

**STATEMENT 5.0.10 - Importance of Continuing Professional Development  
Undergraduate Medical Education**

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Curriculum Committee</b>
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**I. PURPOSE**

Faculty development is the purposeful attempt to support faculty in the improvement of their competence as educators and scholars. At the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry in Western University the role of faculty development rests in the Office of Continuing Professional Development. The curriculum of the faculty development program is designed to improve individual faculty member knowledge and skills in areas that are essential to their performance as an educator, leader or scholar.

The mission of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-informed professional development programs and scholarly activities that meet the educational needs of healthcare providers, faculty and staff, while supporting the educational mission of the school.

**II. STATEMENT**

**a. Accreditation of Faculty Development**

- i. As an accredited continuing education provider, CPD is responsible for ensuring that every course that it develops or approves as an accredited program adheres to the guidelines and standards established by its governing external and internal regulatory and advisory bodies.
- ii. Various groups, including the Advisory Group on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Working Group of the ACCME, and the Executive Committee of Schulich Council are internal committees that assist in governing Western's CPD initiatives by assisting in long and short-term strategic planning efforts, formulating operational policies and procedures, developing programs and core curriculum, and assisting in the monitoring of the overall quality and effectiveness of Continuing Medical Education (CME)/CPD activities.

**b. Role of Faculty Development**

- i. Like all educators, faculty who teach at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry (the School) should be well prepared for teaching across the continuum of the curriculum. The School strongly encourages all of its teachers to partake in teaching and learning development opportunities on a regular basis to improve and enhance their teaching and assessment skills, and to acquire new knowledge through the synthesis and application of existing concepts with contemporary best practices.
- ii. Faculty development is beneficial to all teaching – early career, mid-career, and established.
- iii. The faculty development curriculum enhances teaching and assessment skills, enabling teachers to improve their methods of instruction and assessment.
- iv. Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) recommends that all faculty instructors in the Program participate in at least one faculty development workshop every three years. UME, in collaboration with CPD, will track faculty participation to demonstrate quality in curricular delivery assist in faculty promotion and annual review and communicate through the UME Faculty Score Card provided to Department Chairs on an annual basis.