

**DENTAL HYGIENE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Monday, April 26, 2021 \* 6:00pm – 7:00pm**

**Zoom Online**

**Members Present**: Sheryl Armstrong, Steven Hokett, Salmon Creek Periodontics; Dr. Peter Lubisich, Vancouver Pediatric Dentistry, Dr. Derek Michaud, NW Affinity Dental, Kramer Ragan, RDH; Kaili Rutkowski, RDH; Jana Sarkkinen, RDH, Rose Family Dental

**Members Absent**: Melody Scheer, Retired RDH (Committee Chair); Ann Gilbert, University of Washington

**Clark College**: Kristi Taylor, Program Director; Brenda Walstead, Dean of BHS, Renee Schiffhauer, Advising, Terri Anderson, Program Coordinator, SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees, Stephen Quimby, Student

*Clark Instructors:* Glenna Afflerbaugh, Amy Ewing Johnson, Summer Gillas, Jean Gregory, Becky Herman, Michael Ludwig, Bobbi, Mash, Michelle Vincent

*Adjunct Instructors:* Alex Budey, Richard Grabowsky, DDS

Kramer Ragan called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of *November 9, 2020* were presented for approval. Kristi will send grammatical changes to SueAnn for updating. Motion to approve by Steven Hokett. Motion seconded by Jana Sarkkinen. APPROVED.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The committee will next meet on **Monday, November 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COLLEGE OR DEPARTMENTS**

Brenda made the following announcements:

* The Vice President of Instruction Dr. Sachi Horback is no longer with the college. Genevieve Howard is serving as Interim VPI until the position is posted and filled.
* Classes are moving toward hybrid and some face-to-face in the fall. The college hopes to have at least 25% of classes either hybrid or face-to-face. If we have to move to teaching online again, lab and clinical courses will continue face-to-face on campus.

Kristi made the following announcements:

* The college is still facing a 5% budget cut. Enrollment has declined, some due to COVID. There has been a lot of discussion regarding how we can get enrollment back up to where it used to be.
* Both the classified staff and faculty unions have collaborated with Rite Aid to provide vaccinations for all employees and their families, and students.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Make-up of Committee*

Kristi mentioned that many current committee members have been on the committee for a long time and she really appreciates and values their feedback. She explained that our advisory committee is not contractual because we are a BAS program. She would like to start looking at the roles and responsibilities of the committee make-up (over spring and summer, 2021), make revisions, as needed, and send out to the members with membership forms.

Kristi asked that if anyone knows someone interested in serving, ask them to fill out the membership form. She wants to make sure we have as much diversity and involvement as possible and wants a committee whose goal is for our program to serve the community and make it the best it can be. It might good to have some members outside of dental hygiene and dentistry who can lend a perspective from multiple related health avenues (possibly a physician or nurse). Brenda suggested someone from Public Health.

Brenda stated we are looking for a community member and that some advisory committees require it. A community member can provide good advice from the perspective of those we serve. It has been frustrating because the chair has not attended any meetings and a frustrating year all around.

Suggestions:

* Derek stated that if the goal is to participate in a more holistic approach of health, he knows several people (nurses, physicians) depending on what direction we want to go with that person.
* Kristi wants collaboration with someone from another field. It is critical to have dental hygienists and dentists but also sees the value of having people with a broader range of experience in other areas of healthcare
* Steven Hokett suggested a few ideas (Sue Neal (RN), Executive Director of Battle Ground HealthCare. Her input would be exciting. Krista Peatoah, Dental Coordinator, Battle Ground HealthCare.

*Chair, Vice Chair*

Kristi stated that it would make sense to wait until the make-up of the committee is finalized before we seek a new Chair/Vice Chair. The committee agreed.

**DIRECTOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR REPORT**

*Ongoing changes due to COVID*

Kristi announced that the dental hygiene program just received a grant from SBCTC for approximately $50,000 to get filtration units throughout the clinic. The department purchased 26 units and distributed them throughout the clinic, lobby, and radiology area. The addition of these filtration units helped to bring back ultrasonic usage by filtering the air space as well as using suction.

The department has been able to hold all labs/clinics with COVID-19 protocol in place. The Class of 2021 is set to graduate on time. Kristi is hopeful that the department will have face-to-face classes, labs, and clinic for Fall Term, 2021.

*Applicant Advising Day*

Kristi reported that the 2021 Applicant Advising Day event at the end of February was fully remote this year. There were 51 applicants and all of them sat and wrote the proctored essay. The college sent letters for acceptance out about three weeks ago; Last Friday was deadline to accept. Kristi reported that we almost have a make-up for the final cohort.

*Board Exams*

Kristi announced that the department hosted both anesthesia and restorative board exams on the same weekend this year. This was a first. All Clark College students passed their anesthesia boards. All but two passed their restorative boards those two signed up to retake their restorative boards at one of the Portland schools in May. This Class of 2021 has only had one normal quarter due to the faculty strike and COVID. They have had to persevere though quite a bit to get where they are.

The dental hygiene department will host the Clinical board exam coming up at the beginning of June.

Derek asked how it played out for our students to get enough clinical time to gain the skills needed. Kristi explained how we scheduled it in order to accomplish this and were not able to do a lot with simulation. Kristi stated we have an amazing team to get the students through all of this.

**SADHA REPORT**

Stephen Quimby, Junior Student and incoming SADHA President gave the SADHA report.

* Made plans for more guest speakers.
* Working on flyers to speak with businesses and handout information about treatment provided at our clinic, trying to find a way to accomplish this while remaining COVID safe.
* Reached out to Mount Hood Community College to have joint SADHA meeting (our first). The goal is to reach out to other SADHA groups in the area to work together to get the word out (dental hygienists and what we do, dental hygiene schools and services offered, community education. We want to work with other schools to organize/collaborate the information and hoping to add a couple of committees.

Stephen shared his current recycling project. Oral B will recycle any intraoral aide as long as it does not have a battery. He will collect items in a box and Oral B will pay for shipping. He told the juniors about the project and the senior president will announce it to the seniors. He created a flyer with information for patients to bring in their oral aides for recycling. There are no SADHA funds used for this project.

**OTHER**

*Finding Board Patients*

Glenna stated the students are focused on finding Mock Board patients in the next week or so. She will take a tally tomorrow to see where students are with finding board patients. Kristi stated there might be a few seniors staying through Summer Term, 2021 to complete their requirements.

Derek suggested that we reach out to private clinics to make connections with us if they have a situation where patients would benefit as a board patient. Has recommended looking at past patients and asked if there is a system to reach out (especially with limited resources for families at this time). Kristi stated we did not have a system for reaching out at this time and asked for suggestions on how to do so without offending offices by taking patients from them.

Derek followed up with having patients who are up against making the choice for no treatment because the costs are too high, that they try to help them but if they cannot come up with fees the patients can afford, they could recommend Clark College. If the information for referral to Clark College was well written or well said, it could be a win-win.

Derek stated he would be willing to review a letter if Kristi wrote one. Kristi thought that it could save dental office resources for other things/necessities if we can get them involved in the program.

**ACTION:** Kristi will write a letter for patient referral to Clark College and send it to Derek for his review and input.

Alex suggested using OSHU’s referral form as a template/sample. That way, we do not have to start from scratch to create a referral form.

Kristi, maybe some sort of brief presentation regarding referrals to Clark, at a CCDS meeting, too? Rick said good idea and maybe in person in the fall.

Jana. Set up as referral to Clark? Kristi thinks this is a good idea. Send letter first and then put together a referral form to fill out and send our way.

From Steven Hokett to Everyone: 06:33 PM in the ‘chat’.

What is the status of tobacco cessation training during the RDH program?

Dr. Hockett questioned the department’s process on smoking cessation training. Jean explained that students go through role-playing with motivational interviewing, handouts talking about stages of changes, kinds of questions to ask patients, and resources for quitting. Students do talk with patients in the clinic regarding their level of interest in smoking cessation. We don’t observe them with a patient doing this. Dr. Hokett asked if there is a graduation requirement to go through a smoking cessation presentation to a patient. Jean responded and said there is not a clinical requirement at this time; however, students are observed in their role-playing activity in class.

Dr. Hokett then asked if we are linked to anyone where patients can receive Chantix. Jean responded that we are not connected but do provide patients with information for the quit line. Dr. Hokett suggests that they ask students to guide patients to talk with their primary physician. He is concerned about self-inflicted damage and would like to get hygienists more comfortable talking about this. He encourages to push it as much as Kristi will allow. Kristi says it’s more about how to fit everything in. They have handouts (nicotine replacement) and info about products to refer to. There is follow up. It is documented in the patient record/part of the care plan.

Dr. Hokett said that if DH is telling patients and other multiple providers are doing the same thing, hopefully patients will get it.

Derek suggested cell phone apps. Some of these apps encourage patients and tracks how much money is saved by not smoking. It can be a motivator; he has recommended it to several patients. He will check and let Kristi and Brenda know the name of the app.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Funding for Vacuum System*

Kristi had the vacuum system tested and reported that only eight or nine units can function at the same time with the current vacuum system. She received a quote from Air Techniques for approximately $50,000. Brenda and the Foundation have applied for a $25,000 grant.

Kristi had a conversation with Dr. Keith Collins about the possibility of the Clark County Dental Society providing one-time funding toward the remaining $25,000 needed. The hope is to get enough funding by the end of spring/early summer to get the system ordered and installed for startup Fall Term, 2021.

Steven Hokett mentioned the availability of COVID funds. Kristi stated that all funding we received for HEPA filters came from COVID funds and it depends on what the college qualifies for and this is what we are facing as a clinic. She asked that committee members pass along any information about other grant opportunities.

Steven Hokett also asked if we are eligible for Murdock grants. Brenda stated that we have to go through the Foundation and they are always helping us. She further stated that there is $18 million coming for COVID-related issues. $9 million of the funding is for students. The college is looking into how to use the other $9 million but there are regulations that come with it.

Kristi stated that part of the problem is since we are a state entity, there are more restrictions regarding what we can and cannot do with special funding.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Recorded by Terri Anderson