UW Medicine
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Themes Committee Minutes

Date	November 4th, 2016
Time	2:00-3:30 pm PDT
Location and/or connection info	E-308 Zoom.us/j/428986549

Chair	Marj Wenrich and Amanda Kost
Attendees ☒ QUORUM REACHED *7 voting members required for quorum*	*Voting members:* Bruce Abbotts, Paul Borghesani, Jeanne Cawse-Lucas, Marivern Easton, Molly Jackson, Susan Merel, Belinda Sanchez, Jamie Shandro, Monica Shin, *Non-voting members:* Annie Chipman, Kellie Engle, Susan Graham, Jane Shelby, Martin Teintze, Michael, Campion, Meredith Pothoven, Jan Carline, Denise Dudzinski, Leo Morales, Gina Campelia, Jane Nelson, Michael Ryan, Sara MacKenzie
Regrets	*Voting members:* Jordan Lewis, Freddy Overstreet, Mike Spinelli, Ryan Smith, Kate Mulligan

Agenda

#	ITEM	LEAD	TIME	ATTACHMENT(S)	ACTION
1	Intros, minutes review, academic co-chair	Marj Wenrich	10 minutes		DECISION
2	Review and vote on revised bylaws	Marj Wenrich	5 minutes		DECISION
3	Meta-theme presentations	Amanda	20 minutes		INFORMATION /DECISION
4	Proposal for revised organization/approach	Michael Ryan	30 minutes		INFORMATION
5	Theme web planning task force update	Michael Campion	10 minutes		INFORMATION
6	Perspectives on themes to date Move to 4th item		10 minutes		INFORMATION
7	Other business and adjourn	Amanda	5 minutes		

1. Introduction, review minutes, introduce academic co-chair		
Discussion: Group introduced themselves and reviewed previous minutes from August 25ᵗʰ.		
☒ DECISION REQUIRED? Yes	[9] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
Decision: Approved		

2. Review and Vote on Bylaws		
Discussion: Group reviewed the edited bylaws. One regional committee position is still open and needs to be filled. The Foundations Phase representative is also still open. There are now two student representatives, ones students from the Foundations Phase and another from the Explore and Focus Phase.		
☒ DECISION REQUIRED?	[9] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
Decision: Approved		

3. Meta-Theme Presentations		
Discussion: Each meta-theme group presented their plan and vision for their theme. Human Interactions PowerPoint Social Determinants of Health PowerPoint Health Systems PowerPoint There is some overlap between the meta-themes. We should keep in mind what is considered as health systems science nationally and how we want this to translate into improved patient outcomes. Students also need to know basic definitions for Step 1. We can also look at IHI models for quality improvement.		
☐ DECISION REQUIRED? N/A	[##] VOTES FOR	[##] VOTES AGAINST
Decision:		

4.   Perspectives on Themes to Date
Discussion: Block and course leaders share similar experiences as theme leaders do – there are many theme instructors and representatives so it is difficult to know who to reach out to. It is also difficult to understand the scope of the themes; we need to know the ultimate goal. Immersion was easy in regards to themes because students had just started. However, it was difficult to know what would be a good starting foundation for them. Faculty development for those who are delivering theme content is also very important. Overall experience has been variable, but there is agreement that we need increased communication across the site and theme representatives.

☐ DECISION REQUIRED? N/A	[##] VOTES FOR	[##] VOTES AGAINST
Decision:		

5. Proposal for revised organization/approach
Discussion: Michael Ryan presented a proposal for a reorganization of the themes. See PowerPoint. In the beginning, we did not carve out distinct time for themes because we wanted them to be woven throughout the curriculum. However, students have vocalized that they want a more structured approach. Meaningful assessment of theme content has also been difficult. This proposal consists of creating one large theme around health systems, possibly called "Health Systems Science". This theme would have its own dedicated time in the curriculum, similar to FCM or Intersessions and would integrate all of the existing themes. It is important to ensure that individual themes are not lost under one large umbrella theme. Some theme leaders expressed concern that we risk losing what we have already built for the themes. One possibility is taking dedicated theme hours that do not tie in directly to the block and moving them into one of our other new dedicated theme times. The group agreed that it would be beneficial to have carved out time for theme content so that we can be explicit about our values; a single theme would also allow us to create more meaningful assessment. There is some concern that we may be starting over again at a time when, over the last 6 months, the themes have started to develop structure. To change the approach again may feel like moving backward. Having theme work only in intersessions could feel like themes are being marginalized; it may be better to have half of every Friday devoted to theme content. We need to flag the curriculum to students – this is important enough that we should weave it in, have carved out time, and have sessions in blocks. The timing of intersessions is difficult because they are at the end of terms when students are worn out. It was proposed that intersessions could be moved to between blocks. If students have a knowledge roadmap, it could keep them engaged, knowing they will build on this knowledge with projects and assessments. Structure is very important and it would be nice to have the theme in blocks as well because that is the context in which students will experience theme content. If this new theme grouping is adopted, we must carefully look at resources and the ability of our systems to track what is and what is not outside of a block. Will there also be theme electives? It will be important to look at how this material will relate to the Patient Care and Explore and Focus phases.

☐ DECISION REQUIRED? N/A	[##] VOTES FOR	[##] VOTES AGAINST
Decision:		

6. Theme web planning task force update

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Discussion:
The task force looked at themes in 3 ways: structure and organization for leaders and objectives; ability of faculty within a meta theme to collaborate; and presentation to students.
The task force focused on faculty collaboration on Canvas. The task force members thinks that there should not be a separate theme Canvas page for students and that each meta-theme should have its own Canvas page for facilitate development and collaboration.

☐ DECISION REQUIRED? N/A	[##] VOTES FOR	
Decision:		

7.   Other Business and Adjourn

Discussion:
It was brought up that the group should meet monthly instead of every other month.
<mark>ACTION: Move to monthly meetings and set up a meeting 1 month from now.</mark>

☐ DECISION REQUIRED?	[0] VOTES FOR	[0] VOTES AGAINST
Decision:		

Adjourned at 3:33