



**Surgical Technology Program
Advisory Committee
Dec. 11, 2020**

IntroductionsALL

Alice Erskine, Skyline College Surg Careers Program Director

Robin Carol, Community Member

Dr. Andy Rosenberg, Medical Director

Dr. Carla Grandy, Dean of STEM Division at Skyline

Carol and Rob Labarthe, Community Members, Jeanna Davis Scholarship founders

Alex Olejniczak, President of Surg Tech cohort, c/o 2020

Ravi Patel, Surg Tech c/o 2020

Peggy Maley, Nursing Director Marin General Hospital

Dodi Zotigh, Director of Surg Tech Program, Mount Diablo College

**Status of the DivisionCarla Grandy
Dean, STEM Div.**

Skyline has been primarily online since March 2020. All Summer and Fall 2020 courses online, except for Allied Health labs and other essential courses with F2F. Safety protocols are strictly followed for on-campus courses. Spring 2021 is virtual, Fall and Summer 2020 are TBD, but the allied health programs have already secured F2F approval for these semesters.

**Status of the Program Alice Erskine
Program Director**

1. Curriculum Update: DE Addenda, Labs

Changes made to a number of programs, distance education for lectures. Morning is Zoom lecture, afternoon is F2F, held in multiple rooms to accommodate distancing of students.

2. Accreditation Update:

Two accreditation bodies, CAAHEP and ARC-STSA. Program must track certification and job placement stats, but due to Covid, this requirement has been suspended for the time being. The delay may go into the next year, there's a lot of

catching up that needs to be completed. ARC-STSA has been flexible in working with students

Certification Exam Delayed due to training delays. Students unable to complete program were not eligible to take exam. National Board will still honor applications for exams even over 1 year, no need to repay and re-register for the exam. Students can take the exams individually (rather than all students at the same time).

3. Staffing Update:

Instructional Aide- due to pandemic, Mary McKay took full-time position at Surgery Center, reducing her availability to work at Skyline.

Dr. Rosenberg has helped with assisting in labs to help fill in the staffing gaps.

Clinical Coordinator- Monica Franciosa found this position challenging. Informed Director she was taking Medical Leave. CC Duties have been assigned to Program Director

4. Cohort Update:

A. **Class of 2020-** 23 Admitted, 17 retained. Labs were provided to refresh skills in preparation for placements. Some of the losses were due to illness, family issues, financial stress from Covid, acceptance to other Health programs

Externship Placements: 7 were placed by March, however hospitals cancelled them due to pandemic. 5 have returned to their sites. 2 more have been placed. As of 12/11, **three** have completed their training.

Hospitals Accepting Externships: Alameda Hospital, Oakland, San Leandro, SF Surgery Center

B. **Class of 2021:** 25 Admitted, 20 Retained, including 3 return students. All 3 returners have passed Clinical Skills training and are expected to be placed into clinical sites soon.

All successfully completing the Final Skills Evaluations including three students returning for second year try. Final Exam for Surgical Patient Care Concepts will be Dec. 16.

Externship Placements: 0. c/o 2020 has priority for any available slots.

Jeanna Davis AwardsRob and Carol Labarthe
Ten students of 2020 cohort earned awards, all applicants received awards.

Student Issues Students

Ravi: biggest concern is lack of clinical sites, the surprise changes from Covid and the inability to come to campus to practice skills. It was easy to forget the skills with distance learning and no externship. Working full time made it difficult to attend the in-person labs to practice skills. F2F cannot be substituted

Alex: Biggest concern is getting all students into clinical sites. Other concern is about the inability to do the prep class for the Cert Exam. (Note: Certification is not necessary for job placement due to lack of certified applicants)

Healthcare Community Issues Community
Dr. Rosenberg: concern about the 2021 change to AS, removing the certificate option, will the shift be delayed?

- A. The change will not be delayed because the announcement of the change occurred 5 years ago, giving applicants plenty of time to prepare for the prerequisite and GE courses.

Carol Labarthe: How is Alice managing with the staffing reductions and Covid changes?

- A. Alice is tired, but managing. She would really like to hire more help to reduce some of the workload. Hopefully there will be a new full-time Clinical Coordinator position to help with all Allied Health programs (ANST, CST, SURG) and manage clinical placements, taking the work away from the part-time faculty so they can focus on teaching only. (Dean Grandy is waiting on funding approval from the college for this position!) Alice will also retire in Spring 2022, no matter what, so a replacement will be necessary by then.

RecommendationsALL

Next Meeting Date : February 19, 2021
