



SURG - MINUTES
Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 12:00 PM
Zoom

Members Present: Lauri Luepke, Brian Adair, Jason Masuoka, Josh Dodd, Kristi Almquist, Pete, Ilona, Sean Moore

Members Absent: Keri Ferraro, Stacy Anderson, Karin LaValla, Jessica Bunnell

Clark College: Scot Headley, Elizabeth Flores, Alejandra Maciulewicz, Sarah Kuzera, Kathy Chennault, Olga, Beth Jochim

The meeting began at 12:02 PM.

NEXT MEETING DATE

May 16th, 2024, at Noon.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The previous minutes from November 16th, 2023, were approved.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR UPDATES

Beth shared that the program has undergone three job searches for the Surgical Tech Program Director position. The program plans to hire someone in the next two months as the position is offered with a tenure position.

Beth shared that Scot was instrumental in that the position was offered as tenure.

Scot shared there have been great candidates and the recruiters reported they are well qualified, but the college is meeting a diversity component. At a recent board meeting, Scot shared that Beth Jochim presented the Surgical Tech Program, and the board had great feedback and interest in the program.

Kathy inquired about hiring someone through the Heat Grant for a temporary position but is unsure if the position meets the qualifications.

Pete asked how active the local professional organization AST is and if we can leverage that organization to push this position.

Brian mentioned Oregon's AST is very active with a strong marketing component and WA AST is a fully functional organization but presents not as active as Oregon. Brian will reach out to the president of AST.

Scot requested feedback regarding diversity within the industry.

Kristi expressed that industry has historically lacked diversity.

SURG

Advisory Committee Meeting

February 22, 2024

ACCREDITATION

Beth informed the committee that the program has been submitted for state accreditation. We can expect to hear back by May 1st, 2024, at the latest.

Beth mentioned many students have been inquiring weekly about the prerequisites needed to enter the program. Because the program has been advised not to say anything until approval, Beth has communicated to students to follow up with her in March for an update.

Brian stated that colleagues at PeaceHealth have brought up the news press about the program.

Beth welcomes everyone to contact her regarding news and updates.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Beth discussed the need for the program's yearly schedule.

Beth shared that the program would have five quarters in total, two of which are prerequisites.

Beth worked with the intention of student workers in mind. The plan is to have students come to campus one day a week on Tuesdays and clinical days.

Beth asked for input on the yearly schedule.

Kristi inquired about cohort size and prerequisites.

Beth mentioned that the maximum number of twenty-five students and prerequisites are available online. The program will have a fall and spring start with two cohorts yearly. The first cohort may be a winter start if the college cannot get a program director soon.

PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY

Scot requested feedback about the program's accessibility to students and schedule flexibility.

Josh inquired about open lab time and office hours, which will be a factor when hiring a program director.

Brian asked if there are accommodations for people with previous education for prerequisite classes.

Pete recommended that high school students outreach and offer local facility tours.

Josh recommended on-campus seminars or industry speakers.

Beth mentioned that PeaceHealth will be donating supplies through the Heat Grant. Beth asked if there were any expired equipment, supplies, or useful tools that students could use in the program.

Please reach out to her.

Pete asked for a list of needs Spokane College shared with Beth to see what supplies are needed.

OUTREACH AND MARKETING

Beth has worked with marketing at Clark to promote the program, and Beth welcomed the members to share the QR codes.

Beth will also do an information session if the industry sees a need.

Alejandra will share the MA checklist for outreach.

Beth inquired about education reimbursement.

Josh mentioned Providence does, and Josh will provide contacts with Beth.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Beth inquired about hiring needs for the field.

Kristi has had constant openings for surgical techs.

Josh mentioned there is a need for Surgical Techs. Currently, ten openings need to be filled.

Pete noted that industry-wide, there is a substantial need.

SURG
Advisory Committee Meeting
February 22, 2024

MOTIONS

Kristi motioned to call for a vote to expedite the college to make the hire as soon as possible for the program director. Josh seconded the motion, and the committee, all in favor, approved.

The meeting adjourned at 12:56 PM.

Prepared by Elizabeth Flores