

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Division of Health Professions

Emergency Medical Sciences

Advisory Committee Meeting – June 1, 2010

PRESENT: Justin Hunter Patrick Cody
Leaugeay Barnes Terri Walker
Harvey Conner Brent Stafford
Jeannie Beaty Greg Gardner
Jo Ann Cobble Jennifer Dodson
Lance Breeden Shelly Tevis
Larry Terry Sherri Givens

1. Introductions

Dr. Cody brought the meeting to order and began with introductions.

2. Update

Dr. Cobble announced that enrollment has increased so much so that the level of activity for program directors and office staff has significantly increased as well in the last few years. She also stated that current figures are estimating the enrollment for Fall will be up 17%. She noted that the Division and EMS program is grateful to our adjuncts, clinical and lab instructors.

3. Re-Accreditation

Dr. Cobble reminded everyone that the EMS program had their site visit last fall and were asked to provide some information that neither of the site visitors had in either of their programs. The staff and faculty came together though and worked hard to provide the information. Currently, it has been reviewed and although we don't have written confirmation of approval, they have verbally given their approval. Leaugeay stated we should expect something in September from them.

4. NR Pass Rates

Leaugeay announced that the program just graduated their first online class. Retention is better for online class than for traditional. Online classes tend to be more locked in and continue in the program since their classes are only offered one time a year. Attrition continues to be an issue. Peer mentoring program is still going on and the students seem to like it. First time paramedic pass rates for 2008 was 88%. 2nd attempt was 100%.

Jo Ann noted that Harvey Conner developed the course content for the online program and the program has had good comments from the students. The first semester the online students were making better scores than traditional students. Jo Ann commended Harvey for his work and dedication to the online courses and students. Leaugeay noted that a big

concern was for the online program was the students practical skills but they have performed at or above the traditional students level.

5. Program Changes

a) NR Pilot Program

The EMS program was chosen as one of eight schools as part of the NR pilot program. It is now going to be extended out to 24 programs nationwide. This next batch is now opened up to volunteers.

b) Medical Director Involvement/Gatekeeper

Dr. Cody noted that some changes have been made to the gatekeeper section of the program. A written test was added so that each student would have a standardized amount of information that they would be responsible for. Each student came in early to take the test at the first part of their rotation and then spent the rest of time doing other skills that were more beneficial to them. They all did very well and the caliber of students seemed better than in the previous year. Dr. Cody noted that he could not tell a difference between the online and traditional students. Normally he didn't know who was online and who was traditional although a few did tell them through the course of their conversations that they were online.

Harvey asked the group about the need for further information and education for our EMS students regarding STEMI alert systems. He noted that it is addressed in ECG but he wondered, after speaking with former students, if there is a further need for this information, should it be extended into other courses. Larry Terry stated that if there was room in the current curriculum to include it then it would be a great benefit for the students in regards to marketability as well as knowledge out on the truck. Justin Hunter noted that regardless of whether or not a Paramedic may know the information, the final determination lies with the physician in the ER and they may not trust the Paramedics assessment of the situation. Harvey noted that in order for this to change we need more Paramedics that know the information and that trust can be developed with the physicians.

c) Pharmacology

Leaugeay stated that they are rewriting the Pharmacology curriculum and implementing it this summer so hopefully there will be improvement in the student's pharmacology education. The tests are going to be more critical thinking based instead of just knowledge level. Dr. Cody noted that this started last year when students came through the Gatekeeper portion and they failed to know which drug was needed for what problem. He stated that students felt that pharmacology wasn't very important to focus on and remember.

6. Enrollment and Completion

a) Basic

b) Paramedic

c) Online

There are two sections of Basic offered this summer with current enrollment at 63. Leageay noted that this is double from last summer. In spring and fall there are typically four sections. Last semester (Spring 2010) the program started with 28 and ended with 18 in PCI. Leageay noted that attrition is not great but it could be attributed to the fact that we are using more adjuncts and there is a huge learning curve for them.

7. Committee Input on Graduates/Curriculum/Program

Larry Terry noted that students from this EMS program usually move through their facilities own in-house training process faster than other students. They usually do very well. He noted that the increased focus on pharmacology is will be beneficial.

Shelly noted there has been a shift and more students now want to go to Parkview instead of the metro sites. Jeanie noted that Parkview's name may be changing with some changes going on within their facility but students are more than welcome to attend clinicals there.

9. As May Occur

The Student Association (SEMTA) is moving forward. They decided they wanted to do the EMS Memorial Bike Ride in Colorado later in June. A couple will be riding and couple will be in the support van. They are paying for the trip out of their association funds. If anyone is interested in coming they are more than welcome. Many of them have become CPR instructors and are also helping teach our CPR classes.

Dr. Cody adjourned the meeting at 3:15pm.