

Amarillo College Mortuary Science Advisory Board Meeting October 6, 2009

Minutes

Present: Dr. Paul Matney, Lisa D. Meehan, Tonya Celso, Dr. Alan Kee, Luis Mendoza, Ariel P. Olmos, Doug Carmichael, Garre Lagrone, Charlie Cox, Roger Allen (student rep), Chad E. Rhynehart, Keith Bassett, Dan Shaeffer, Robert Falcon, Robert Green, Brad Boxwell

The meeting convened at the Big Texan at 7:30 AM by Lisa D. Meehan, Interim Program Director.

I. Following Introductions there was discussion on the role of the advisory board and the need for strong communication between the members and the college. Lisa named the current adjunct faculty, their location, and the courses they teach.

II. Officers were discussed and appointed unanimously.

Chair-Charlie Cox

Vice-Chair-Chad Rhynehart

Secretary –Luis Mendoza

III. Lisa explained the current standing of the Mortuary Science program and what changes have happened since her Interim Director appointment in May 2009. The loss of Accreditation September 2, 2009 was discussed as well as the TFSC and the state of Texas licensure requirements. Lisa gave an outline to the accreditation timeline and asked for all present to be involved in this as members of a steering committee to move forward.

IV. Paul Matney addressed the committee from administration perspective and ensured members that Amarillo College is behind the Mortuary Science Program, fully committed to providing the resources needed as we go through the accreditation process.

V. Charlie Cox addressed the committee. Charlie pledged his support and commitment having been an integral part of the program since its inception in 1998. Charlie mentioned us utilizing Jason Altieri as an advisor or consultant. He challenged all members to give their support and effort as we move forward.

VI. Doug Carmichael spoke referencing the TFSC, elaborating on steps taken by them on behalf of the students affected by the loss of accreditation. Doug clarified that there is time needed in rule or statute changes and gave an overview of the process.

VII. Lisa reported on the ICFSEB District 7 meeting. There was a packet of information provided to attendees regarding the meeting and all important updates.

VIII. Curriculum was discussed. Dr. Alan Key spoke about the course he teaches Sociology of Death and Dying and the changes to the course specific to the needs of the Mortuary Science Department. Lisa explained the needs for some changes made such as making remedial classes prerequisites, GPA of 2.5 to remain in the program, and completing certificate coursework prior to application to AAS program. Lisa asked for support in these changes in addition to removing the MRTS 1391 (National

Board Review) tuition requirement to include registration and payment for the NBE. Garre Lagrone made a motion to approve and Charlie Cox seconded it. It was unanimously decided to accept changes and have students pay regular tuition for MRTS 1391 and be responsible for their own registration and payment for the NBE.

IX. Discussion about the next meeting being before Dr. Smith's visit to campus in either October or November. The next meeting will be set close to the site visit of Dr. Smith.

X. Meeting adjourned 8:35 AM.