



The Office of Health Sciences Education invites you to the 2013-2014 Faculty of Health Sciences Journal Club



8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday December 11, 2013

Glaxo Wellcome Centre (CEC), Louise D. Acton Building, 31 George Street, Room 121

Objectives of the Health Sciences Education Journal Club:

- 1) To learn and practise critical appraisal skills with respect to health science education literature
- 2) To use evidence based literature to guide our educational practice
- 3) To keep up to date on current and relevant literature in health sciences education
- 4) To stimulate an educational discussion for those engaged in health sciences education
- 5) To provide an enriched social and learning environment for faculty engaged in health sciences education

Topic: Our Dynamic “Living” Curriculum: Is it Healthy?

Facilitator: Dr. Andrea Winthrop

Readings:

Abrahamson, S. (December 1978). Diseases of the Curriculum. *Journal of Med Educ.* 53:951-57

Harden, R.M. (July 1986). Ten questions to ask when planning a course or curriculum. *Med Educ.* 20(4):356-65

Suggested Approach:

Queen’s undergraduate medical education program has recently undergone dramatic curriculum renewal involving adoption of a competency-based curricular framework, changes in curriculum content and structure, and the introduction of innovative teaching and learning strategies. Our curriculum has morphed into a dynamic “living” entity. Did all of our careful planning and implementation result in a “healthy” curriculum? What is its “health status” now, as we are about to embark on preparation for an accreditation visit in 2015, and initiate an effort in program evaluation?

As Abrahamson suggests in this very entertaining treatise from 35 years ago, if a curriculum is “alive”, then it is subject to nine “diseases” but these diseases should be preventable. Harden formulates 10 questions to ask about any curriculum, using these as a framework to prevent or treat many of the curricular diseases.

Guided Reading Questions:

These two articles will be used as a framework for reflection about our curriculum and stimulate discussion regarding the recent and ongoing curriculum renewal and evaluation. What diseases did we have or do we still have? What prevention strategies did we use or should we consider, and what are possible treatments for any diseases that are still present?

1. Choose one or more of the nine diseases and articulate an example of these diseases in our curriculum.
2. Discuss how work on one or more of the 10 questions formulated by Harden could prevent these diseases

Upcoming Journal Club Dates:

January 8 * February 12 * March 12 * April 9 * May 14

For more information, please visit our website at: http://healthsci.queensu.ca/education/ohse/programs/journal_club_2013-2014