Developing a Curricular Mapping Process for Continuous Quality Improvement
Liles AM¹, Westrick S², Pinner N², Marlowe KF²

¹The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy; ²Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy

BACKGROUND
Curriculum mapping serves several purposes including evaluation of current curriculum or development of a new curriculum. The 2016 Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) Standards and Guidance for Standards require documentation of the breadth and depth of curricular content which may be done through mapping.

INTENT
The intent of this project is to describe Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy’s (HSOP) implementation of a curriculum mapping process planned for continuous quality improvement.

PROCESS
Mapping Software
Rubicon Atlas was used as the mapping software.

Timeline
- June 2013: Core Mapping Team consisting of 6 faculty members representing 6 departments was formed.
- June 2013: Core Mapping Team composed of Department Chairs, course coordinators, and Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, met to create the mapping software training manual.
- June 2013: A process for the creation of the mapping template was developed.
- June 2013: Mapping Committee consisting of faculty members representing all 6 departments was formed.
- July 2013: Search function of the mapping software was developed.
- July 2013: Training of all faculty by Core Mapping Team and course coordinators.
- July 2013: Mapping of unit calendars for required courses.
- August 2013: Development of unit calendars for elective courses.
- September 2013: Review of unit calendars by members of the Core Mapping Team.
- September 2013: Mapping of elective courses.
- October 2013: Mapping of unit calendars for required courses.
- November 2013: Review of unit calendars by members of the Core Mapping Team.
- December 2013: Mapping of elective courses.

OUTCOMES
Example Reports
- Analysis of Program Outcomes/Academic Standards taught and assessed throughout the curriculum. This report may be run for the entire curriculum or limited to a specific year or course.
- Comparison of unit calendars for a course sequence to facilitate vertical integration.
- The Search function allows the search of any keyword (drug, disease, teaching methodology, etc.) Limits can be placed on the search to sections of the mapping template, and timeframe. The system will search attachments and websites as well.

IMPLICATIONS
As HSOP begins curricular revision the curriculum map will allow for assessment of necessary changes. In addition, as changes are implemented, the curriculum map can be updated allowing for assessment and continuous improvement. The curriculum map also provides opportunities for course review, peer review, and self-reflection.