

## February 2018 Update

Dear colleagues,

Since the beginning of the new year, we have been continuing conversations far and wide about the defining purpose of our medical school's education program (our "why"), the answer to which is the critical foundation for our curriculum redesign effort. We've had the opportunity to hear from faculty, students, and staff, in multiple venues. We've presented at Town Halls with staff and students, meetings with student leadership, departmental faculty meetings, faculty retreats and more. Many of you have also written to us with valuable suggestions and reflections, and we've enjoyed the many informal "elevator" conversations and sharing of ideas. Finally, we've been in regular communication with our Medical Education Committee (MEC) and Faculty Executive Committee (FEC), providing updates and soliciting input and support.

In addition to this internal conversation, we've been engaging in conversation with colleagues at several peer institutions, including Harvard, University of Michigan, NYU, Vanderbilt, University of Washington, University of Vermont, and others, about their own approach to curriculum redesign, not to emulate, but to learn from their insights into the process. In the end, we need to design a new curriculum that uniquely aligns with our values and goals.

The Steering Committee is nearing completion on the structure of Working Groups that will guide the next phase of the process, in which we seek to turn emerging themes into design elements for our new curriculum. Once finalized, we will announce them and begin to populate the Working Groups with interested faculty, staff, students, and others.

To facilitate the ongoing conversation and as a way to engage you in the next stages in the process, we're pleased to announce the launch of a new website. The site will provide regular updates, access to source documents that we have been consulting along the way, and copies of presentations given. In addition, the site has a feature that enables you to give your own commentary about "why" and to sign up for more formal participation in the stages to follow. We hope you will visit the website, early and often.

Like any significant change effort, this curriculum redesign initiative is both exciting and daunting. We now have significant momentum in defining the values and principles that shall be our guide, and with that we are on the right trajectory towards success.

Regards,

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