

Compiled by Courtenay Holscher  
University of Colorado  
[cmholscher@gmail.com](mailto:cmholscher@gmail.com)  
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## **Curriculum Committee Representatives OSR Listserv Survey Responses**

How do the student representatives on curriculum committees at your school communicate with the student government and the student body?

### **Georgia Health Sciences University – Ronnie Zeidan, [RZEIDAN@gru.edu](mailto:RZEIDAN@gru.edu)**

We have 2 class officer positions for each class designated specifically for curriculum. This allows for input from a total of 8 students across all classes who then go back and inform their respective classes

### **University of Washington School of Medicine – Fernanda Delgado, [fdelgado@u.washington.edu](mailto:fdelgado@u.washington.edu)**

At the University of Washington School of Medicine, student reps also serve on curriculum committees so there is overlap. At the curriculum committee meetings, those student members meet with the course chairs to discuss successes/improvements. At the student government meetings, deans from all departments are present so we know what projects are being worked on and increasing transparency among students and between students and administration.

As the MS-2 OSR rep I attend the medical student association (MSA) student reps meetings, as well as the end of quarter curriculum meetings.

In terms of transparency and follow up, all MSA meetings are open to students and all meetings notes are posted, as well as discussed among students at quarterly town hall meetings and class meetings.

I think having a point person or two is what helps keep communication going.

### **Weill Cornell Medical College – Daniel Rosen, [dar2039@med.cornell.edu](mailto:dar2039@med.cornell.edu)**

At Weill Cornell there are student representatives to the school curriculum committee. Additionally there are direct course representatives for each module. Those members do not interact with the student government directly in meetings. There haven't been any conflicts.

### **Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine – Elizabeth**

**Davlantes, [davlantese@wusm.wustl.edu](mailto:davlantese@wusm.wustl.edu)**

We have a medical education rep from each med school class who goes to all the curriculum committees. In case this gets too overwhelming for them, each rep can appoint people to attend the committees and report to them. Only the four main medical education reps attend our student government meetings.

### **Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine – Daniel Weinberg, [weinber@musc.edu](mailto:weinber@musc.edu)**

The OSRs at our school basically have access to everyone. We sit on the year-specific curriculum committees as well as the overarching undergraduate curriculum committee. We actively report back to students regarding both of these. We also attend monthly student council meetings and provide updates about our activities. In one sense, we are autonomous with almost unique communication privileges, and on the other hand we try to stay integrated with everyone else as much as possible.

**Case Western School of Medicine – Christopher Schilf, [crs134@case.edu](mailto:crs134@case.edu)**

Our preclinical curriculum is divided into 6 blocks (4 first year, 2 second year), each of which has its own student SCME (Student Committee on Medical Education) rep. There is also one SCME chairperson. Each class year elects its own contingent of SCME reps in August of Year 1, and they maintain their positions for the duration of medical school.

SCME meets once a month as a committee in conjunction with the corresponding faculty persons (additional meetings/email correspondence occurs as necessary between student reps and faculty). The SCME chairperson is the one who attends our biweekly student government meetings. Our government meetings usually run in the format of updates from the President, then VP, Treasurer, followed by other government chairs/members based upon hierarchy.

Speaking from my experiences as a member of the student government board, we have never encountered any issues with the setup of having the SCME chair attend every government meeting. Perhaps because we have the SCME chair attend meetings more frequently (every 2-4wks), the updates tend to be smaller and less overwhelming or disruptive to the flow of meetings.

**University of Wisconsin-Madison – Josh Fast, [jjfast@wisc.edu](mailto:jjfast@wisc.edu)**

The Curriculum committee at our school is chaired by an Education Policy Committee (EPC) rep who is elected during first year and serves all four years. They participate in our medical student government by attending weekly meetings and also coordinate meetings with the deans & administration every month or two. Representatives on the curriculum committee are elected representatives to our student government who then choose to serve on the curriculum committee.

This seems to work well for us, as the student government has first-line communication with the curriculum committee and early information about any changes to curriculum.

**University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry – Bradley Hunter, [Bradley\\_Hunter@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Bradley_Hunter@urmc.rochester.edu)**

They hold a meeting and invite people to attend.

**Cooper Medical School of Rowan University – Josh Weinstock**

I am the student representative to the Curriculum Committee at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. We're the new medical school in NJ (my class is 50 students - although there will eventually be 400 here) so we may do things a bit differently than larger schools. Our bylaws state that there will eventually be two student members elected to the committee (an M1/M2 student and an M3/M4 student).

I attend the monthly meetings and then report minutes back to my classmates via email. In addition, because the size of our class permits, I discuss a lot of relevant issues in person with my classmates.

Prior to the Curriculum Committee meetings I also request that my peers send me (or discuss with me in person) anything that they would like to be presented or brought forth for discussion in the meeting.

**Albert Einstein College of Medicine – Michelle Cunningham, [cunningham.michelle.a@gmail.com](mailto:cunningham.michelle.a@gmail.com)**

At Einstein, the students who serve on the curriculum committees are also members of the student government. The first- and second-year members of student government tend to have much more contact with each other because they are able to meet once a month. With rotation schedules, it is difficult for the third- and fourth-year members to attend student government meetings. However, we report information from the curriculum committees to the student government via e-mail.

As for communication with the student body, student government sends a monthly update to all students via e-mail. It is usually a shorter version of the student government minutes.

**University of Oklahoma College of Medicine – Phil Bonney, [Phillip-Bonney@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Phillip-Bonney@ouhsc.edu)**

At the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, we do not have a method by which the student members on curriculum committees communicate with student government, or more generally, with the student body. Further, there is no communication between student representatives of the Basic Sciences and Clinical Curriculum Committees. I feel that this is a weakness in our governance structure. I am very interested to know what you uncover in your search. Would you please let me know if you hear back from someone with a good system for disseminating information attained from these curriculum committees?

**University of California, San Diego School of Medicine – Hershey Avula, [havula@ucsd.edu](mailto:havula@ucsd.edu)**

I am not sure if anyone from UCSD has gotten back to you yet, but in case they haven't, our curriculum committee reps typically attend student government meetings. Usually, they will be briefly asked if there are any pressing concerns coming from the committee, or to provide a brief update. I think, similarly, this does tend to take up time during the meetings, but it hasn't been too much of a problem for us. A reasonable alternative may be for reps to provide brief post-meeting written recaps that can be announced during student government meetings or posted on your student web portal (if you have one) so that all students can see. We struggle with a similar problem of our general student body not really knowing what the reps do until a major issue arises. Good luck with the match next month and I hope all went well with interviews.

**Baylor College of Medicine in Houston – Rachel Finn, [finn@bcm.edu](mailto:finn@bcm.edu)**

I am a 4th year medical student at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas and a student representative on Baylor's Undergraduate Medical Education Curriculum Committee. I am writing in response to your inquiry (see below correspondence). First, let me describe the structure of Baylor's Curriculum Committee:

We only have one Curriculum Committee, which is under the umbrella of the Undergraduate Medical Education Office and consists of faculty and staff representatives who are involved in various aspects of undergraduate medical education. Additionally the Curriculum Committee selects two students from each medical student class to serve a term of four years on the committee, serving as representative and liaison to their respective classes. This committee handles ONLY issues related directly to curriculum content, including: pre-clinical and clinical courses (required and elective), grading and student evaluation procedures, course evaluation procedures, course improvement, core competencies, graduation requirements, educational tracks and their requirements, and faculty-student mentorship-related curriculum. This Committee does NOT handle issues related to Student Affairs (see next paragraph).

We have a separate Student Affairs Committee, which falls under the umbrella of the Office of Student Affairs, and which has 2 student representatives from each class, who are elected to serve on the committee. Student on this Committee serve as representatives and class liaisons for student affairs issues. This Committee handles ONLY issues related to Student Affairs, including: student organizations and their budgets, Course registration and badging procedures, parking, classroom and study space, health insurance, commencement ceremony, match day activities, white coat ceremony, orientation activities, and student-student mentorship program. This Committee does NOT handle issues related to Curriculum content.

Students from both the Curriculum Committee and the Student Affairs Committee serve as liaisons to their respective classes, so that they communicate relevant student issues to their committees AND communicate curriculum committee decisions and considerations to their classmates. Students from each of these committees do this in a relatively similar manner: through E-mail communication. For example, when a curriculum committee meeting or student affairs meeting is coming up, the representatives will E-mail the class asking for any concerns or issues needing to be addressed at the upcoming meeting. By the same token, any issues which are discussed or addressed at a curriculum committee meeting or student affairs meeting are generally E-mailed out the affected classes. Occasionally, the Dean of Student Affairs or the Dean of Medical Education will hold a class meeting to discuss certain issues if necessary. We do not currently have a system in place for student representatives from either of these committees to regularly meet with the student government leaders. Perhaps, this is something we should consider, although it has seemed to work fairly well for committee representatives to communicate directly with the classes by E-mail or in-person announcements.