

MEDICAL DATA SPECIALIST PROGRAM

Advisory Committee meeting

Minutes

10/30/09

MEMBERS PRESENT: M'air Hernandez – Chairperson, Misty Harvey, Sarah Thompson, Janet Lewis, Shelley Berry.

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT: Judy Massie, Bill Crawford, Jerry Moller, Cherie Clifton.

1. Welcome – Hernandez welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.
2. Minutes – The minutes of the November 19, 2009, were approved as written.
3. Center for Continuing HealthCare Education – Absent. Massie reported that she talked with Kim Crowley and it was suggested by Crowley that CE students be put in the same course/classroom (cross listing).
4. Division Advisor/Counselor – Clifton reported that AC is at record enrollment with 11,100 students this fall semester. Spring registration starts November 9. Clifton is very pleased with the curriculum change (three MDS options) and has had good responses from students.
5. Student Representative Report – Thompson reported she really likes the MDS program and curriculum. She added that some of her classmates are struggling with the Anatomy and Physiology for Medical Assistants and feels that if the course were offered as an in-class course as well as online, some students might do better. Lengthy discussion regarding online courses vs. classroom courses and one suggestion is that all students taking online courses need to take the online orientation class first. Massie added that Mrs. Martin, the instructor for the A&P for Medical Assistants course, will meet with any student(s) who are having trouble with the class. Currently, the course is only offered in the fall and online only. It was suggested that the class be offered in the spring and in class as well. Crawford and Massie will talk about these suggestions after the meeting.
6. Program Director's Report – Currently the program has 20 majors, and ten students are signed up to graduate in the spring. The changes in the curriculum (Administrative Option, Coding Option, and a Transcription Option) that were approved last fall are now in play and it seems to be working well with the students. Massie stated that Health Care Spanish is now offered online as well as in class and the instructor, Jane Howk, is not convinced that an online version is a good way to teach/ learn Spanish. Moller interjected that studies have shown in Larry Adams' two courses, Texas History and

Texas Government lecture courses have just a little bit higher drop rate, and a lower GPA, whereas the online courses has a lower drop rate and higher GPA. Lewis added that in the high school setting they only allow the “good” students to take online courses, and it seems that they sometimes struggle.

It was asked if MDS majors were required to take the Accuplacer and Massie replied that students are required to take the Reading and Grammar portion. Clifton added that anyone can Google the Accuplacer practice tests and/or Barnes and Noble carries the practice books. Massie also added that MDS majors are required to take a typing test as well, because some of the MDS students are struggling with the online Word Processing class (per, Debbie Bailey, Word Processing Instructor).

7. Affiliation Reports – Shelley Berry is a graduate of the MDS program and is also employed at Harrington Cancer Center. She reported that she loved the last student but the student did not mesh well with the other staff for some reason. She said the student was excellent, but maybe some staff members felt threatened, the fear of the student taking their job, she was not sure of the reason(s). Crawford added that seems to happen with some clinical sites in other programs.
8. Other Business – Crawford asked when ICD-10 would be coming out. Hernandez reported that 99 other countries are using it now, and the United States will probably start requiring it by 2013. Massie added that this might be something that AC’s Continuing HealthCare Education could offer some workshops. There are different cities now that are offering seminars on ICD-10 and that she and Hernandez will probably need to attend a few of those seminars within the next year or two.
9. Adjournment – Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.