

**College of the Redwoods  
Dental Assisting Program**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2012  
AT115**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amanda Gomes  
Kelley Huddleston  
Kelly Merrill  
Jamie McClurg  
Alyssa Piazza  
Holly Philippi  
Stephanie Powell  
Hillary Reed  
Lisa Trepik  
Megan Wynne

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Advisory committee was called to order at 1:30 PM by Hillary Reed.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the May 21, 2010 meeting were approved.

**3. CTEA GRANT**

The committee discussed several uses for CTEA funding for the 2012-2013 Academic Year. It was determined by the committee that no new equipment needed to be purchased this year. After reviewing data from the Program Review document and the CODA accreditation document it was determined that an aid should be hired to assist with certain activities in lab and clinic. This primarily will be to increase retention as well as address some safety concerns.

Additionally, it was determined that funds would be used to further instructors education in teaching methodology. The committee discussed consistency and assessment issues, especially in the area of infection control when instructing new students. The committee agreed that consistent infection control techniques are difficult to implement and control in the field as well. The committee determined that a clinical handbook would be useful for the students and discussed a variety of topics that may be included on future rubrics.

**4. STATE BOARD REQUIREMENTS**

The Program Coordinator informed the committee that a new State Board requirement was implemented. Now it is required that the Dental Advisory Committee has an equal number of dentists as it does assistants. The committee discussed inviting Dr. Belluscio,

Dr. Jason Wolven, Dr. Olsen, Dr. Lewis, and Dr. Hindbaugh to participate at our next meeting in August.

## **5. RECRUITING FUTURE STUDENTS**

The committee discussed how to better recruit students, especially those from special populations. It was decided that leaving brochures at coffee houses, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) offices, and Head-Start preschools would be a good idea, but it was determined that sending brochures to dental offices would be in poor taste. Additionally, the committee struggled with ways in which to recruit male students. Circulating brochures at the un-employment office was suggested.

## **6. INFECTION CONTROL**

The Program Coordinator and associate faculty members brought several issues to the committee regarding current infection control curriculum. Currently, the program has devised rubrics with a green, yellow, and red stoplight for lab activities. This seems to be working well. Those students that are unsafe are issued a “red light” and cannot proceed into the clinical setting. However, these students are having difficulty participating in remediation.

Operatory break down was also discussed. Currently, instructors are using timers and giving the students an allotted amount of time to break down, disinfect, and re-assemble an operatory. The committee determined this was good practice for working in the field.

It was also suggested by a dentist that we should create posters and display them in the sterilization room of proper operatory break down and sterilization protocol. The committee agreed that this might be helpful to the students as a reminder, especially when they are nervous early in their clinical experience. Also, the committee agreed that a revised clinical manual would be helpful for student success.

Additionally, the current format of clinical orientation was discussed. It was determined that all students should successfully pass a pre-exam to enter into the clinical setting. The pre-exam should include both a written and practical portion and should serve as a documented assessment opportunity. Also, it was recommended that the students engage in problem solving activities during orientation to better prepare them for patient care.

## **7. RADIOGRAPHY**

Faculty brought to the committee’s attention that students were having too much assistance in the clinical setting with x-rays. This was problematic because the students were getting credit for x-rays taken by the instructors rather than the ones they had exposed. We as a group discussed possible solutions for this scenario.

Additionally, we discussed the appropriate time for an FMX to be exposed. It was determined that students should be given 20 minutes and that timers should be used to better prepare them for working in the field. Also, the number of re-takes should be monitored more closely, because students we caught cheating.

The committee also agreed that the elimination of size 1 film would be appropriate and use only size 2. Feedback indicated that most offices had eliminated size 1 film, if they were using film at all in their office.

#### **8. NEXT MEETING**

The committee agreed to tentatively schedule the next meeting in August of 2012. Eventually, the bi-annual meeting will return to its May/ January schedule, but this May the Program Coordinator is due to deliver and did not want to have to cancel the meeting.