



DENTAL HYGIENE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
Monday, April 25th, 2022 *Zoom Online

Members Present: Sheryl Armstrong, Steven Hokett, Salmon Creek Periodontics; Dr. Peter Lubisich, Vancouver Pediatric Dentistry, Dr. Derek Michaud, NW Affinity Dental, Kramer Ragan, RDH; Kaili Rutkowski, RDH; Jana Sarkkinen, RDH, Rose Family Dental

Members Absent: Melody Scheer, Retired RDH (Committee Chair); Ann Gilbert, University of Washington

Clark College: Kristi Taylor, Program Director; Brenda Walstead, Dean of BHS, Renee Schiffhauer, Advising, Terri Anderson, Program Coordinator, SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees, Stephen Quimby, Student

Clark Instructors: Glenna Afflerbaugh, Amy Ewing Johnson, Summer Gillas, Jean Gregory, Becky Herman, Michael Ludwig, Bobbi, Mash, Michelle Vincent

Adjunct Instructors: Alex Budey, Richard Grabowsky, DDS

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes for November 8th, 2021 were approved.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will next meet on October 17th, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COLLEGE OR DEPARTMENTS

The new VPI who started had to address medical issues and has had to take some time off and scheduled to come back soon.

Brenda Walstead will be retiring in August. Her contribution will be missed.

Carmen Lily has left the college and the department is moving forward to fill the vacancy. They have also brought on a new hire, Jessica, as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Vacuum System

It was installed and have been using it since the beginning of Winter Term. Now students can use their ultrasonic devices at the same time.

DIRECTOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR REPORT

CDHD

The program saw 78 children. Being 5 students down reduced this number compared to previous.

Board Exams

All the students passed the local anesthesia and restorative exams. All of them that are going to be what working in Washington have passed their Washington drug and law, and we are a little over 50% who have at least taken the National Board exam though some of them haven't gotten results yet. So far all of the known results have been students have passed. The hygiene exam is at the beginning of June and all of the students have elected to use the mannequin rather than the patient-based exam.

Cowlitz County

Ten students went up to Kaiser in Longview and treated 25 adult patients. There were also three faculty, and two alumni came to assist.

NEW BUSINESS

OHSU Partnerships

Mark Miller reached out to Kristi Taylor to discuss partnering because of dental students approaching administration asking to work closer with Dental Hygiene students to get that experience. They are asking for DH students come over for a week to assist. Initially, it would begin with the D4 students coming to Clark in either winter or spring of next year. Some of the barriers are not having a clear understanding of what is expected of all the students (OHSU and Clark) and not taking away from experience at OHSU to participate at Clark.

New Standards

They will be introduced July 1, 2022.

Low-Cost Dental Options

The program is running into situations with patients that are trying to find options for low-cost dental care. There are limited locations we currently share that are not always low cost and are often difficult to schedule with.

Suggestions:

- Battleground Free Clinic
- Reach out to individual offices and learn their limits and potential low-cost options they may offer.
- Neighbor Care health has a sliding fee schedule, but the closest one currently is Olympia.

- Reach out to PCC to see what they recommend
- Clark County Dental Society, Keith Collins.
- Steven Hokett offered to assist in locating low cost services as one offs when needed.
- Sally A-ther-amin, a new oral surgeon, who is basing their practice on keeping costs as low as possible. They may be a good person for sedation.
- Joe Sep-pee may be a good resource to ask for recommendations or ideas.

Employment needs

The number of dental hygienists available to the community has changed significantly. The wage demand is being capped by insurance control of the fees. This could cause potential issues in care and access. A lot of office are moving the double booking method that in turn is also driving dental hygienists away. Suggestions included having a transparent conversation about the realities of the costs associated with a dental clinic and the complexities associated with it while meeting the needs of the patients.

The recording was asked to be stopped and never picked up again, so I am not sure if there is any more to this meeting that I have noted above.

Prepared by Sara Seyller