

**College of the Redwoods
Dental Assisting Program
Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
Friday, February 8, 2013
AT115 – Health Occupations Conference Room**

Members Present:

Amanda Gomes
Kelly Huddleston
Megan McDonald
Kelly Merrill
Hillary Reed
Lisa Trepiaak
Barb Taylor
Alyssa Vallee
Rose Wynne

1. CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 2:30 PM by Hillary Reed.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved the meeting minutes from January 6, 2012.

3. E-MAIL CONTACTS

Collected electronic contacts from all attending members, the majority were personal e-mail addresses. Informed members that personal e-mail addresses will be forwarded to the CTEA Grant Manager and CTEA Administrative Office Assistant as requested for record purposes. Additionally, a roster of the Dental Assisting Program Advisory Committee members will be forwarded to the Board. However, personal contact information will not be available to the public.

4. CTEA GRANT

Verified equipment needs for CTEA grant for the 2013-2014 academic year. It was unanimously decided that clinical software experience would be beneficial to our graduates. Additionally, the members discussed information regarding the new regulation requiring all medical/dental records be digital. It was identified that the majority of committee members' offices were using Dentrix Practice Management Software offered through Henry Schein. Currently, our clinic utilizes Eaglesoft Practice Management Software through Patterson Dental for the front desk only. The committee members agreed that the software has similar applications and due to cost suggested staying with Eaglesoft.

The group also discussed how to best mount the computers at each operator to avoid hazards and cross-contamination. The majority suggested wall mounted computers to eliminate movement from the patient and congestion in the operator. The group also

addressed concerns regarding infection control due to ill fitting barriers. It was strongly advised that well fitting barriers to be utilized to prevent cross contamination.

Additionally, digital radiography equipment was discussed. It was identified by several committee members that Gendex was easy to use and comfortable for the patient as well as Scan-x. College of the Redwoods faculty identified several limitations with the current product only being used in one of the x-ray rooms. It was noted that digital images cannot be easily viewed, because computer monitors in the clinical operatories are non-existent, requiring the patient and the dentist to move into an already congested area.

The Coordinator also inquired about intra-oral cameras. It was noted that the majority of committee members had intra-oral cameras in their offices, but that they were not consistently utilized. Again, it was determined that without computer monitors at every operatory it would be useless to have intra-oral camera that was not self contained. The Coordinator showed a brochure for the "Dr. Quicklook," which is a self-contained unit newly on the market. The group determined this would be appropriate for our setting and suggested purchase.

It was also asked of the group if intra-oral mirrors and facebows were being utilized in their office setting. The majority of the group verified that they were using these items in the field.

5. PROGRAM UPDATE

The Committee discussed assessment findings from last year regarding infection control. Members agreed that simplification of textbooks, finals, and paperwork should assist with clarity ultimately resulting in student success.

The Committee also discussed Program Review findings. It was noted that it is unrealistic for all program applicants to successfully pass the program as well as the RDA exam. The committee members agreed with faculty that personal aptitudes and work ethic are directly related to success. It was noted that if the student is not able to communicate, think critically, or follow directions they will have great obstacles in workforce.

The Committee listed an overview of what specific topics should be included in the Program Learning Outcomes. The members advised the following:

1. Employ proper infection control and safety techniques
2. Provide productive chairside assistance
3. Produce diagnostic quality radiographs
4. Manipulate materials correctly and efficiently
5. Apply critical thinking concepts to problem solve
6. Possess communication skills, having the ability to differentiate between fact/opinion

Additionally, it was determined that the Student Learning Outcomes for DA 156, DA 163 and DA 166 need to address different aspects associated with communication skills. Committee members identified this is an area of weakness for interns as well as new hires.

6. EXAM RESULTS

The Committee reviewed RDA Practical Exam Results. Currently, we are at an 89%. This is a cumulative score. The last students to fail were in 2011. It was noted this was a year of extremely high retention.

The Committee reviewed the RDA Written Exam results. Currently, we are at 100% for all students taking the exam in 2012. Previous years are not available.

The Committee reviewed that Law and Ethics Written Exam results. Currently, we are at 88%. Two failed in 2012, and failures occurred with the 2011 graduates.

The Committee reviewed the CDA Written Exam results. Currently, we are at 100%.