

Advisory Board / Business and Leadership Council

Medical Lab Tech

4-17-26

Amarillo College Business and Leadership Councils will ensure to comply with GIPWE Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes by incorporating the following agenda items into the meeting minutes. For more information about the characteristics of these committees, review pps. 7-8 in the [GIPWE](#).

- (1) Identification of committee members (**name, title, and affiliation**);
- (2) Indication of the committee members' presence or absence from the meeting;
- (3) The names and title of others present at the meeting;
- (4) The signature of the recorder; and
- (5) Evidence that industry partners have taken an active role in making decisions that affect the program as outlined below:
 - a. Evaluating the goals and objectives of the program curriculum;
 - b. Establishing workplace competencies for the program occupation(s);
 - c. Suggesting program revisions as needed;
 - d. Evaluating the adequacy of existing college facilities and equipment;
 - e. Advising college personnel on the selection and acquisition of new equipment;
 - f. Identifying local business and industry leaders who will provide student with work-based learning experience, employment, and placement opportunities;
 - g. Assisting in the professional development of faculty;
 - h. Assisting in promoting and publicizing the program to the community and to business and industry; and
 - i. Representing the needs of students from special populations as defined in Perkins V.

For recorders/notetakers

Please review the guidelines above and below as you prepare the agenda and/or minutes.

If a motion is made, make note in the section of who made the motion, who seconded, and include results of vote.

If there is no motion or action taken on a discussion or a point in the agenda, **note "no action or vote taken" in the section.**

Signatures and Routing

Upon completion of the minutes, please send them to advisory board/BLC chair and program chair and/or program coordinator for review and signature. *Include the meeting agenda with the minutes.* Afterwards, send it to Dean for review and final initial before you submit to the library for the electronic archives.

Advisory Board / Business and
Leadership Council

Medical Lab Tech

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Instructions for Advisory Board / BLCs

Chairperson – appointed by program manager (someone outside of Amarillo College)

Recorder – person taking notes from meeting

Members – Include all members of committee; place an **X** to left of name if present.

Ex-Officio – Include all other people present. AC faculty, staff, and guests are ex-officio; they do not vote on motions.

"Program Name"
Business and Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

CHAIRPERSON: Rene Branch		
MEETING DATE: 4-17-26	MEETING TIME: 11:30 AM	MEETING LOCATION: Amarillo College West Campus Simulation Center
RECORDER: Janet Barton		PREVIOUS MEETING: 5-2-2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: (P = Present) Add nonmembers to bottom of table with heading "Others Present."

P?	Name and Title (List all)	Business Affiliation	Email	Best contact number
P	Jerry Staples	Northwest TX Hospital	Jerry.staples@nwths.com	NA
P	Sherry Mireles	Coon Memorial Hospital	sherry@dhchd.org	806-477-8824
P	Rene Branch	Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital	Reneebranch03@bsahs.org	806-212-7014
A	Amanda Jones	Moore County Hospital		

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a	Denise Marnell	Deaf Smith County Hospital	Denise.marnell@dschd.org	
a	Heather Millburn	Hemphill County Hospital	Heather@hcdhst.org	
a	Heidi Dorman	Physicians Preferred Lab	dormann@amapath.com	
a	Kim Leggett	Amarillo Diagnostic Clinic	kleggett@adcpa.com	
a	Serina Hong	Veterans Administration	Serina.hong@va.gov	
a	Shannon Russell	Texas Oncology	Shannon.russell@usoncology.com	
a	Jayme Leatherman	Golden Plains Hospital	Jayme.leatherman@goldenplains.org	
a	Arrianna Lard	NWTH Laboratory		

Minutes	
Key Discussion Points	Discussion
Old Business:	Previous Minutes – not able to approve due to not having a quorum
Prior to Meeting:	Members toured the new Simulation Center
BLC Members	Renee Branch BSA Lab Manger – Renee stated everything is good. Students are doing a good job in clinicals Jerry Staples – NWTX Hospital Lab – Jerry stated there are no issues. Sherry Mireles – Dallam, Hartley County Hospital District – <u>Everything is Good</u> , Students have been <u>doing a good job</u> .
Cynthia Brundage	AC Strategic Plan – AC extended the plan through 2026. We are working on Strategic Plan 2030 using a shared governance process. No Excuses 2025 continues as the college's commitment to student success, equity, affordability, and preparing students for either transfer or the workforce. AC's strategy is to help every student complete a credential, transfer successfully, or enter the workforce with the skills employers need. (no Excuses slide included in presentation)
MLT Data	Chelsea Thurman presented data on student outcomes – Overall rate for 2025 is 80%. 16 out of 20 graduated. Gainful employment -15 out 16 students found jobs in their field after graduation. Certification Exam Pass Rates – 9 out of 14 received their certification. Cynthia Brundage – Students with Disabilities – Cynthia presented information about federal law to provide equal access for qualified students with disabilities (504 and ADA). Students request accommodations through AC Disability Services. Accommodations must support access while preserving all standards...academic and clinical. Reasonable Support for Deaf Students – ASL Interpreting, CART, note taking support, assistive listening services. Accommodations are individualized and based on course demands, labs and clinicals. Jerri Peacock Najera is AC's Coordinator of Disability Services . Jerri stated she can support and guide through the process. The goal is to remove communication barriers while maintaining essential and clinical standards. Cynthia – six to five semesters – Completion : Shortens time to degree and helps students finish on time. Learning – creates a focused sequence and allows more time for Clinical Chemistry instruction. Labor Market – Students enter the workforce sooner in response to regional demand. Financial – Reduces one semester of enrollment while preserving content and contact hours.

	The five-semester model supports the strategic plan by: • Love Your Neighbor: A streamlined, student-centered pathway supports persistence and access for all learners. • Completion: Consolidates the curriculum into a clearer, more efficient sequence. • Learning: Better balances course timing, practicum application, and preparation for ASCP certification. • Labor market alignment and financial effectiveness: Produces qualified graduates faster and uses faculty and clinical resources more efficiently. • Semester 1 • MLAB 1201: Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science • MLAB 1415 / 1127: Hematology / Coagulation • MLAB 1211: Urinalysis and Body Fluids • Semester 2 • MLAB 1235: Immunology / Serology • MLAB 2431: Immunohematology • MLAB 2401: Clinical Chemistry • <i>Chemistry is given a longer block, so students have more time for instruction and practice.</i> • Semester 3 • MLAB 2434: Clinical Microbiology This remains a focused summer block to maintain momentum Projected outcomes for Medical Lab Tech • Graduation rate: 85%+. • Certification pass rate: 85%+. • Placement rate: 90%+. <i>The 5-semester redesign is intended to strengthen completion, improve Clinical Chemistry preparation, and support stronger student outcomes while remaining aligned with the strategic plan.</i> Phlebotomy updates • CE phlebotomy course for Dumas in the future • Logan Meyer- AC West Campus Phlebotomy Instructor • ASCP phlebotomy route 2 requirements updated • Revised the required time (no 100-hr. requirement) • The practicum course has been changed to 80 contact hours. • ASCP has also changed the wait period from 90 days to 30 days for those wanting to retest for the ASCP PBT certification exam
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Melissa Burns CCHCE	Melissa stated everything is good in CCHCE. They have been busy meeting with students and enrolling them in classes
Kim Boyd	Kim reported on the application process. Applications opened on February 3 rd , 2026, and close on April 10 th , 2026. Tea's exam is required. Students must attend program specific information meetings.
Jerri Peacock-Najera Disability Service	Jerri talked to the group about disability services and working together to help students who have disabilities become successful in Health Sciences programs.
Curriculum Decisions:	NA
Other:	NA
Adjourn:	12:40

Committee Chairperson:	MEETING DATE:	NEXT MEETING:
has not signed after several Requests Recorder's Signature: <i>Janet Barton</i>	6-17-26 06/17/2026	
DEPARTMENTAL CHAIRPERSON SIGNATURE: <i>Cynthia Pratt Brundage</i>	DATE: 06/18/2026	
DIVISION DEAN'S SIGNATURE <i>Kim M Boyd</i>	DATE: 06/23/2026	

Medical Laboratory Technology
Business Leadership Council
April 17, 2026

Welcome and Thank You

- Thank you for sharing your lunch hour with us today.
- Before we start our presentation, we will take a quick tour of the SIM Center.
- We appreciate your time, interest, and support.
- We will provide a brief program update and discussion following lunch.

BLC Committee Members Introductions

We will go around the room to do introductions and start our meeting.

Amarillo College Strategic Plan 2025–2026

AC extended the plan through 2026 and is now developing Strategic Plan 2030 through a shared governance process.

No Excuses 2025 remains the college's commitment to student success, equity, affordability, and preparing students for either transfer or the workforce.

AC's strategy is focused on helping every student complete a credential, transfer successfully, or enter the workforce with the skills employers need.

Amarillo College Strategic Plan 2025–2026

Five priorities:

1. **Completion:** Improve persistence, shorten time-to-degree, and simplify transfer/completion pathways.
2. **Labor market alignment:** Align programs and credentials with regional workforce demand.
3. **Learning:** Expand high-impact teaching practices, tutoring, and student learning outcomes.
4. **Love Your Neighbor:** Build inclusive, student-centered systems that support success for all students.
5. **Financial effectiveness:** Improve budgeting, fundraising, and compensation systems.

MLT Program Student Representatives

- 1st year representative: Journey Martinez
- 2nd year representative: Kailey Joy

Medical Laboratory Technology Program DATA

Graduation Rates

	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Initial Enrollment	18	19	18	20
Final Half Enrollment	12	12	14	16
Number Graduated	10	12	14	16
Final Half Attrition Rate	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Final Half Graduation Rate	83.4%	100%	100%	100%
Overall Attrition Rate	33.3%	37.5%	17.1%	20%
Overall Graduation Rate	83.4%	83.9%	94.7%	80%

3 year average = 86.2%

Gainful Employment/Continuing Education

	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Number Graduated	10	12	14	16
Number/Percentage Working in Their Field and/or Continuing Their Education	9/90.9%	11/91.7%	14/100%	15/93.75%

3 year average = 95.2%

Certification Exam Pass Rates

	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Number Graduated	10	13	14	16
Number Pursuing Certification	9	12	12	14
Number Certified	6	10	10	9
Certification Rate	67.0%	83.3%	83.3%	64.29%

3 year average = 76.9%

Still performing over the NAACLS 75% benchmark

MLT Program Clinical Coordinator
Chelsea Thurman
Student Outcomes

Supporting Students with Disabilities

- Federal law requires postsecondary programs receiving federal funds to provide equal access for qualified students with disabilities under Section 504 and the ADA.
- The college must provide reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids when needed for effective communication, unless doing so would fundamentally alter the program or create an undue burden.
- Students must request accommodations through Disability Services so the college can begin the interactive review process.
- Accommodations must support access while preserving essential academic and clinical standards

MLT Program Clinical Coordinator
Chelsea Thurman
Student Outcomes

Reasonable Supports for Deaf Students

- Possible supports may include ASL interpreting, CART captioning, captioned media, note-taking support, and assistive listening services.
- The student's preferred method of communication should receive primary consideration when determining support.
- Accommodations are individualized and based on course demands, lab activities, and clinical expectations.
- Jerri Peacock-Najera, Coordinator of Disability Services, can explain available supports and next steps for compliance.

Goal: Remove communication barriers while maintaining essential academic and clinical standards.

Why move from 6 semesters to 5?

- **Completion:** Shortens time-to-degree and helps more students finish on time.
- **Learning:** Creates a more focused sequence and gives Clinical Chemistry more instructional time.
- **Labor market alignment:** Students enter the workforce sooner in response to regional demand.
- **Financial effectiveness:** Reduces one semester of enrollment while preserving required content and contact hours.

How the 5-semester model supports the strategic plan

- **Love Your Neighbor:** A streamlined, student-centered pathway supports persistence and access for all learners.
- **Completion:** Consolidates the curriculum into a clearer, more efficient sequence.
- **Learning:** Better balances course timing, practicum application, and preparation for ASCP certification.
- **Labor market alignment and financial effectiveness:** Produces qualified graduates faster and uses faculty and clinical resources more efficiently.

5-Semester Course Flow

First Year of the Program

- **Semester 1**
 - MLAB 1201: Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science
 - MLAB 1415 / 1127: Hematology / Coagulation
 - MLAB 1211: Urinalysis and Body Fluids
- **Semester 2**
 - MLAB 1235: Immunology / Serology
 - MLAB 2431: Immunohematology
 - MLAB 2401: Clinical Chemistry
 - *Chemistry is given a longer block, so students have more time for instruction and practice.*
- **Semester 3**
 - MLAB 2434: Clinical Microbiology
 - This remains a focused summer block to maintain momentum.

5-Semester Course Flow

Second Year of the Program

- **Semester 4**
 - MLAB 2266: Practicum 1
 - MLAB 1231: Parasitology / Mycology
 - MLAB 2132: Seminar in MLT
 - Practicum 1 and supporting coursework are split to balance workload and clinical capacity.
- **Semester 5**
 - MLAB 2267: Practicum 2
 - MLAB 2232: Seminar in MLT
 - MLAB 2338: Advanced Topics in MLT
 - Final semester reinforces capstone learning, board preparation, and transition to practice.

Key Takeaways:

- *Practicum scheduling at the sites will remain the same. Chemistry rotations will take place in both the fall and the spring.*
- *Students will be ready to test for their ASCP MLT BOC exams upon graduation in May→ New graduates are in the job market sooner with verifiable credentials.*

Similar Programs and Projected Outcomes

- **Similar MLT programs** commonly report 3-year outcomes above NAACLS benchmarks for graduation, certification pass rate, and placement.
- McLennan Community College reported a **100% placement rate** and an **88% ASCP pass rate** for recent graduates.
- Grayson College reported a **three-year BOC pass rate of 88%**, **graduation/attrition rates near 93–100%**, and **placement rates of 94–100%**.
- Lone Star College reported a **90.9% exam-attempt rate** and a **70%+ placement goal** as part of its outcomes reporting.

NAACLS benchmarks are 70% graduation, 75% certification pass rate, and 70% placement over a rolling three-year period.

Projected outcomes for Amarillo College

- Graduation rate: 85%+.
- Certification pass rate: 85%+.
- Placement rate: 90%+.

The 5-semester redesign is intended to strengthen completion, improve Clinical Chemistry preparation, and support stronger student outcomes while remaining aligned with the strategic plan.

Phlebotomy updates

- CE phlebotomy course for Dumas in the future
- **Logan Meyer-** AC West Campus Phlebotomy Instructor
- **ASCP phlebotomy route 2 requirements updated**
 - Revised the required time (no 100 hr. requirement)
 - The practicum course has been changed to 80 contact hours.
 - ASCP has also changed the wait period from 90 days to 30 days for those wanting to retest for the ASCP PBT certification exam

Thank you for coming and supporting
the MLT program



MLT Program Restructure: 6 to 5 Semesters

BLC Handout | April 2026 | Cynthia Pratt Brundage, Program Director

Purpose

- Reduce from 24 to 20 months (faster graduation)
- **Expand Clinical Chemistry** (major ASCP exam area) from cramped Fall Year 2 to a dedicated 16-week Spring Year 1
- Enable Chemistry exposure in **BOTH** practicums (Fall Year 2 + Spring Year 2)
- 8-week blocks + Fall Year 2 cohort split for capacity/load balance (Unchanged)
- Target: 85%+ grad/cert/place vs NAACLS 70%/75%

6-Month vs 5-Month Sequence

Term	Current 6-Semester	Proposed 5-Semester	Key Change
Fall Yr1	Heme/Coag/Intro (full)	Intro/UA/Heme (8w/16w)	Modular start
Spring Yr1	UA/Immuno/Immunochem (full)	Immuno/Immunochem + Chem (16w)	Chem expanded
Summer Yr1	Micro (full)	Micro (6w intensive)	Faster
Fall Yr2	Chem + Prac I + Para (crowded)	Para (8w) + Prac I/Seminar (split)	Chem freed
Spring Yr2	Prac II/Seminar (full)	Prac II/Seminar/Adv (Chem in prac)	Chem in BOTH practicums
Summer Yr2	Adv Topics (full)		Eliminated
Total	24 months	20 months	4 months saved

Peer Outcomes

Program	Length	Grad%	Cert%	Place%
McLennan CC (TX)	12 mo	92%	88%	100%
Central TX College	18 mo	81%	86%	100%
Amarillo Target	20 mo	85%+	85%+	90%+
NAACLS Min	N/A	70%	75%	70%

Recommendation

- Approve 5-semester feasibility review
- Confirm Fall Yr2 split capacity
- Update advising checklist
- Pilot Fall 2027; track outcomes



Proposed 5-month Curriculum Map

YEAR	TERM	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI
FALL YEAR 1	FA I	MLAB 1201: Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science (9-11 am)	MLAB 1415: Hematology/ MLAB 1127: Coagulation (9-3:30)	MLAB 1201: Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science (9-11 am)	MLAB 1415: Hematology/ MLAB 1127: Coagulation (9-3:30)	
	FA II	MLAB 1211: Urinalysis/Body Fluids (9-2:00)		MLAB 1211: Urinalysis/Body Fluids (9-2:00)		
SPRING YEAR 1	SP	MLAB 2401: Clinical Chemistry (9-3:30)	MLAB 1235: Immunology/Serology/ MLAB 2431: Immunohematology (9-3:15)	MLAB 2401: Clinical Chemistry (9-3:30)	MLAB 1235: Immunology/Serology/ MLAB 2431: Immunohematology (9-3:15)	
SUMMER YEAR 1	SU		MLAB 2434: Microbiology (8:30-2:50)	MLAB 2434: Microbiology (8:30-2:50)	MLAB 2434: Microbiology (8:30-2:50)	MLAB 2434: Microbiology (8:30-2:50)
FALL YEAR 2 GROUP A	FA I		MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)	MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)	MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)	MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)
	FA II	MLAB 2132: Seminar in MLT (9-11)	MLAB 1231: Parasitology/Mycology (9-11)		MLAB 1231: Parasitology/Mycology (9-11)	
FALL YEAR 2 GROUP B	FA I	MLAB 2132: Seminar in MLT (9-11)	MLAB 1231: Parasitology/Mycology (9-11)		MLAB 1231: Parasitology/Mycology (9-11)	
	FA II		MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)	MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)	MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)	MLAB 2266: Practicum 1 (TBD)
SPRING YEAR 2	SP I	MLAB 2232: Seminar in MLT (8:30-4)	MLAB 2267: Practicum 2 (TBD)	MLAB 2267: Practicum 2 (TBD)	MLAB 2267: Practicum 2 (TBD)	MLAB 2267: Practicum 2 (TBD)



Proposed 5-month Curriculum Map

YEAR	TERM	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI
SPRING YEAR 2	SP II	MLAB 2338: Advanced Topics in Medical Laboratory Technician/Assistant (1-4)	MLAB 2338: Advanced Topics in Medical Laboratory Technician/Assistant (1-4)	MLAB 2338: Advanced Topics in Medical Laboratory Technician/Assistant (1-4)		

Curriculum committee review for:

1. MLAB 1211 moving from 16 weeks to 8 weeks. **(5-10% of ASCP MLT exam)**
 - a. It helps compress the program timeline so students can complete the MLT curriculum more efficiently.
 - b. It frees a 16-week slot for other high-priority content, especially Clinical Chemistry.
 - c. It allows the course to be taught in a more focused block, which can improve retention and continuity of instruction.
 - d. It keeps the course earlier in the sequence so students still receive foundational instruction before later advanced courses and practicums.
 - e. It better matches the modular schedule structure used elsewhere in the proposed model.
2. MLAB 2401 moving from 8 weeks to 16 weeks. **(20-25% of ASCP MLT exam)**
 - a. Clinical Chemistry is one of the largest and most heavily tested areas on the ASCP MLT exam.
 - b. A 16-week format gives more time to cover complex concepts, instrumentation, quality control, troubleshooting, and result interpretation.
 - c. The expanded timeframe helps reduce content overload and gives students more opportunity to master the material.
 - d. It creates a stronger connection between chemistry theory and chemistry application in the practicum.



MLT Program Restructure: 6 to 5 Semesters

BLC Handout | April 2026 | Cynthia Pratt Brundage, Program Director

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