



MA -MINUTES
Wednesday, November 16th, 2023, at Noon.
Zoom

Members Present: Eric Gonzalez, Sean Moore, Devon Elizabeth Ebbing, April Gapsch, Karin LaValla

Student: Karen Cabera-Rodriguez

Members Absent: Lynsey Benton, Laurie Helms, Pepper Miller,

Clark College: Scot, Sarah K, Olga, Alex Kison, Aaron Campbell, Elizabeth Flores

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee has scheduled a meeting on February 8th, 2024, at 5:30 PM via Zoom.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The previous minutes could not be approved because the committee did not meet quorum.

COLLEGE UPDATES

Introductions were made.

Scot discussed his background and new role as the Business & Health Sciences dean.

Boschma Farms is a new site for the college and will launch the Advanced Manufacturing program in the fall of 2025.

Scot has shared the strategic planning process, which is being implemented now, including community engagement and student outcomes.

Scot shared the new surgical tech program with Allied Health. The curriculum has been approved, and they had their first advisory committee meeting today. The program will admit the first group of students in the fall of 2024.

Scot shared that college-wide enrollment has increased by 10%, with significant growth in allied health courses.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Sarah participated in a healthcare pathways camp in June.

Sarah shared that the medical assistant pinning ceremony was in August 2023, and the upcoming pinning ceremony is already scheduled for August 2024. Industry members are encouraged to participate.

Sarah highlighted the Stem-O-Ween outreach event on October 28, 2023. The event attracts middle school and high school students who can engage in activities and learn more about the allied health programs.

Sarah mentioned that the Medical Assistant Advisory Committee board is expected to do a self-study by June 21, 2024.

Sarah announced a site visit on October 21st and 22nd, 2024, so the fall advisory committee meeting will be in person.

Sarah reported that ten students have graduated, of which seven have successfully passed the CMA examination. One student did not pass the CMA exam, and two have yet to take it. Currently, six students are employed as medical assistants or in equivalent professions.

Sarah said the program is still performing better than the national average.

Sarah noted that the College has experienced reduced enrollment in the last few years of the MA program.

Sarah informed us that there are currently 27 students enrolled in the MA program. Five are in the certificate proficiency (CP) program. Eight in the Associate of Applied Technology (AAT) business and management program. The future enrollment looks optimistic because 30 medical applications and paid application fees have been submitted.

Sarah observed that fifteen students have selected MA as their program path, but they have not yet submitted their application or fee, and they are currently taking their prerequisite courses.

Sarah shared that the program is in the process of hiring an MA recruiter for the winter term.

Sarah mentioned that the high demand grant from 2021 to 2023 has been extended to the MA program until 2025.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Sean inquired about the MA involvement in the Cascadia Tech Program K-12.

Sarah mentioned she had found an externship site for their senior students that allows them to complete their extern hours, get their 160 hours, and continue at Clark College. Sarah has some questions about Cascadia Tech since it's not accredited.

Sean Moore just received a grant for all healthcare roles and a list of employers who will be placed in preference, including Veterans Affairs Clinic, PeaceHealth, Legacy, and Walgreens.

The election of a committee chair and vice chair will be the first order of business in the next meeting.

Prepared by Elizabeth Flores