

Surgical Technology Program Advisory Committee

January 18, 2024

1630 – 1700 Meet and Greet Introductions (All)

Veronica Kwan	Current Student
Quinlan Newman	Current Student
Keishae Vann	Current Student
Brenna Sage Borja	Current Student
Cathy Win	Current Student
Elizabeth Torres	Program Alumni
Jennifer Liang	Mills-Peninsula Medical Center Administrative Director
Greg Holihan	Mills-Peninsula Medical Center Clinical Director
Colleen Fiammengo	Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Educator & Staff Nurse
Dr. Andy Rosenberg	Medical Director
Rob & Carol Labarthe	Community Members
Teresa Barnes	Practicing CST
Dr. Jing Folsom	Interim Dean of STEM
Heather Esparza	Director of Allied Health & Respiratory Care
Shruti Ranade	College Administration

1700 –1730 Look Around Tour of Surgical Careers Center (Franco Deal)

1730 – 1830 Dinner and a Meeting

1. Update on Status of the College/STEM (Jing Folsom, Interim Dean STEM)

- a. Degree Update: The program is not offering the Certificate in Surgical Technology anymore. This is part of a nation-wide move from a Certificate to an AS Degree in the field.
- b. Personnel Update: We are in the process of hiring a second Surgical Tech instructor.
- c. Curricula Update: Students will go through mock surgery and skills testing before being placed at clinicals. This will include any open general surgery. They are also required to memorize 250 medical instruments in order to conduct a project and presentation.
- d. Acknowledgements:
 - a. Dr. Andy Rosenberg: Thank you for speaking at the Surgical Technology conference on September 9th, 2023. This was the first conference for the AST Northern California region, and it was held at Skyline College.

- b. Dr. Benjamin Wang: We would like to extend our appreciation towards your time and contribution towards our program. Your support and expertise are invaluable. Thank you!

2. Admissions & Graduation Data (Heather Esparza, Allied Health Director)

- a. The current cohort (2023 – 2024 academic year) has 25 students.
- b. The Surgical Technology program was on hiatus during the 2022-2023 academic year.
- c. In the most recently completed Annual Report for ARC, we reported on the 2020 – 2021 academic year. 23 students were admitted into the program and 4 students withdrew. 7 students graduated and 100% of these graduated students gained employment as a CST. The reason for this low graduation rate is due to the lack of clinical placements and clinical sites during COVID.
- d. Cost of the program is significantly low compared to neighboring ST programs, reported by community and clinical sites. Currently, San Mateo County residents get tuition free due to the Free College Waiver (SB893).

3. Curricula Revisions (Franco Deal)

- a. We are currently going through a curriculum revision process. The course offered in the summer semester reviews basic science, so we are changing that to provide a course primarily focused on introduction to surgery.
- b. We also have a tentative plan to change our clinicals course from the spring semester to the summer semester, to make communication between the school and clinical sites easier.

4. Clinical Lab Revisions (Franco Deal)

- a. The first week of clinicals for students are spent with the instructor to learn how to complete incident reports, paperwork, timecards, case logs, and case summary reports. The following Monday is when everyone who has a clinical site will report to that site and attend clinicals for four days a week. A question was asked by the clinical sites about whether there is a minimum or maximum amount for how long these shifts can be. Since it is risky to allow students to work over 8 hours or attend on the weekend, the program believes that 8 hours per day is ideal.
- b. I would like to encourage clinical sites to ask students to go on a “treasure hunt” on their first day at site. This is so students can learn where everything can be found in the hospital.
- c. I encourage students to work in the Sterile Processing department for one week so they can learn to work together interprofessional and become familiar with the facility case sets.

- d. In the program, we reiterate that students are to adapt to the hospital procedures when they are at clinicals. What they are taught in class may be different than what is done in the field, so it's imperative that students acknowledge and understand this difference.

5. Feedback from the “Community” (Franco Deal)

- a. Creating an Alumni Directory. This would be an important way to showcase stories of current alumni in the field. We can start this process by getting them more involved in our PAC meetings.

6. Report on Student Learning Outcomes (Franco Deal)

- a. Our Student Learning Outcomes are based on the accreditation standards, but we are open to input from the people we serve, our hospitals and the community.

1830 – 1900 Wrap It Up Recommendations, Closing Remarks, & Schedule Next PAC Meeting

Future Events:

- a. National Conference for AST: Dates June 2024
- b. Next PAC Meeting: September 2024