

**DENTIST AID ADVISORY MEETING
APRIL 21, 2003**

AGENDA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diana Griffin, Dr. Greg Harrison, Carla Barton, Erica Clark.

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT: Dana Scott, Marianne Jones, Bill Crawford

1. WELCOME – Dr. Harrison called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
2. MINUTES – The minutes of the May 1, 2002, were approved as written
3. COUNSELING CENTER – Ms. Jones reported that she has talked with many students and most of them had a positive attitude and enjoy the classes, however, after hearing the base salary, some students will decline and find a field that pays more money. The Amarillo dental community starting salary of a new graduate is about \$8-\$9 an hour. The larger cities, such as Dallas and Ft. Worth, pay new graduates about \$12.00 - \$14.00 an hour.
4. CONTINUING HEALTHCARE - Mr. Doiron was unable to attend the meeting, however, Mr. Crawford stated that AC offered a couple of HIPAA meetings for the community and the last one was offered was April 14.
5. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – Erica Clark is the Outstanding Major this year and she is also the class representative. She reported that the students feel prepared and confident to go out in the working field. The students would like to see more hands on before they go out into the clinical setting to do their rotations. They worked with the hygienists last week and enjoyed it. Ms. Scott stated that she would like to add more hygiene/aid rotations for the students next year.
6. OLD BUSINESS – None at this time.
7. PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT – The application process will be the same this year as it was last year. Ms. Scott has recruited a lot this and will maintain that recruitment effort again this year. Ms. Scott has asked for a small manikin in the budget for next year and Mr. Crawford stated that even though the college is cutting budgets, equipment for the Allied Health programs come from a Carl Perkins Grant which is federal money and is not affected by the budget cuts. Ms. Jones will send out 70 letters to area high school counselors that will recruit for some of the programs and Dentist Aid will be included. Applications for the program are due July 1, and Ms. Scott would like volunteers to serve on the Student Selection Committee. The question was asked if there were any efforts for dental assistants obtaining a license. No. The state of Texas says that a dental assistant does not have to have formal education to work in a dental office. A Radiology certification is being offered to dental assistants and dentist aid workers. Dr. Whinery sent a letter saying that some of the dentists were not happy with College's affiliation contract. They are displeased with the fact that they have to hire an attorney to read it before signing the contract. Ms. Scott would like

to have some input on the contract and will work on rewriting it to send it through the college's attorney for approval. The Dental Assisting National Board is available for our dentist aid students to take the exam. The exam is \$350. Students have to maintain 12 CE's a year after passing the test and graduates have to be employed for six months before taking the exam. Ms. Scott has study material available for students if need be. Mr. Crawford asked about accrediting the program. It's Ms. Scott preference not to accredit the program right now. Mr. Crawford asked that the minutes reflect that this is Ms. Scott's preference not Amarillo College's preference. Some dentists have rotated of the advisory committee as well has some Dental Assistants and Ms. Scott would like recommendations from the committee on filling those vacancies. The Dentist Aide applicant pool has had lots of inquiries. Ms. Scott is hoping to accept 14 students this fall.

8. BUDGET REPORT – Bill Crawford reported that the college had to cut the budget 1.5 million and will have to cut 3 million over the next two years. No concerns of having to cut the Dentist Aide program due to good enrollment.
9. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

The minutes were written and submitted by Kim Lacey, Administrative Assistant, on April 21, 2003.
