

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Division of Health Professions

Emergency Medical Sciences
Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting – 8 December, 2006

Attending:

Harvey Conner
Brent Stafford
Bruce Farris
Brum Varalli Claypool
Kevin Earnest
Paul Marmen
Shawn Rogers
Gary Loard
Billy Shipp
A.K. Harvey D.O.
Terri Walker
Justin Tuck
D'Neen Barbour
Sherri Givens
Larry Terry
Leaugeay Barnes
Debby Martinez
Shelly Tevis
Dr. Jo Ann Cobble

1. Introduction

In Dr. Franz's absence Leaugeay Barnes asked Jo Ann Cobble to chair the meeting. The meeting was then called to order and introductions were made.

2. College Update

Jo Ann had information on the Administrative Procedure for Advisory Committees which was given to everyone present. In following with the guidelines and procedures the members will be receiving an appointment letter in the Spring. The guidelines show the outline of the functions of an advisory committee. Jo Ann thanked the members for attending and serving.

Jo Ann was hopeful that the construction crew would break ground by the first of the year on the addition to Health Professions. There are things happening behind the scenes but are not visual. The new building will be a two story addition with new rooms and offices for the EMS and other Health Professions programs.

Jo Ann heard from Ray Simpson who had an accident and is recovering from surgery at McBride.

The campus will be closed from December 22nd through Jan 2nd. The college system will be down during this time and this includes e-mails.

The campus is looking at the need for soft skills at a professional level to better equip the faculty. The sexual harassment training is mandatory for every fulltime, part-time and adjunct employed at the college. This is important to the college since the faculty acts as a role model for the students.

Jo Ann advised the group that we now have a new president at the college and they are in search for a new Vice President to fill that vacancy.

After summer the Nursing Program will take over all the Pharmacology classes except for one that will remain with the EMS Program.

3. Enrollment & Completion

There were 28 students enrolled in PC I last semester and at the end of the semester there were 26 on the rolls. There were 20 enrolled in PC II. The program continues to increase the focus on the success of the student and what standards we incorporate to make the student successful. Another thing that needs to be addressed is student retention. PC I have 12 enrolled for next semester and that is good since the class does not start until January. Harvey Conner is looking into implementing the GEMS curriculum, Geriatric Education for Emergency Medical Services in the PC I program. Since the population is growing older and will be the majority of the patient base, treating them appropriately is an area we are concerned with. The PC I group was better this semester in getting paperwork in on-time.

Harvey Conner had a graduate visit with him and discussed a hiring review board for students that will be entering the work force. The college has programs and workshops to develop a resume and teach students how to go through the interview process. Harvey said these processes can be tapped into for the PC I.

The new computer based clinical scheduling and tracking was discussed and will be implemented soon. The student and faculty can keep up with clinical hours and other things related to their clinicals.

The Health Professions Division is the only division on campus at this time that is showing an increase in enrollment this semester.

The increases are based on some increase in the EMS Program plus the Nursing Program is starting a new program in June. In August the division will be offering junior level courses for OU's Baccalaureate program on our campus.

4. CAT

- Jan. 07
- Increase success on Beta

Shawn Roger's discussed the computer adaptive testing for the NREMT. The NREMT will no longer be offered other than the computer adaptive testing. The student will answer questions until they can no longer answer them correctly then the computer test will go back to the level in which the student can answer. The new testing will be very convenient for the student but the cost will be higher. The student will still have to pass the state practical test. The registry still writes the exam and every test is unique.

5. Clinical Report

Leaugeay asked Shelly to discuss the clinicals. Shelly started on a positive note that the program has a great group of clinical instructors. The program is tightening the regulation of the clinical instructors and they in turn are passing it on the students. The program is entering crisis mode in obtaining clinical slots. Shelly had attended a NESAs meeting and commented on how structured and organized they were but they were facing the same shortages. Since NESAs negotiates first they get first pick and EMS gets what is left. Shelly asked if anyone had connections at the hospitals or ideas of any other place that may have a clinical available for our students. Leaugeay added that the clinical experience needs to be beneficial to the student. Dr. Harvey had volunteered to do pediatric rotations with the students. The students actually see normal well baby with Dr. Harvey and were doing vitals with the PA and in special situations were able to give injections. When Dr. Harvey had situations of interest he would pull the student in to observe.

The students have attended the Norman VA for a geriatric experience. This semester there was a change in personnel at the Norman VA so there were a few issues, but overall the base of geriatrics was better for the student than in the past track.

Paul Marmen commented that after the first of the year there should improvement at OU for the clinicals. The Children's ER will be moving to Everett Tower.

Leaugeay asked D'neen Barbour from Norman Hospital to put light on some of the issues on trying to get EMS on the NESAs schedule. If the EMS Program is not on the NESAs list, she has been advocating for the EMT's. The Norman Hospital has their paramedics incorporated within the hospital so their issues are not as pressing. D'Neen explained how NESAs worked. The hospitals and schools

meet and decide who gets the clinical spots and when this process is complete the clinical openings left go to the EMS programs. Since OCCC has history with several of the hospitals they were willing to be put OCCC on the NESAs schedule. Leaugey suggested going to the individual hospitals to obtain clinical sites. Shawn Rogers said it sounds like time to go to the Oklahoma County Medical Society and plead the case. Shawn suggested we go together to form a larger group. Shelly thanked Rosemary Klepper and Debbie Myers for helping to standardize and bring a unity to OCCC's health programs.

6. Courses

- Refreshers

The refresher courses are instructed by volunteers with the proceeds going into the EMS fund. The corporate learning center does receive part of the proceeds.

- Critical Care Progress

A special topic class was discussed with a time line possibly Fall 07. CAT requires training above paramedic level and they are expensive. The paramedics need to be more proficient especially with central lines and chest tubes. Kevin Earnest agreed that the paramedics needed more exposure but would eventually get it from on the job training. An additional course would be beneficial.

7. Committee Input on Graduates

There is still a shortage of paramedics. Larry Terry commented that they had hired 15 new paramedics recently. Leaugey added that the PC II group was a stronger group.

8. As May Occur

Leaugey informed the group that Dr. Franz agreed to continue being the medical director until a new one has been found.

There was a discussion of putting some courses online but having the skills section remain in a classroom environment.

EMS as a profession does have money issues. Shawn Roger's asked how does the paramedic progress? The bridge from Paramedic to RN was discussed and Justin Tuck commented on how it seemed to be a double standard. The Paramedic has a two year degree but yet enters into the bridge program as the one year LPN would.

Jo Ann thanked everyone for their ideas and input then adjourned the meeting.