

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE -MINUTES**

**Thursday, October 28th, 2021 \* 4:00-5:30p.m.**

**Meeting Location: Zoom Online (Audio/Video)**

**Members Present:** Zach McCall (Vice-Chair), Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center; Amy Houger, HeLa High School; Bob Gustainis, Walgreens; Matt McCarty, Fred Meyer; Sean Moore, Workforce SW;

**Members Absent:** Derrick Ogawa (Committee Chair), Walgreens; Rene Bloemke, Net-RX; Cornel Brisc, Walgreens; Anthony Mauer, PeaceHealth St. John’s Hospital; Brenda Tallent, Legacy Health

**Clark College:** Heidi Fay, Dept. Head, Pharmacy Tech Department; Brenda Walstead – Dean of HEOC; Renee Schiffhauer, Director of Advising; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

Vice Chair Zachary McCall called the meeting to order at 4:05pm and introductions were made.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

*The minutes of May 13th, 2021 were presented for approval. As quorum was not present, the minutes were sent out electronically. , the minutes have been approved.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The committee will next meet on **Thursday, April 14th, 2022 at 4:00pm.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COLLEGE AND/OR DEPARTMENT**

Brenda Walstead made the following announcements:

The college is in the process of hiring a new Vice President of Instruction. Currently, the interim Vice President of Instruction is Miles Jackson.

The college is now a fully vaccinated campus. Faculty and staff are required to be vaccinated. Starting in winter quarter, students will be required to be vaccinated. There are exemptions that can be followed.

**RECRUITMENT**

The program’s first cohort started this fall with 22 students. However, prior to orientation, there are now only 11 students. The faculty are working hard to come up with more ideas to get students in the door. There are 9 students working towards being ready and 12 or so students that are working on applications.

Recently, an OregonLive article came out that Bob Gustainis was a part of. The program has been working with PeaceHealth on externships sending students there for rotations.

Sean Moore mentioned utilizing Workforce to help certain students with specific assistance. He asked if that had been incorporated in the incentives for students coming into the program. Heidi Fay stated that the website has been updated and did let students know at the orientation.

Brenda Walstead spoke on potentially having an open house to showcase all the Healthcare Programs but have different areas for each one. It could be face to face or Zoom. The committee members were happy to be a part of this event.

**ASHP ACCREDITATION UPDATE**

Heidi Fay took time over the summer to get the paperwork needed for all the upcoming curriculum changes:

* The two new courses, the capstone course and the new lab
* Adding one credit to the compounding class
* Adding one credit of lab to the Pharmacy Practice and Technology Class
* Taking a credit away from both seminar classes because those are added into the capstone class

For all these changes, there is special paperwork and forms that need to be filled out. We then must take it to a couple of different committees to get approval from the college.

She also worked towards aligning all the ASHP elements with the program’s courses.

Heidi presented the Pharmacy Tech course schedule. It is a draft and most likely will be adjusted in the future. She went through some of the updates to each course and what topics might be included.

Bob Gustainis wanted more detail on diversity topics. Heidi clarified that it will be cultural diversity in healthcare and make sure that we can meet the needs of anyone that can come in. Bob also suggested unconscious bias and microaggressions.

Bob also asked about COVID testing. Heidi stated that in can certainly be incorporated either the disease or miscellaneous scenarios. Immunizations would be a more in-depth piece for students.

Zachary McCall stated that he though the schedule looked great.

Heidi stated that she feels pretty confident so far with the schedule, but would happily take any more feedback or suggestions to refine it.

**EXTERNSHIP SITES FOR WINTER**

Heidi Fay stated that the program will need externship sites. The program will have 9-11 students that will need to find somewhere. Hopefully the program can use the 5 externships sites that Bob Gustainis mentioned. She hopes that they can get some students in at Fred Meyer. She asked how it would work if they are short staffed. Matt McCarty responded that they can probably take one or two externships students, either at The Vancouver Clinic location or Orchards location. He also stated that they can move students around to different locations in order to get all kinds of experience.

Bob Gustainis also reiterated that the 5 externship sites of the 14 are fully staffed with tenured technicians that would be a good training environment.

**REMOTE LEARNING/NEW TEXTBOOK**

Heidi Fay investigated a new textbook that can be used for lab that has amazing online resources. All the textbooks from this publisher are already aligned with the ASHP objectives. She is hoping that she can match, adjust and refine to be able to use the new lab book to be able to meet the hours.

The lab for 114 is in person two days a week. There are 11 students. Heidi is trying to plan ahead in case they needed to go remote. They use the NRx QS1 retail pharmacy software in their labs. This publisher has online resources that simulate activities almost exactly. They also have insurance processing and billing. It has been very resourceful because the students have been able to have extra practice.

**INDUSTRY UPDATES**

Matt McCarty stated that Fred Meyer lost 75% of their technicians over the last two years. They have covered about half of that. There are usually 9-10 techs, but they are currently at 7 technicians. It is hard to replace those with a lot of experience. Any store is down 1-2 technicians. It’s down not necessarily from COVID, but from before that.

Bob Gustainis spoke on Walgreens being covered. However, it’s because they have a lot of apprentice technicians. They haven’t lost a ton of technicians. He will still have at least 5 trainings sites open for Clark College. He is 100% behind the Pharmacy Tech program. He believes that the technicians of this program are at the top.

Zachary McCall stated that Legacy is down technicians. They had done a huge push in the beginning of the year. They recently implemented some salary increases as well as sign on bonuses in hopes that it will help. He is not getting a whole lot of applicants.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04pm

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters