



## PHARMACY TECHNICIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE -MINUTES

Thursday, March 9th, 2023 \* 4:00-5:30p.m.

Meeting Location: Zoom Online (Audio/Video)

**Members Present:**

**Members Absent:**

**Clark College:**

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### MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

*No minutes appear to have been reviewed in meeting.*

### NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will next meet on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM

### ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COLLEGE AND/OR DEPARTMENT

Patricia Atkinson is the new Interim Dean of Business and Health Sciences replacing Brenda. Enrollment is stabilizing in our programs, and we are increasing advertising to encourage more enrolment. It is hoped to see higher enrolment in the future. The college received its accreditation letter. Clark College is stabilizing in number of hires and positions available within the organization.

### PROGRAM UPDATES

**ASHP Accreditation Update:** Heidi Fay is updating the paperwork for accreditation process. The curriculum and program structure are ready to go. She is currently working on gathering qualification documentation for preceptors at all the sites. Students have recently been sent to Walgreens, Fred Meyer, and Legacy allowing preceptors in those locations to see new documentation. She has updated the performance evaluations to align with the program outcomes and created a new preceptor workbook to function as a guide for the pharmacy staff. She is expecting to have all documentation completed and ready to be sent by the end of the current month or beginning of next month. Changes in presentations of calculations that were implemented in the second quarter of last year were introduced in the first quarter this year. This earlier

experience is allowing students to experience compounding labs sooner and fosters greater critical thinking in compounding labs.

**Compounding Labs:** Garrett More-Jones spoke to doubling the time allotted to the student compounding lab. Students stay engaged through the longer lab and the increased time has provided more availability to ask questions and cover assignments while increasing the volume of lab activities. With the increase of lab time the course has begun to use more supplies and equipment increasing the rate at which the program uses resources.

**Cohort Schedule:** Permission was received to open a second cohort for Spring. Enrollment for the program is low but moving forward with program keeps Clark College from losing students. Last year canceling the Spring cohort did not increase Fall enrollment.

**Recruitment:** Recruitment is continuing, and an opportunity has been identified for an article in Oregon Live. They are interested in interviewing a past student from the program. Other opportunities lie in boosting search engine recognition of the Pharmacy Tech program. These require funding and are being examined. Other committee members have had positive results from paid search results over the previous three months.

**Health Care Camp:** Clark will be holding a three-day health care camp in June facilitated by Olga Lyubar. The camp will be featuring a variety of healthcare programs including Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy, Nursing, Health Information Management, and Pharmacy Tech. Middle school and high school students will be attending and participating in activities for the programs of specialty. The activities will be led by Clark College faculty and health program students. Pharmacy is providing a former student success panel to speak at the event. Pharmacy partners can provide swag for student prizes to support student engagement and promote their organization. Heidi wants to have local employer representatives available for students to engage with at different opportunities. She is currently working on Pharmacy Tech activities for students engaging with the Pharmacy Tech program.

**Industry Updates and Job Outlook:** Legacy Emanuel and Randal's are currently fully staffed. Legacy Salmon Creek has open Pharmacy Tech positions. Legacy Good Samaritan and Mt. Hood are up to date in Pharmacy. Walgreens Oregon is currently seeing an increase in hiring of technicians due to an increase in turnover in the pharmacies. Walgreen's Vancouver has benefited greatly from its proximity to Clark College and is regularly recruiting from the program graduates. Walgreens Vancouver is overloaded with technicians. They are currently looking to fill technician spots that float from location to location. Fred Meyer pharmacy technician wages are increasing. They are currently short on staffing for technicians and actively recruiting. Providence medical currently has dozens of open Pharmacy Technician positions locally in the Vancouver and Portland area. NetRX is experiencing retention issues and is regularly hiring new technicians.