



Surgical Technology Program

Advisory Committee

May 21, 2013

Present:

Molly Attell, RN, Nurse Educator, Kaiser Santa Clara

Mary McKay, CST, Seton Medical Center

Mark Dorsey, Graduate ST

Mike Wasileski, CST, CRCST, Clinical Instructor

Malonnie Miller, Class President

Alice Erskine, RN, Program Instructor

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm

I. Status of the Program:

Retention: Twenty-two students were admitted to the program in June of 2012. Two students were unable to meet the Background Check requirements. Four dropped out due to personal issues and two failed two different classes. The remaining 14 are expected to complete the program.

Employment: Per the Graduate surveys of the 2011-2012 class, grads are still having a hard time obtaining employment possibly due to the slow economy. At this time only six out of the 17 have been placed. Since so few have been hired, there have been few Employer surveys returned (only 4). But all employers were satisfied with the training the grads received.

II. Quality Assurance and Program Evaluation:

Alice continues to evaluate the several classes using the college-required tools of Student Learning Outcomes. The outcomes show the program is meeting its goals of the students reaching high levels of knowledge and comprehension. In the next year, Alice will be tasked with assessing the students' computer literacy. She asked the committee's feedback regarding the Pharmacology assignment that requires students to do online research of a selected Ophthalmic medication and write a report. She shared the criteria for assessing this outcome and the members agreed this assignment is in compliance.

III. Curriculum Update: Mike completed his Lab manual and used it during the fall semester for SURG 441: Patient Care Concepts. Per Malonnie, the students seem to

find it useful, but she said they would like more pictures and more step-by-step instructions. Alice implemented the use of a new textbook, *Alexander's Surgical Procedures*. The students like the organization and the tips, but they still have difficulty finding time to complete the assigned reading, according to Malonnie.

- IV. Community Issues: Mary McKay was disappointed to report that California State Assembly Bill 2561 which required surgical technologists be certified to practice was vetoed by Governor Jerry Brown. The governor's rationale was that this is an area of concern to employers and not needed to protect the public. Molly Attell said her hospital is now requiring all STs be certified to be hired, or if they are new grads, they must sit for the exam within 6 months of being hired. She said the hospital's positions are not open to new grads at this time.
- V. Other news: The next class of surgical techs will include eight students who are part of a special cohort called the Career Advancement Academy. These students will have received some special classes to help prepare them for an Allied Health Career. However, they will not be included in the lottery. The goal is to facilitate students who represent underserved communities in their goal of obtaining employment. The remaining positions will be filled by applicants via the random selection process.

A new position has been created in the Science, Math, and Technology Department: Supervisor of Allied Health Programs. This person will report to the Dean and be responsible for the administration, quality assurance and disciplinary issues of these programs. The workload of the Dean and the many issues of these programs present requires someone who can be more readily available. The position is expected to be filled by June.

Respectfully submitted by

Alice Erskine, RN