Professional development series produces strong showing despite pandemic

By Lecretia Buckley

Buckley

For the second straight year, the Office of Medical Education in the School of Medicine hosted its summer series of professional development.

Launched in 2019, the series offers weekly sessions during the months of June and July. Sessions address instructional design, diversity and inclusion, educational technology, and evaluation and assessment of courses and student learning.

The 2020 series included eight sessions. The planning and delivery of these sessions had to quickly change - as so much did - in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting restrictions on gatherings.

In collaboration with the Office of Continuing Education, OME offered the sessions online through Big Blue Button. OME leaders decided to make these professional development activities available for continuing medical education credits, both for synchronous and asynchronous participation.

Despite the quick pivot, the 2020 series produced an increase in participation of more than double the attendance rate of the 2019 series. The enduring products will be available for continuing credit for physicians beginning in September and will be available until May 2021.

The eight sessions and their presenters are listed below. Brief descriptions of each session are available on the OME website's faculty development page.

- **Assessing Course Effectiveness –**
  Carley Dear, Ed.D.
- **Cultural Competency in Health Care –**
  Shirley M. Pandolfi, M.P.H.
- **Introduction to Designing Instruction for Adult Learners –**
  Loretta Jackson- Williams, M.D., Ph.D.
- **Supporting and Promoting Self-directed Learning –**
  Savannah Duckworth, M.D.

- **Active Learning Strategies for Adult Learners –**
  Wesley Wilson
- **Educational Research and Quality Improvement –**
  Michael Ryan, Ph.D.
- **Big Blue Button, Studio and NearPod –**
  Jessica Overby-Green
- **Writing Objectives and Selecting Outcomes –**
  David Norris, M.D.

OME leaders were excited that professional development planned for this summer continued and that offering the sessions virtually permitted increased participation. Indeed, one can mine lessons from unexpected experiences, and OME staff learned lessons on how to employ technology to increase faculty accessibility to professional development.

In addition to completing the evaluations, you can also share feedback with OME leaders by emailing Dr. David Norris at drnorris@umc.edu.

Curriculum Committee seeks subcommitte membership nominations

Several Curriculum Committee subcommittees are in need of additional members from foundational science and clinical faculty. The charges for these subcommittee and the number of faculty needed are listed below.

New subcommittee members will be selected by the current subcommittees and must be approved by the Curriculum Committee. Those interested in nominating themselves or others may submit their nominations online at https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HmigeL7w4keASYYWhYgYpTuvjqr3QMpBgtrlq3n38y1UNDZZUTc3S1ZMRkpLOFM4UVozUE5DMjFJQi4u.

Continuous Quality Improvement Subcommittee

The CQI Subcommittee is charged with engaging in ongoing planning and implementing a continuous quality improvement process for the educational program.

The group is responsible for presenting this data in a coherent fashion to the Curriculum Committee. The activity of the subcommittee will ensure there is effective monitoring of the medical education program by faculty.

Members are solicited from the faculty and chosen by the chair.

Three faculty members are needed for this subcommittee.

Curriculum Development and Innovation Subcommittee

The CDI Subcommittee is charged with providing oversight in the development of new courses, revisions in the format of existing courses and significant changes in curriculum design to ensure alignment with the educational needs and learning objectives of the School of Medicine and accreditation standards set by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, and that all courses follow sound educational practices,

including the incorporation of appropriate means of assessment to validate improvement in student competencies.

The subcommittee maintains and revises the School of Medicine Course Directors' Handbook and makes recommendations regarding course/curriculum innovations to the School of Medicine Curriculum Steering Committee.

The subcommittee consists of School of Medicine faculty and two students who represent the M2, M3 and M4 years. The chair of the subcommittee is elected by subcommittee members and serves for two years.

Continuity of leadership within the subcommittee is ensured by overlapping terms for the subcommittee chair, chair-elect and/or chair-emeritus.

Two faculty members are needed for this subcommittee.

Curricular Evaluation Subcommittee

The CE Subcommittee is charged with conducting, coordinating and analyzing all reviews of all components of the SOM curriculum on a regular basis to ensure the stated curriculum functions as designed are being followed and appropriate assessment tools are available for all programs. This subcommittee provides feedback of the reviews to the Curriculum Committee.

The subcommittee consists of members of the Curriculum Committee appointed by the chair of the Curriculum Committee and interested SOM faculty members as selected by the chair; members of the Evers Society who are members of the Curriculum Committee; and student members elected to the Curriculum Committee by the student body.

Other Medical Center faculty may be added to the subcommittee as needed and as determined by the chair.

Three faculty members are needed for this subcommittee.

Instant collaboration: Canvas courses now include Microsoft Teams
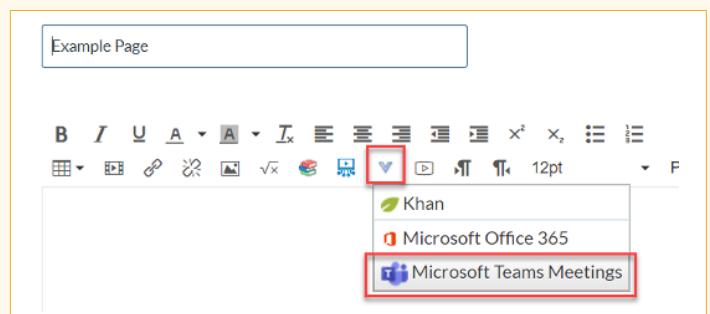
By Elizabeth Jacobs

Jacobs

Each UMMC employee and student receives a Microsoft Office 365 account. Many applications are available, but one in particular is getting a lot of use these days: Microsoft Teams.

Teams provides a simple way to create meetings or other virtual gatherings. To make it easier for faculty use, Teams is now integrated in our Canvas courses.

Faculty are able to create meetings from the Canvas calendar or from the rich content editor used in pages, assignments and other course functions.

For more information, visit Additional information is available at: https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Admin-Group/Microsoft-Teams-Meetings-in-Canvas/ba-p/256340#toc-hld-1973544613.

Microsoft Teams is ideal for large group meetings. Up to 250 people may participate at once and up to 100 breakout rooms are available within an individual meeting.

Recording functionality is included as well. The videos are available for viewing in Microsoft Stream, a video content application included in UMMC's Microsoft Office accounts. Videos may be viewed in Stream or downloaded and stored in Canvas using Studio.