



SURG TECH -MINUTES
February 27th, 2025, at 12:00 PM
Zoom

Members Present: Keri Ferraro (Committee Chair) Internal Organizer, OFNHP; Brian Adair (Vice-Chair) Assistant Program Manager, PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center; Jessica Bunnell, Manager Products Surgical Services, PeaceHealth

Guests:

Members Absent: Peter Mersereau, Director of Surgical Interventional, and Emergency Services, PeaceHealth; Lauri Luepke, Surgical Tech, Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital; Ilona Tkachenko, Surgical Tech, PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center; Stacy Anderson, Surgical Tech, The Vancouver Clinic; Sean Moore, Senior Project Manager, Workforce SW WA; Josh Dodd, Operating Room Manager, Providence Portland Medical Center; Karin LaValla, Business Services Consultant, WorkSource; Jason K Masuoka, Surgical Tech, Salem Hospital

Labor Representative:

Clark College: Jim Reynolds, Department Chair, Clark College; Andreama DiGiorgio, Program Specialist 2, Clark College; Jessica Hash, Academic Advisor, Clark College; Justin Stokes, Jordan Wilcox, Recruiter and Partner Relations for Surgical Tech, Clark College, Elizabeth Flores, Advisory Coordinator, Clark College

The meeting began at 12:01 PM

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will meet next on Thursday, June 12th, 2025.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting on October 10th, 2024, could not be approved due to a lack of quorum. An electronic poll will be sent out for approval.

POLL VOTES MARCH 12, 2025

**The committee approved the bylaws and the previous minutes from October 10, 2024.*

ACCREDITATION REVIEW COUNCIL

Jim emphasized the necessity of filling positions per the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA). The program is seeking a Surgeon, Anesthesiologist, and Physician, and welcomed feedback from the committee.

Keri asked if they need to work in Washington. Jim responded that no, individuals do not have to work in Washington.

Employer vs. Employee Ratio Requirements

Elizabeth clarified the need to fulfill equal representation of employee and employer representation in the advisory committee.

Elizabeth defined an employee as an individual employed in an industry sector closely aligned with the instructional program or pathway represented by the advisory committee. This includes managers, supervisors, or front-line employees as documented by the college.

Elizabeth defined an employer as a hiring authority, owner, or partner in an industry sector closely aligned with the instructional program or pathway represented by the advisory committee.

CLINICAL SITE AVAILABILITY/RESIDENCY PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

Jim mentioned that the program is preparing to accept a cohort of up to 24 students. He inquired about committee feedback on how many positions hospitals are prepared to offer to the students.

Jim discussed the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) educator conference partnerships with institutions. Students could apply for a residency, internship, or on-the-job training with pay, with some incentives such as a signing bonus.

Jim shared benefits of this pathway and discussed creating a proposal to share with the committee and asked if the committee had interest in the proposal.

Keri discussed another bill available for on-the-job training.

INSTRUMENTS AND SUPPLIES

Jim announced that the program is about to purchase equipment from Seattle tech and asked committee members if they have any OR tables, stirrups, or kick buckets they can donate, sell, or loan to the program before the purchase.

Keri noted that she will connect with Jim regarding the instruments.

Jim inquired about the availability of instrument loans to help students get familiar with them. The program is looking for specialty-specific instruments.

Jim discussed the need for additional staff for the program: a full-time clinical coordinator and adjunct lab and clinical instructors. Jim will provide more information on these positions and whether committee members would like to share this information.

Brian recommended reaching out to medical device companies and offered to reach out to reps he knows to connect Jim.

Jim noted that the program has contacted medical device companies but has not found much success.

CLINICAL SITE AVAILABILITY

Jim inquired whether members could provide information on the policies and procedures regarding clinical instructors. Specifically, he asked how often a clinical instructor needs to be present in the building and what requirements are in place for clinical instructors when students are present. How frequently do they need to be there?

Andreana discussed history with other Allied Health programs and noted that the coordinator is not always present. However, the program can brainstorm ways to make it work.

Keri pointed out that each facility partnered with the various colleges operates under different contracts. It is likely that once the sites finalize the details, they will be provided with the expected requirements.

Jessica noted PeaceHealth has a smaller offering room so they could take on one student.

Brian noted that they host students from various institutions, including Concord College and Mt. Hood Community College. They can accommodate up to three students at a time. Having recently expanded their team and reached full staffing, they can support students effectively.

BYLAWS

The bylaws will be shared via a poll for committee review, feedback and approval.

WORKPLAN

Jim reviewed the work plan and welcomed committee feedback.

ACTION ITEMS

Jim will share a list of equipment needs.

Elizabeth will share a poll with the committee for approval of the bylaws, work plan and previous minutes.

INDUSTRY FEEDBACK

Jim welcomed industry feedback

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim shared that Jordan Wilcox will support the program with marketing, creating flyers, pamphlets, and attending student recruiting events.

Jim has requested that all committee members submit their resumes to be kept on file. This can include both past and current resumes, as long as the program has them for its records. The committee needs a resume or biographical summary for each member, along with evidence of credentials for physicians and surgical technicians, provided that their current job is listed.

The program anticipated a site visit on January 21-22, 2027.

Jim's email: JReynolds@clark.edu

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM

Surgical Technology
Advisory Committee Meeting
February 27th, 2025

Prepared by Elizabeth Flores