

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

April 9, 2009 @ 12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tracy Mcleland – Chairperson, Melissa Adams, Amanda Rios, Joni Smart, Velevia Snyder.

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT: Sheree Talkington, Jennie Sparks, Bill Crawford, Cherie Clifton, Jerry Moller.

1. Welcome – Mcleland welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.
2. Minutes – The minutes of the April 10, 2008, meeting were approved as written.
3. Continuing Health Care Education – Absent
4. Allied Health Advisor & Counselor – Clifton state that she is just amazed at the range of students who are interested in the program (from GED's to Master's Degree). College enrollment is up 4% as a whole. Summer and fall registration starts on Monday.
5. Student Representative – Rios reported that the students feel prepared as they go out to do their fieldwork. The students are happy that they have more clinic time. The students would like to see more information on spinal injuries and strokes before they do their fieldwork. Talking added that they cover spinal injuries and strokes throughout the curriculum. One suggestion is that the faculty brings in a guest lecturer to talk about those specialty areas. Another suggestion to help students with learning would be to pair them with a recent graduate of the program (Alumni Mentoring).The student's would also like the faculty to return graded work more promptly, at least within a week's time.

6. Program Director – Talkington reported that that there are six freshmen, and 11 sophomores in the program. So far, there are six or more applications for the fall semester (one student has moved to Amarillo from Alaska to start the program in the fall).

After the death of Ginny Gass, former director of the OTA program, some of the graduates decided to start a student scholarship fund for students doing their Level II Fieldwork.

The program purchased seven new wheelchairs for the program through Carl Perkins Funds.

Talkington applied for rank last fall and was awarded Assistant Professor. She is also working on her Doctorate. The college has changed online programming from WEBCT to ANGEL and Talkington is going to many workshops to learn ANGEL.

The college has implemented a campus wide safety and security plan. To keep student's safe in the OTA lab, Talkington keeps all the doors locked while teaching classes.

The program's accreditation and site visit will be on February 1-3, 2010. There will be an advisory meeting during that time. There will be more information on the site visit at a later date.

7. Faculty Report – Sparks reported that SOTA have had many fundraisers. Last year they were able to pay for their trip to the OTA conference. April 20th they plan on having a Brisket luncheon to raise more money. The students made informational brochures for elementary and high school students as well as an adult brochure. EPI loaned some equipment for the students to use in their modalities class.
8. Affiliation Reports – Affiliations enjoy the students, but would like to the students to ask more questions during their fieldwork rotations.
9. Adjournment – Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Minutes were recorded and submitted by Kim Lacey, Administrative Assistant.
