

# OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Division of Health Professions

### Emergency Medical Sciences

#### Advisory Committee Meeting – 23 May, 2008

PRESENT: Bruce Farris  
James Hale  
David Seng  
Larry Terry  
Timothy A. Soult  
Rusty Rooms  
Susan Jones  
Albert Harvey  
Felix Aquino  
Terri Walker  
Shelly Tevis  
Shawn Rogers  
Leaugeay Barnes  
Debby Martinez

#### **1. Introductions**

Shelly Tevis called the meeting to order for Leaugeay Barnes who was late due to her attendance as Medic of the Day at the Capitol. Introductions were made.

#### **2. Update**

Dr. Aquino reported that at the end of the academic year there were approximately 1100 degrees awarded. For the upcoming year they are hiring eight or nine new faculty for other divisions in the college. The two new state of the art buildings, The Visual & Performing Arts Center and the New Health Professions Center are approximately 50,000 square feet each and are coming online this next year. All of the Health Profession Division except nursing will be moving into the new building. The furnishings for the new building have been ordered. When Health Professions move out of the Health Technology building it will become a Social Science Center. Nursing and EMS will be coming together in the same building. Not scheduling classes until the spring 09, but if it is ready prior to they will move to the new classes. Feature of this building a real live ambulance that the EMS students will have hands on and also a fully furnished apartment for OTA.

#### **3. Enrollment & Completion**

The summer EMT class had 35 students enrolled with a cap of 30 and since the state guidelines do not allow over that amount it was split into two classes. At this time

there are 9 enrolled in Paramedic Care I traditional class with the addition of a Paramedic Care I going online. Harvey Conner will be creating the curriculum for the pilot online Paramedic Care I class. The word is getting out and there have been several interested in the online program. (Leageay is doing an online pilot for the fall. The National Registry has agreed to support the online class.) Shawn Rogers with the Oklahoma Department of Health said as long as the correct documentation and support is in place it should be approved. This program will give rural EMS the availability for people that are working and retain the standards of the program. Harvey Conner is developing the curriculum with the assistance of Bill Hill with Online Learning.

Paramedic Care I was cancelled in the Spring due to low enrollment. There was a rumor that EMSA was starting their own one year program but the state has not received an application for such a course yet. They were unsure what attributed to the low enrollment but the enrollment in the upcoming semesters seems solid. Employers of EMS are having difficulty finding people and the college can not find students. The college has been recruiting at high schools and health career fairs but the bottom line is that a student could attend nursing school for same amount of time and would make considerably more money.

Nursing has an excellent applicant pool but they turn away about two thirds of the applicants. Dr. Aquino suggested a list of the names that did not get into the nursing program be compiled and send them letters to invite them into the EMS programs. There have been several paramedics that are going into the nursing also. There is more funding for the nursing compared to paramedics and just overall fewer incentives to become paramedics. The public does not hear about paramedics as much as nurses and firefighters.

#### **4. NR Report / CBT Results-Nat'l, State, OCCC**

The current pass rate on the national level is 63-64% and the state is a little below that. The last review of the pass rate for OCCC was in the 70's. The program has been rewriting test work into the level of exams to help with the pass rates. There were several graduates in the state that have not taken the national registry and the feedback on why this occurred was they did not get enough confidence from the class (other facilities not OCCC).

## **5. Accreditation Reports & Surveys**

**The survey results of the graduates from OCCC were that 100% felt that they were ready to take the test and they were very confident that they will pass on the first time.**

**Leageay reported that the accreditation report pass rates are increasing and the surveys are looking good. The employee's affective domain was low due to the small number of employers responding. There have been a couple of students with issues such as attitudes and lack of team playing but that area has been focused on an they are seeing an improvement.**

**The clinical instructors have a mandatory orientation and they are instructed to inform the students of what is expected of them in the area they will be. The clinical instructors have become more aggressive in matters and have even sent students home from clinical.**

**Shelly asked the committee for ideas to relieve the shortage of clinical spots for the paramedics. Lobbying to have EMS done outside of NESAs on their own schedule was suggested. Just being persistent and finding contacts that would have more pull to help locate these spots.**

## **6. Medic of the Day**

**Stacy Morton developed the medic of the day using the Oklahoma Medical Association model and the OMA was interested in having a person on the Coalition committee.**

- **Legislative curriculum PC I**

**The legislative curriculum has been added to Paramedic Care I students have to look up their Legislators and EMS Legislation Representatives we meet at the Capitol where they are encouraged to ask questions. This is teaching them how to be involved in their community and to protect their profession.**

- **AED Bill SEMTA**

**Harvey Conner, aed's in public school out of student assoc. with Harvey being the faculty advisors,**

## **7. Committee Input on Graduates / Curriculum**

Critical care was discussed as an online learning experience with campus skills. However after taking the class there was no differential in pay for the medic themselves. They are hopeful to see a national practice for critical care practice and extend into a paramedic practitioner program.

At this time the EMS educators are not even required to have an associate's degree. Discussion was that it should be a minimum of a bachelor's degree and even move it into masters, but at this point they will be satisfied with small steps.

The need for public awareness of the EMS statewide situation was communicated and a few suggestions were given. By contacting the local news channels for an interview, expanding the coalition family to include fire and nursing contacts. The programs could link with the Oklahoma Blood Institute during some of the busiest weekends of the year. Trauma care does get the most coverage but the news usually portrays it from the scene then the hospital. Also a National EMS promotional DVD would be a good avenue to show the excitement of the job. The issue of money for rural EMS led to the passing of bill 1918 where 2.5 million dollars a year.

If the facilities were aware of the cost savings that pre hospital care provided the hospitals would be more supportive of the EMS.

Leaugeay adjourned the meeting.