

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

April 12, 2007 @ 11:30 a.m.

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Tedrick – Chairperson, Tracy Mcleland, Velecia Snyder, Yvonne Coronado, Jennifer Hawley, Julie Massingill.

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT: Sheree Talkington, Jennie Sparks, Pilar Suarez, Bill Crawford, Dr. Matney

1. Welcome – Tedrick, Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Introductions – Introductions were made around the table.
3. Minutes – The minutes of the April 20, 2006, meeting were approved as written.
4. Continuing Healthcare Education – Suarez reported on the Overview of Ethics in Healthcare: An Application to Clinical Teaching”, presented by Carolyn Utsey, PT, PhD., that will be held tomorrow in the lecture hall (approved by TPTA) The cost is \$25 to include boxed lunch. Also, on November 3, 2007, there will be a workshop on Multiple Sclerosis from 8:00-5:00 (approval by TPTA pending).
5. Student Representative Report – Coronado thanked the instructors for their awesome job in preparing the students for fieldwork. The student’s census is that they would like to see more hands-on in modalities. The flow of the program is good and the case studies have been very beneficial. They would also like to see more emphasis on vital signs. Coronado suggested that the students do vitals on each other. Most students are having difficulties with documentation. Talkington and Sparks stated that they work on documentation with the students for five semesters. Talkington thought it might be beneficial for students to take a technical writing class but in order to add it to the OTA curriculum, she would have to remove a class and/or add it to the curriculum which would be the degree plan over 72 hours and Mr. Crawford said he would not advise that. Sparks added that she has incorporated a new documentation book that is wonderful and the new book has made a big difference and the students seem to be doing better with their documentation skills. Students are also having to write abstracts and are encouraged to use a dictionary, and to edit what they write.
6. Director's Report – Talkington gave everyone a handout for the 2004 – 2009 applicants, grads, pass rates, and employment statistics (see attached). Students enter the program in the fall semester rather than the spring semester and students seem to be doing better in clinic due to this change.

Amarillo College hired a consultant to come in and help the program on meeting its accreditation standards. As of last September, the program was in full compliance with all accreditation standards. However, as of January 2007, there are new accreditation standards, and Talkington will be going to St. Louis, MO., next week to learn about them.

The program’s internet site is: www.actx.edu/occu_therapy

Talkington has been working on and been successful on getting out-of-town/state affiliation contracts for students to do their fieldwork. She also gives 15 extra points to students who travel from out-of-town to Amarillo College to attend classes.

Employers can now post jobs on-line and students can go in and see what jobs are available.

The program is constantly recruiting for new students. Talkington puts on an Annual Open House/Career Night. Last night was this year’s open house and only one person showed up. She thinks that maybe she will change the date to try and attract more students.

7. Faculty Report – Sparks reported that this has been a good year and getting feedback from the students is good! It is gratifying to her to see how the students change from their first year of

school to their second year. Next week an on-line survey will be ready for clinical sites to address what physical modalities they are using in their facility, which in turn, will help the program determine what modalities to teach the students.

8. Other Business – Snyder stated that she did not receive any biographies on the students. She said that it helps to have those because it makes it easier to match CI's to students. Talkington said that she will make sure those bio's are sent to her next time around.
9. Adjournment - Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Minutes were written and submitted by Kim lacey, Administrative Assistant
