

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Division of Health Professions
Emergency Medical Sciences
Advisory Committee Meeting – December 3, 2010

PRESENT: Justin Hunter Patrick Cody
Leaugeay Barnes Terri Walker
Harvey Conner Brent Stafford
Sean Lauderdale Charlie Swearingen
Lance Breeden Shelly Tevis
Paul Shipley

1. Introductions

Dr. Cody brought the meeting to order and began with introductions. He introduced Charlie Swearingen as new full-time faculty.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Update

- Accreditation CAAHEP

Leaugeay announced that the program had received the full 5 year accreditation from the National Registry. The program was asked to move some clinical hours from PCIII to PCIV. This is actually beneficial since they are now required to have an orientation for internship preceptors. Shelly and Leaugeay are currently working on that. The program primarily uses EMSTAT, Midwest City, and EMSA for field preceptorships. Student now choose their own preceptor in PCIII and students turn their preceptor's information in before beginning PCIV. The site visitors did recommend that the program beginning looking at adding another full-time faculty position. An additional faculty member helps with continuity in the program. Lance Breeden added that, as an adjunct, there is a lot of additional paperwork and processes to learn when teaching EMS classes rather than just showing up to teach.

- Online Faculty

Leaugeay announced that the program has recently hired Bob Page as adjunct faculty. He is currently teaching the online PCIV class. He will be helping Harvey with the online components and will be teaching ECG in the summer.

- NEMSAC/CoAEMSP site visitor appointment

Leaugeay was recently appointed to the National EMS Advisory Council. Her first meeting is in December. She is also a site visitor for accreditation now.

- Recommend FT

The program would like to add an additional full-time faculty member as recommended by the site visitors. Discussion within the College involves changing the program to have one entry of 20 traditional students per year. The National Registry is moving towards having all EMS programs accredited which would reduce the number of programs in the state and increase enrollment for the program. Several EMS groups are collaborating to support accreditation for EMS programs and Leaugeay feels the date for programs to be accredited will not be moved back again.

- NR Pilot program- Elite 8

The program received an award from the National Registry for being one of eight programs to participate in their pilot program. They are now expanding the pilot program to additional 24 programs.

3. Reports

- NR Pass Rates

In 2010, 12 attempted and 12 have passed. Half of those were online students and half were traditional students. This is the first group of online students that have graduated.

- Enrollment and Attrition

Enrollment is continuing to increase. Leaugeay feels that part of the programs attrition issue is due to the increased use of adjuncts in teaching the paramedic courses. There are so many additional processes in teaching those courses that make it difficult for adjunct faculty to learn if they are not continually able to teach. Leaugeay used Lance Breeden as an example. He's been with the program for about two years and he feels like he just now feels like he has a good grasp of everything involved. Adjunct instructors are not here as much and full-time faculty are, which makes them more assessable for students and learning.

Harvey Conner was assigned to both PCI classes this semester in order to increase retention. Leaugeay commended Harvey for his great work with them. They started with 26 students which is the largest online class the program has had. They are currently have 18 enrolled. The traditional started with 20 and currently has 15. All students should pass providing they pass the final.

The program focus is currently on retention without lowering their standards. Leaugeay just completed the annual report and it shows a very small increase in retention. Harvey noted that some attrition problems are related to students who have to drop out of their cycle because of pre/co-requisites that need to be completed. Human Anatomy and Physiology courses are much more rigorous now and some students may need to attempt those courses more than once before they can continue in the program. Dr. Cody commented that students need to take Human Anatomy and Physiology before taking Pharmacology. Although that is not a requirement in the program, due to the nature of the course patterns, most students have taken Human Anatomy and Physiology before

Pharmacology. This semester some advisors signed off on enrollment forms to allow lower-level students into Pharmacology and they are not doing as well.

4. Asynchronous Hybrid

- TTC approved by OSDH

OSDH has approved another online program out of Tulsa Tech. While that could be competition for our online program, we do have more students from the Tulsa area now and our pass rates are better than Tulsa Tech's. Students have written letters to the president stating they are coming to our program based on our pass rates.

5. SEMTA

- National EMS Memorial Bike Ride '10

The Student EMT Association is becoming more active. Shelly and Leaugeay took the students to Colorado last June to participate in the National EMS bike ride. The students had a really good time participating in something nationally and plan to do it again this year.

- Mini-Conference: Feb 17 & 18

SEMTA is also putting on a mini-conference for two days in February with Bob Page and Steve Berry. More information will be available soon.

- National EMS Memorial Bike Ride '11

SEMTA will again be participating in the bike ride in June and they are looking for anyone that would like to participate. It will be a three day ride from Wyoming to Colorado.

- Online Refresher

The program was approved to have the first online refresher in the state beginning in January. There will be one day where students will have to come in and do their skills check-offs. Proceeds from the refresher go help to assist with SEMTA activities.

- Mark Rippetoe presentation

The most common injury in EMS is back injuries. SEMTA will be sponsoring Mark Rippetoe who will be coming into the PCI class to teach lifting and exercises to avoid back injuries. We're also offering it to EMS employees of our clinical sites.

6. Committee Input

- Needs of Community

Sean Lauderdale and Paul Shipley both stated that they need more paramedics. Mr. Lauderdale stated that there used to be more paramedic programs in the area. OSU-OKC program doesn't have the quality that they previously had and they don't participate in clinical at EMSTAT anymore. EMSTAT does not see many applicants from OSU-OKC or EOC. They hired 6 paramedics from the OCCC graduating class last semester and they had to work hard to get them. They would hire 15 more paramedics if the program had them.

Mr. Conner stated that Midwest City will be losing 15 employees between now and next school year. They will be moving into nursing careers and 80% are paramedics which will all have to be replaced. Mr. Lauderdale stated that the OCCC program is the foundation from which they find their employees so cutbacks in how many that are graduating directly affect and concern them. EMSA budgeted for 80 transports a day in OKC in 1998 and they now have over 240 transports a day which requires more paramedics.

Justin Hunter mentioned that OU, Baptist, and Integris have also opened up many new paramedic positions in their emergency rooms and in some ICU's.

- **Graduates/Curriculum /Program**

Leaugeay discussed the fire mentor program. It was put on hold but she's talking again with Tammy McKinley to get that restarted now that the economy is picking back up. It was originally started because the fire department could not find quality paramedics and they identified the OCCC program as a quality program that produced students with positive affectives.

The program is looking at starting an application process minimally in the fall but nothing as stringent as the nursing program applications.

The peer mentor program is helping the program as well. It requires more work for the faculty that are already stressed. However, the students really like it. It is more organized than previously and PCIII is now mentoring basic students.

- **Recommendations to enhance response to surveys**

Employer surveys were discussed. The committee suggested that the surveys be handed out at the advisory meetings as a way of getting a better response if employers were present.

7. As May Occur

Dr. Cody adjourned the meeting.