



Surgical Tech -MINUTES
Thursday, May 16th, 2024, at Noon.
Zoom

Members Present: Peter Mersereau, Jessica Bunnell, Brian Adair, Keri Ferraro, Sean Moore, Josh Dodd, Karin LaValla, Jason Masuoka

Members Absent: Lauri Luepke, Kristi Almquist, Ilona Tkachenko, Stacy Anderson

Clark College: Scot Headley, Beth Jochim, Olga Lyubar, Elizabeth Flores

The meeting began at 12:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will meet next on October 10th, 2024, at Noon.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from February 22nd, 2024, were approved.

COLLEGE UPDATES

Scot discussed the upcoming interviews for the Vice President of Instruction position in the next two days.

Scot shared that the upcoming Healthcare Camp for the Allied Health programs will begin on June 25th-27th, 2024.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Beth shared that the program is waiting for an update from the state.

Beth expressed strong student interest in the program and submitted numerous weekly inquiries.

The college is unable to promote the program until it obtains approval.

Beth shared that the program applied for the HEET Grant and will receive an update by July 2024.

The program has requested marketing and equipment and has focused on hiring the program director.

The program has interviewed candidates for the director position and will soon extend an offer. The new director will move forward with curriculum building and developing the courses alongside Beth.

Beth noted the first cohort may potentially begin spring of 2025.

Scot noted that the program will be offered on the Washington State University Vancouver campus, and the later start will allow for more marketing and outreach.

INDUSTRY FEEDBACK

Brian mentioned that there is significant interest and discussion about the program within the hospital.

Sean asked about entry-level pay.

Brian discussed wages and noted that the starting wage is around \$28-30 per hour. Due to the strikes, this field remains competitive.

Josh responded that entry-level pay is around the high 20s and low 30s, depending on the institution's size. The usual work shifts are 10 to 12 hours per day over a span of 3 to 4 days.

Brian stated that PeaceHealth work shifts are 4-10's.

Pete discussed the financial possibilities and growth in this career. Pete offered to donate supplies.

Beth is reviewing the supplies and equipment inventory. The director will also help guide what we need and review the state instrument checklist.

Keri asked for the contact person to connect with so that Kaiser partners and the College can discuss outreach and student informational resources.

Scot offered to connect with them to share more details about the Allied Health programs.

Keri discussed community hiring needs, strikes, and reviewed contracts. There are many unfilled positions and a need for surgical techs.

Brian noted Peace Health is very short-staffed.

Josh observed that Providence is short-staffed, and Surgical Techs possess a highly valuable and marketable skillset.

ACTION ITEMS

The committee will review the bylaws.

The faculty lead, committee, and advisory coordinator will review the work plan for the 2024-25 academic year.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Prepared by Elizabeth Flores