

**PHLEBOTOMY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 15 2017 \* 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Clark College at WSU-V, Room 124

**Members Present:** Lisa Parkman (Committee Chair), The Vancouver Clinic; Robin Conomos, (Vice Chair) PeaceHealth SW Medical Center: Michael Pitts, OHSU; Heather Harris, Legacy Salmon Creek; Hollie Foltz, Legacy Salmon Creek

**Members Absent:** Svetlana Senchuk, Providence Medical Center Milwaukee; Theetea Fell, OHSU

**Guests:** Dyana Kaski and Amber Finder – Students in the program

**Clark College:** Amy Castellano, Lead Phlebotomy Instructor; Lori Anderson, Adjunct Instructor; Dr. Brenda Walstead, Dean of BHS; Jennifer Obbard, Assoc. Dean of Health Sciences Shelley Ostermiller, Assoc. Director Advising – HEOC ; Cathy Sherick, Associate Director of Instructional Planning & Innovation; Hal Abrams, Clark college Foundation; Nichola Farron, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

Committee Chair Lisa Parkman called the meeting to called to order at 5.36pm and introductions were made

Minutes of Previous Meeting

*The minutes of May 10 2017 were presented: Heather made a motion to approve which was seconded by Michael and approved by the committee.*

Next Meeting Date

The committee will next meet on Wednesday May 16 2018 at 5.30pm

Office of Instruction Announcements

Cathy Sherick made the following announcements:

Welcome back to 2017-18 we are excited to be rolling up our sleeves and delving in to the second year of work of our **Academic plan.**

The new **“Areas of Study”** have been adopted and approved these will provide the framework for organizing the different degree paths for students. The link is [here](http://www.clark.edu/academics/programs/index.php)

Advisory Committees will begin to see how they fit in to the implementation work of **Pathways**. The goal is to improve rates of completion, transfer and attainment of jobs. The American Association of Community Colleges (ASCC) has developed a model that articulates the implementation process. Advisory members are encouraged to review the model for understanding.

Academic plan Goal 6: *Infuse the study of* ***Power, Privilege and Inequity*** *throughout the curriculum.* Last year advisory members asked why this was happening at Clark. To answer that question, we have been working with the Office of Diversity and Equity to put together some basic information that can help frame the issue for further discussion. Watch for it on meeting agendas.

The new **McClaskey Culinary Institute (MCI)** is open and teaching students this term! The link to information about the program is [here](http://www.clark.edu/academics/programs/culinary/). We are looking forward to being able to provide our advisory members with menu items from the cuisine and baking programs.

Clark continues to see enrollment declines, which may have budget impacts. We do not anticipate further program cuts at this time, but cannot rule out the possibility of changes in the future should this trend continue. Your help in letting community members know about the great programs at Clark is appreciated!

As programs are taught out, we have terrific Advisory volunteers we hate to lose. Often we need to infuse current committees with new members, and sometimes new programs are developed that will need new advisory committees. We are working this year on the development of a **Master Advisory Committee** that will help us with three tasks.

1. Visiting current committees to talk to members and get an idea of how things are working.
2. Planning and hosting annual Advisory event.
3. Reporting to the Board of Trustees every year on the great work of Advisory Committees.

Let us know if you are interested by contacting Nic. You can be on two committees, or if you want to step away from your current committee work that is fine too.

We also wanted to thank everyone who was able to attend the **annual recognition** event held on July 13 at the new STEM building. We had beautiful weather, many cold beverages and a great time. We look forward to planning the event next year with our new Master Advisory Committees.

We will be undertaking an updated Ethics training at the spring advisory meetings.

The annual Clark College Career fair will be held in April. Advisory Committee members will be provided additional information from the career center in upcoming meetings.

Cathy also spoke about the planned CTE insert in *The Columbian* which will showcase programs and highlight employment connections for students in the community. Amy indicated that there had been a lot of interest from students in sharing their stories, and they are hoping to include pictures from the lab.

Department Updates

Amy shared with the committee that the CLSI guidelines were updated in May and there have been accompanying minor changes in the curriculum to mirror this, e.g. concentric circle skin cleaning is now a disproved theory.

Lisa and Amy attended the global summit focusing on pre-analytical errors in the lab convened by Dennis Ernst, *Phlebotomy Today* newsletter lead and educator. They shared that it was a very informative conference that reiterated good practice and also provided information on processing specimen steps. There was also an opportunity to network with other educators and learn what they’re doing in their programs.

Amy went on to share that the department is continuing to work on the visibility of the program and she has meetings scheduled as to how best advise students who are interested in healthcare, as well as efforts to try and increase clinical internship sites. The program is having difficulties getting internship sites on the Vancouver side of the river, for example at Kaiser and LabCorps.

The committee discussed recent changes in company structures that may be contributing to the difficulties in securing internship sites.

Scholarships

Amy reminded the committee that the program is not currently eligible for Financial Aid funding or support, so many students are working and paying out of pocket; there are some who receive a degree of WorkSource funding.

Hal spoke to the committee about the potential for local companies and employers to support students through the establishment of scholarships. This would also allow employers to forge connections with students they support in the role of benefactors and has the scope for companies to specify the particular group that receives assistance, for example, first generation students.

He continued that the Foundation currently has about $20 million in scholarships, but that only covers 20% of the need. Phlebotomy costs $2500-$3000 for the year but this does not include books and other living and academic expenses.

Hal encouraged committee members to connect with the representatives of their employers who focus on philanthropy and direct them to connect with the Foundation to explore the potential for a relationship.

Enrollment Update

Shelley provided an update on current admissions: there are 13 students who have applied and who are fully qualified and ready to start in spring. There 26 applicants in the pipeline who have some sort of requirement outstanding.

Amy reminded the committee that the cohort size is 24. In terms of attrition, at least 90% of those who start the program will continue into the second quarter. There are normally approximately 2 students who may struggle to reach the quality standard of 12 successful independent draws in 11 weeks.

Medical Assistant Program

Shelley outlined that the Department and Advising are exploring methods for establishing a pathway for Phlebotomy students: if the certificate was embedded within a broader degree it would become Financial Aid-eligible.

Brenda continued that the College is exploring ways of maintaining the integrity of the Phlebotomy program, whilst potentially bringing it under the umbrella of Medical Assisting.

Jennifer added that there is recognition that some students want to only complete the Phlebotomy certificate, but there might also be the option for creating four stackable certificates within the degree, for example, Phlebotomy, Medical Assistant and Radiography Technician. Each component could stand alone, or be taken sequentially for a broader degree.

The committee expressed some reservations about the strain additional student groups would put on placement sites. Lori also noted that her employer has Phlebotomists and MAs as two very distinct groups, especially as the phlebotomists are expected to have specialized skills.

Heather commented that, in terms of assessing applicants for a positon, she would favor a phlebotomist over an MA with some phlebotomy experience. She also spoke to the importance of retaining program accreditation.

The committee members discussed how an MA student would be perceived as not as qualified as a phlebotomy graduate, and that phlebotomy students wouldn’t necessarily need the extra medical assisting skillset.

Michael did note that some clinics do have MAs draw blood, so there is some opportunity for employment, but the majority are phlebotomy specialists.

It was agreed however, that the potential for financial aid support that would arise from melding the programs was worth consideration.

*Lori made a motion that the committee support the ‘stacking’ of the Phlebotomy certificate within a broader MA degree, on condition that the integrity of the Phlebotomy certificate be maintained; this was seconded by Robin and passed unanimously.*

Discussions on this issue will continue at future meetings.

Action Item: The committee requested that some kind of visual aid, illustrating the potential structure and contents of the stackable certificate/MA degree be provided at the next meeting.

Phlebotomy Preceptor Guide (Draft)

Amy spoke about previous discussions focused on concerns about student placements where they were not receiving consistent standards of training. In view of this, the Department created a guide for preceptors based on CSLI guidelines to help with more accurate scoring of students during their clinical internships. Lori A continued that the department has experienced disparity between written and verbal feedback.

The committee members noted that it would be helpful to provide defined expectations, as well as accompanying verbiage or rubrics with guidelines to preceptors.

Michael noted that the provided document was a good framework, but was more of an evaluation of the student as a person as opposed to their skills as a phlebotomist. As such, he recommended that the intent of the Guide be defined.

The committee also dicussed the issue of preceptors as a wider part of the industry, and the question of compensation for those guiding students.

The meeting adjourned at 7.32pm

Prepared by Nichola Farron