



DENTAL HYGIENE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
Monday, October 17, 2022* 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Zoom Online

Members Present: Dr. Derek Michaud (Chair), NW Affinity Dental; Kramer Ragan, RDH (Vice Chair); Dr. Peter Lubisich, Vancouver Pediatric Dentistry; Deanna Rose Pehrson, Retired/Business Owner; Jana Sarkkinen, RDH, Rose Family Dental, Steven Hokett, Salmon Creek Periodontics

Members Absent: Melody Scheer, Retired RDH; Ann Gilbert, University of Washington

Clark College: Kristi Taylor, Program Director; Brenda Walstead, Dean of BHS, Terri Anderson, Program Coordinator, SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees, Mackenzie Cook, Student President SADHA

Clark Instructors: Glenna Afflerbaugh, Amy Ewing Johnson, Becky Herman, Michael Ludwig, Michelle Vincent

Adjunct Instructors: Richard Grabowsky, DDS

Kristi Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes for Monday, April 25th, 2022, were reviewed and approved as amended.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will next meet on **Monday, April 25th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COLLEGE OR DEPARTMENTS

Brenda made the following announcements:

- The college has a new Vice President of Instruction who will start in January. His name is Paul Wickline.
- The campus will be fully a vaccinated campus starting winter quarter. All students that use on site services must be vaccinated or have exemptions. With healthcare programs, including Dental Hygiene, students are **REQUIRED** to be vaccinated.

Renee Schiffhauer made the following announcements:

- Advising continues to meet with students remote and face to face. There is limited staff on site.

OLD BUSINESS

Vacuum System

Kristi Taylor had previously spoke on a bid for a \$50,000 upgrade to the vacuum system. Since then, the program has received a grant from the Firstenburg Foundation for \$50,000 as well as a \$12,500 grant from the Price Foundation. Because this was such an expensive project, this had to go out for bid. Unfortunately, the college accepted a bid that did not include installation. This has caused a pause to obtain more bids for the installation. Kristi very recently heard back about a bid for \$20,000 that does not include electrical and plumbing. So now, she is waiting on bids for electrical and plumbing. She has also been reassured that there is additional funding in case the project starts encroaching on that \$62,500 mark to complete everything. The vacuum system is currently at the college. Hopefully installation will occur over the winter break.

Roles and Responsibilities

The handbook was sent to all the advisory members to overview the roles and responsibilities.

Chair/Vice Chair

Dr. Peter Lubisich nominated Dr. Derek Michaud. Dr. Peter Lubisich nominated Kramer Ragan as Vice Chair. Kramer Ragan nominated Dr. Peter Lubisich as a Vice Chair.

Kramer Ragan made a motion to elect Dr. Derek Michaud as Committee Chair and herself (Kramer Ragan) as Vice Chair. Dr. Peter Lubisich seconded and was unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR REPORT

Impact of COVID Vaccine Updates

Kristi Taylor explained that as a college all students had to be vaccinated and that if they submitted an exemption, the exemption would go through review. If the exemption is accepted, the student would be offered the accommodation of a deferral for up to one year assuming that they could restart the program based on space availability and if they were able to meet the requirements of the time of reentry.

The program had five students (three in the senior class and two in the junior class) that did submit an exemption. All five exemptions were approved and offered the accommodation of a deferral. Both junior students accepted the deferral and two of the senior students accepted the deferral. The third senior student denied the deferral. There are now 22 students in the senior class.

The program also decided to make the COVID vaccine as a required vaccine for students entering the program. To eliminate the many challenges, it just seems to be the logical next step. The reasoning behind this is because most of the community members where students go to do their

external rotations are requiring the vaccine, including OHSU. The program can't accommodate any type of exemption that would also allow them to graduate.

CDHD

Kristi spoke with Dr. Lubisich and is on board with helping with Children's Dental Health Day this upcoming February 5th, 2022.

Board Exams

The Dental Hygiene Examining Committee in Washington approved on October 8th the ability for hygiene students to take a mannequin-based exam instead of a live patient exam and obtain their Washington state license. At least 90% of the students are opting for the mannequin exam. It is a standardized test where they put a typodont at the chair and the typodont has calculus already on it. The students are given a set amount of time they must remove that calculus. Students will also have to go through a separate piece that evaluates their ability to probe correctly, evaluate medical histories, and go through an oral inspection. It is basically a mini case study.

Dr. Derek Michaud asked if there has been a comparison between the live patient scenario vs. the mannequin scenario and if the program has used the mannequin yet. Kristi stated that a lot of the data has very much statistically correlated the two to be very similar. A typodont has been ordered to start testing.

Brenda Walstead also stated that there is a mock board on a real patient, that the students must pass before they can take the real board.

Dr. Peter Lubisich explained that it is up to the schools to determine the competencies of the students and to fail out the students who are not competent. The standard that this program has kept needs to continue and be maintained. Deanna Rose Pehrson also agreed with Dr. Michaud and Dr. Lubisich. Many of the new hygienists and assistants using these new models has created this philosophy of training to the less rather than the high. She was happy to hear that Clark will continue to cater to the very high standard and training.

The committee continued to discuss how important it is to keep a high standard and what it takes to be a professional.

Kramer Ragan spoke on how many of the students that leave the program at Clark pass the board exam. She asked if the students at the other colleges are not passing so then are not able to get licensed. Kristi Taylor answered saying that across Washington and Oregon, the live patient board exam has a 97% pass rate. It will be interesting to see what the mannequin exam will show.

Michelle Vincent made a great point by talking about how many of the students spend a lot of their time in clinicals trying to find that perfect board patient. We take out that element of having to find the right patient, making sure they show up, and now the students are freed up to work clinically.

SADHA REPORT

Stephen Quimby, senior student and SADHA President gave the SADHA report.

- Still dealing with COVID restrictions.
- There are two committees (Patient Recruitment Committee and Community Education Committee) that have their first event this upcoming Sunday. They are meeting with Medical Teams International at a local church. Community Education is going to educate people while they are waiting in line to be seen by the dentist. This could include information about general oral health, intraoral aids, or whatever needs they might have. The Recruitment Committee will be handing out information about Clark and the Dental Hygiene program.
- They have had several speakers. Many of the presenters have been through Zoom, which has allowed the opportunity for all the juniors and seniors to be able to attend.
- He spoke on the oral hygiene recycling tools. He has been trying to remind many of the returning patients that they can save their intraoral aids in a box. When they come back in, we can recycle them for free.
- He has also been looking at different ways to save on waste in the clinic.

NEW BUSINESS

Finding New Members

Kristi made a call for new members, possibly expanding outside of dentistry. It could include medical or public health.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Dr. Derek Michaud spoke on the COVID vaccine and how it could affect their profession. He gave an example of a situation where it could be considered malpractice for not being vaccinated. Where is the line and how does that play out if a patient asks about the COVID vaccine? There is an issue on the refusal of care. Kirti stated that they don't ask patients if they are vaccinated, and no patient has outright asked them.

The committee continued conversations about how to limit the spread and how to be safe in the environment. Every clinic needs to be able to communicate their standards.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Recorded by Terri Anderson