

Surgical Technology Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2020

1. **Attendance:** Alice Erskine, Monica Franciosa, Mary McKay, Elayne Rodriguez, Dr. Andrew Rosenberg, Carol Labarthe, Rob Labarthe, Alex Olejniczak, Angele Kizler-Sawadogo, Raymond Hernandez
2. **Status of the Program**
 - a. **Retention & Success Rates:** Currently there are 18 students in the cohort, from a starting number of 23. Two are returning students and 2 are completing clinical hours. Reasons for attrition: personal (1 student), did not pass fall semester skills test (2 students).
 - i. The improved technology in the Sim Lab (cameras) has made the skills test easier to review student work, and provides students opportunity to view their own performance in case of grade disputes
 - b. **Graduate and Employer Surveys:** 2 2018 grads employed at Seton, 2 grads hired at Childrens Hospital Oakland. This is an improvement over previous years for career placement.
 - c. **Clinical Assignments:** Skyline uses My Clinical Exchange (MCE), a program that facilitates clinical assignments between Skyline and Hospitals, but there are some issues:
 - i. With MCE, Skyline must rely on hospitals and MCE to upload and approve paperwork, which causes delays
 - ii. Hospital staff will agree in Fall semester to precept for interns, but sometimes staff changes or cancellations occur, reducing promised spots at last minute
 - iii. Holiday season dramatically slows clearances due to many hospital and MCE staff being out of office
 - iv. Hospitals want to stagger number of students in a given OR, so scheduling must be done with other program interns (Anesthesia, Nursing, etc.) in mind
 - v. Current placement data: 7 students (31%) already placed and working at clinical sites. 6 students (27%) placed but pending paperwork and onboarding. Students placed and pending should be able to complete hours on time. This leaves 9 students (41%) who are still awaiting placement, 2 of which are returning students (9%) who need to complete clinical hours.
3. **Jeanna Davis Award**
 - a. 17 awards have been offered to current students. There have been some minor delays with disbursement, but otherwise everything is fine.
4. **Curriculum Update**
 - a. Associate's Degree: starting with the incoming class of 2021 (graduating 2022), the AS degree will be mandatory due to changes ARC/STSA requirements. After the current application cycle, all materials will be updated to reflect this change and encourage prospective students to take general education courses (at least 24 units) before beginning the Surg Tech program.
 - b. **Application Requirements:** Microbiology will be added as prerequisite for applicants, which should also help with GE credits.
5. **Lab Updates**
 - a. Resources:
 - i. New manikin purchased
 - ii. Seton Hospital donated Mayo stand, cast saw, and x-ray lightbox

- iii. Dr. Rosenberg donated cystoscopy equipment
 - iv. Challenges: sutures are expensive, but necessary for teaching
 - v. CST wants to add more instruments and reorganize the lab area
- b. Mary McKay leaving in fall semester, her position will be open

6. Healthcare Community Issues

- a. Kaiser Northern California Regional approached Skyline Surg Tech program to work on formalizing a plan to increase Surg Techs in Bay Area. Kaiser currently uses travelers, who make higher wages, and only stay for a short time, increasing training and onboarding costs. Several different means of support were brainstormed in meeting, with the most pressing need being an increase in clinical spots.
- b. Skyline may begin to offer a preceptor course to increase participation amongst working Surg Techs to help them utilize their interns better, provide continuing education, and improve relationships with hospitals for more intern slots

7. Student Issues

- a. Waiting on clinical placement, program completion may be delayed for some students due to lack of intern spots available

8. Next Meeting Date

- a. TBD, sometime in Fall 2020