology, Kansas City.
  - **Maximizing Interactive Televideo for Education, Friday, Feb. 16**  
Presenters: Patty Crowell, Educational Technology-Wichita, & Linda Davies, Ph.D., Academic Support, Kansas City
  - **Using the World Wide Web to Deliver Education, Friday, March 6**  
Presenters: Patty Crowell, Educational Technology-Wichita, & Linda Davies, Ph.D., Academic Support, Kansas City
  - **Curriculum Design, Friday, April 3**  
Wichita Room, Wichita, and Sudler Auditorium, Kansas City-ITV.  
Presenters: David Calkins, M.D., M.P.P., Primary Care; and Garold Minns, M.D., Internal Medicine, Wichita.
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## **Medical Education Support Unit Expands to Fulfill Mission**

The Medical Education Support Unit, part of the Dean's Office, has expanded its staff to five in recent weeks. Three coordinators joined Director Giulia Bonaminio, Ph.D., and Secretary Kelly Magaha.

Tony Paolo, Ph.D., is Coordinator of Assessment and Evaluation. He assists faculty in student performance appraisal, course/clerkship evaluation, program/curriculum evaluation and other medical education research activities.

Nancy Davis, M.H.S., director, Postgraduate Education, Wichita, is the MESU Coordinator of Instructional Development. She assists faculty with instructional design, faculty development and research endeavors.

Leigh Ann Arbuckle is coordinator for the introduction to Clinical Medicine (ICM) course, a longitudinal experience which will span the first three years of the curriculum. It incorporates the history, and philosophy of medicine, behavioral and preventive medicine, human growth and development, and interviewing and physical examination skills.

To reach staff members in Kansas City, call 913-588-7200. Davis may be contacted at 316-261-2636.

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## **Education Council Elects Committee Leaders**

In late September, the Education Council chose the faculty who will lead the council's curriculum initiatives this term.

Allen Rawitch, Ph.D., professor of Biochemistry and Molecular biology, Kansas City, was re-elected as Education Council chair.

Robert Ardinger, M.D., associate professor, Pediatrics, Kansas City, was elected to chair the year one/two oversight committee. He replaces Rawitch in this position.

Bruce Johnson, M.D., professor of medicine, and division director for general and geriatric medicine, Kansas City, will chair the year three/four oversight committee. He takes over from Doug Woolley, M.D., associate professor, Family and Community Medicine, Wichita.

The Introduction to Clinical Medicine planning committee will continue under the leadership of David Calkins, M.D., M.P.P., associate dean, Primary Care, and acting associate dean, Medical Education, Kansas City.