

Faculty Education Committee (FEC)

Faculty of Medicine

19 April 2021

14:30 – 16:30

Present

Mr Martin Lupton, Ms Trisha Brown, Professor Amir H Sam, Dr Sophie Rutschmann, Professor Louise Donnelly, Professor Steve Gentleman, Professor Mary Morell, Professor Alison McGregor, Dr Niamh Martin, Dr Sonia Kumar, Prof. Jeremy Levy Mr Jeffery Vernon, Dr Chris Watkins, Ms Vanessa Powell, Mr Chris Harris, Mr Muntaha Naeem, Mr Zixiao Wang, Ms Men-Yeut Wong, Mr Richard Viner, Professor Ken MacLeod, Professor Helen Ward

Apologies

Mrs Nikki Boyd, Professor Peter Openshaw, Ms Michaela Flegrova, Ms Rachel Kwok,

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed the attendees and apologies, as above, where noted.

2. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

That the committee approved the Minutes from the previous meeting held on 22 February 2021.

3. Matters Arising

With reference to item 4, SOLE, it was noted that work continued to be undertaken at both College and Department level. The volume of SOLE feedback was increasing and efforts within the Faculty to use the information in a more targeted manner continued to be useful. It was agreed that an update would be provided in due course.

ACTION: Head of the School of Medicine Secretariat

With reference to item 7, Requirements for Probationary Lectures, it was noted that this item was ongoing. Conversations with HR and other members of the Faculty had taken place and a possible way forward had been identified. It was agreed that proposal would be presented to the Faculty Operating Officer.

ACTION: Programme Director

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4. Faculty of Medicine Digital Strategy

The Chair informed the members that the final draft of the Digital Strategy had been completed. The Chair noted that it was crucial we adopt a modern, pedagogy-driven strategic approach to education and its delivery. A modern educational strategy should incorporate digital learning and Imperial College had committed itself to an increased provision of blended and online programmes. The strategy proposed a new collaborative structure and operating model to support digital education across the Faculty. It included recommendations relating to academic and operational leadership, a governance structure, and a new approach to managing online education operations. It also proposed a Digital Education Portfolio, which included on-campus, hybrid, online connected and online open provision. The proposal was underpinned by the ambition to make all new educational content and resources accessible to the widest possible audience both within the UK and globally. The members indicated their support of the strategy.

5. Pre-Foundation Assistantship (PFA)

That in the recent "Foundation Preparedness" survey, Imperial had ranked lowest amongst all medical schools in England. The outcome of this survey suggested students from Imperial were the least prepared graduates for foundation working in the country, which risked reputational damage to the medical school. Students had previously reported that focusing on preparedness activities prior to final examinations was difficult, and that having dedicated time after exams would be more beneficial for their learning. With the uncertainty around final year electives due to COVID-19, there was an opportunity to consider a 'Pre-Foundation Assistantship' after exams which would allow students to focus on preparing for foundation work.

It was proposed that two 3-week placements for final year students, half the year group at a time, be arranged during the 7-week elective block between 26th April 2021 and 11th June 2021. These placements would focus on preparing students for their foundation posts. The final year medical students would be

expected to be inducted and integrated into the clinical team, included on the team rota, lead ward rounds, manage ward patients and jobs, participate in on-calls where possible and reasonably contribute to all aspects of delivering patient care under supervision. These placements would be available to students who had been unable to secure electives. Students who has been able to secure electives would be able to continue their elective placements as planned. Students would not be able to participate in more than one PFA placement. It was noted that students still had some concerns about this process and that a dialogue continued between the School and Students to ensure everyone's voice was heard and all concerns were addressed where at all possible.

6. Quality Improvement

That there was discussion about how to assure robust quality improvement across the Faculties programmes. It was noted that every year a Faculty level report on Quality was produced, with each department submitting information for the report. It was noted that the approach varied across the different departments but that this may be due to "quality" being quite a broad concept. It was suggested that module level review could be introduced. This would be useful to incorporate staff and student experience. Module leads could then compile this information and submit it to programme leads, who could then ask pertinent questions. It was further noted that aligning this process to the modifications schedule could be useful. All members agreed that quality was an important issue and that the above suggestions should be investigated further.

7. Changes to teaching - BSc 3rd marking

The committee approved this late major modification, subject to approval of the SSLG and ICSM Board.

8. Changes to teaching - Change the title of the BSc in Haematology course

The committee approved this major modification, subject to approval of the ICSM Board.

9. Chair's Actions

The Chair's Actions were ratified by the group.

REPORTS FROM SUBORDINATE COMMITTEES

10. School of Medicine Board

The committee approved the School of Medicine Board Report.

11. Postgraduate Education Board

The committee approved the Postgraduate Education Board Report.

12. Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

The committee noted that the report contained details of proposed changes necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Assimilation of the Student-Researcher Immersion Programme (SRIP) into the Scientific Enquiry and Evidence-Based Medicine (SEEM) module
- Changes to the delivery and assessment of the Year 1 Early Patient Contact – Long Term Patient Project (LTPP) in AY2020-2021
- Changes to the delivery and assessment of Year 5 Electives for AY2021-22

The committee approved the changes, and other items, noted in the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine Report.

ITEMS TO NOTE

13. Senate Minutes

The committee noted the latest Senate minutes.

14. Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee (QAEC) Summary Report for Senate

The committee noted the latest summary report from the QAEC.

15. Faculty Education Committee Reports

The committee noted the latest reports from the other FECs as reported to the last QAEC.

Imperial College London

16. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

17. Dates of Future Meetings

13 September 2021

20 December 2021

21 February 2022

30 May 2022