

**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE -MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 3rd, 2020 \* 4:00-5:30p.m.**

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

**Members Present:** Zach McCall (Vice-Chair), Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center; Rene Bloemke, Net-RX; Bob Gustainis, Walgreens; Anthony Mauer, PeaceHealth St. John’s Hospital; Matt McCarty, Fred Meyer; Sean Moore, Workforce SW

**Members Absent:** Cornel Brisc, Walgreens; Amy Houger, HeLa High School; Derrick Ogawa (Committee Chair), Brenda Tallent, Legacy Health

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

Committee Vice Chair Zach McCall called the meeting to order at 4:03pm and introductions were made.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

*The minutes of June 4th, 2020 were presented for approval. Bob Gustainis motioned to approve, Rene Bloemke seconded and was unanimously approved.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The committee will next meet on **Thursday, May 13th, 2021 at 4:00pm.**

**PROGRAM UPDATES**

Brenda Walstead wanted to thank the committee for their letters. The committee was instrumental in the decision dictated by the college. She announced that the Pharmacy Tech program will be back in action as of fall 2021. The program also gets to hire a tenure track faculty member. YAY! Zachary McCall was very happy to hear that the program will continue to be offered. Brenda asked the committee members to get the news back out to the community that the program will be back up and running. She also stated that as the committee starts to plan and coordinate the return of the program, they might ask the committee members to participate in marketing efforts that include interviews, statements, and video cameos.

Heidi Fay is very excited that the program will be back up and running.

Brenda Walstead met with PeaceHealth SW that included the President and VPI to potentially coordinate a health fair. This would include Pharmacy Tech. There has been discussion about a panel, discussion or forum, however it would need to be online. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated. Zachary McCall said he would love to participate. Bob Gustainis suggested bringing a pharmacist and a technician.

Renee Schiffhauer asked about the format. Would there be break out rooms via zoom? Advising has done some transfer fairs where students can go into the breakout rooms where the school they are interested in is at. If students are allowed to jump back and forth with a specific host can be really beneficial. We can support the students coming back into the program and new students interested. Zachary McCall agreed that this layout works very well.

Heidi Fay will reach out to past graduates to see if they might be interested in attending and chatting with new or current students.

**OTHER NEWS?**

Brenda Walstead asked to hear any suggestions from the committee for what happens for the future.

Bob Gustainis asked if the new curriculum will include training to do immunizations. Heidi Fay responded saying that they won’t be training students to do them but they that they do talk about it. It is part of the ASHP requirements.

Zachary McCall stated that Pharmacy Technicians are authorized under the new emergency COVID procedures to do immunizations. It will probably remain going into the future. Heidi Fay would need to get trained. APHA has a very good immunization training program. The real question is if these programs are able to certify Pharmacy techs. Matt McCarty confirmed that they currently have a pharmacy manger is certified to train the technicians and get them certified. They just need CPR certifications afterwards.

Rene Bloemke agreed that technicians could potentially be doing immunizations for pneumococcal and full vaccines far into the future.

The committee spoke about the antibody tests and COVID vaccines. Matt McCarty stated that many of their Fred Meyer technicians can do almost the entire process. However, the finger poke with the capillary draw of blood is still off the table. But eventually, it is looking they will be able to start to do it.

Stated that by doing this type of training will definitely elevate the role of the technician. Their company just introduced a new position called the RX Operations Manager. The technicians will have the opportunity to step into a leadership role in the pharmacy. They will be handling performance management, hiring, training, etc. It is a stepping stone directly to store manager. Brenda Walstead connected this type of role to the AAT degree in Pharmacy Management.

Rene Bloemke talked about how in the past, high school pharmacy has leaned more towards the technicians for management.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31pm

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters