Insights, Challenges and Way-forward on Curriculum, Review and Implementation and Evaluation, SoN & SoM Maseno University

Health Professions Education Conference, Kisumu, 2024

By: Rosebenter Owuor

Outline for the presentation

- Current situation
- The process of curriculum development and review
- Insights/feedback on the implementation of a new curriculum
- Challenges in the implementation of the undergraduate curriculums in the School of Nursing and Medicine
- Way forward for future curriculum review at Schools of Health Sciences

Current situation

School of Nursing

- Bachelor of Science Nursing with IT curriculum the first cycle complete, review conducted
- New curriculum for BSc Nursing with IT is in the second year of implementation following the review

Current situation Cont...

School of Medicine

1st review MBchB was in 2018

Curriculum review process

Initiation

New courses- There may be a need for a new course following the needs assessment

Or at the end of the curriculum cycle

The chair of department notifies the dean of the course (s) with almost completed curriculum cycles or the results of needs assessment where courses belong to departments

- -or the dean initiates the process; where courses belong to the School in a school board meeting
- The school board mandates the curriculum review committee to either review or develop a new curriculum; usually part of their terms of references

Curriculum review process cont..

- The curriculum review committee engages departments and stakeholders (stakeholders meeting is conducted)
- The feedback is consolidated and feedback shared with the school board; emphasis is laid on emerging trends in technology, market, and regulation, customer feedback
- The committee considers the feedback and reviews the content

Feedback on curriculum implementation

- Student feedback, enabled through online forms filled before examinations are undertaken
- Faculty feedback
- Market/alumni feedback
- Regulators feedback (licensure examination, training materials, content advisory, formatting and structure of curriculum)

Feedback on curriculum implementation

- At the School of Nursing and Medicine, currently we have evidence of students' feedback on curriculum implementation the directorate of quality assurance
- Alumni feedback through exit interviews facilitated by the directorate of quality assurance

NB: Evidence of market and direct formal alumni feedback to the schools is limited

Evidence of Exit Surveys From The 2023 Graduating Class SoM and SoN

- The exit survey was undertaken from 15th of December, 2023 with a response rate of 83.9%.
- The current presentation considers only Nursing and Medicine students who were graduating
- The tool was circulated electronically to graduands and was active online for ten (10) days for the graduates to have adequate time to respond to the survey tool.

Feedback from graduating class 2023 cont..

 The respondents were drawn from all the awards (Certificate to Doctoral degrees) offered by MSU, 84.59 percent (247 graduands / graduates) were from the undergraduate category

Recommendations to help management improve the quality of teaching, learning, research, and the general learning environment.

Theme 4: Teaching and Learning Resources

Improve on laboratories, especially for the science related courses

Upgrade or improve the computer infrastructure. The world is shifting towards computers and I'm glad that every course comes with IT, but there's still room for improvement since not every student has a laptop.

Increase the number of lecture halls to make life easier for the students.

Increase more physical resources like chairs etc.

Provide enough teaching/learning materials; adequate books, white boards and pens, science laboratories and science computer labs with almost adequate facilities etc.

"...Improve the learning infrastructure and teaching equipment both at the different campuses and the teaching hospital (Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital)..." Almost all feedback is on learning resources, not curriculum delivery/ pedagogy

Challenges in the implementation of the undergraduate curriculums in the School of Nursing and Medicine

- Limited resources: staff, laboratory spaces, equipment and mannikins for skills laboratory etc.
- Inadequate feedback on previous curriculum performance
- Inadequate skills for training health professionals; pedagogy
- Inadequate research particularly on medical education
- Lack of adequate simulation laboratory at the school of Health Sciences

Way forward for future curriculum, review, development implementation and evaluation for the SoN and SOM

- Foster partnerships with organisations that may fund particularly stakeholders' meeting
- Grant writing to support curriculum review/development-related activities
- Train the curriculum review committee members on curriculum review/development
- Provide more forums for stakeholders' feedback to get more insights on curriculum development, implementation and evaluation (alumni platforms, job market, placement/electives' sites, faculty
- Conduct more medical education-related research (scoping and systematic reviews maybe a low-lying fruit)

Way forward for future curriculum, review, development implementation and evaluation for the SoN and SOM cont...

- The faculty feedback on curriculum implementation and evaluation should be conducted
- The confidential reports given to the students during electives should provide a comprehensive survey to the potential employers. This will enable the schools to understand the expectations of the employers so that they can match potential employees and employers
- Train health professionals on current trends in medical education with an emphasis on pedagogy

Thank you