

## PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 7, 2008 @ 7:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Randy Clark – Chairperson, Valecia Snyder, Linda Hall, Erin Keller, Jimmy Rider, Kevin Nicholson, Aaron Delong, Sheridan Clark, Becky Burton.

**EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT:** Kelly Jones, Rena Hutches, Dr. Matney, Bill Crawford, Cherie Clifton, Jeanett Embrey.

1. Call to order – Randy Clark, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.
2. Introductions – Everyone introduced themselves and the sites they represent.
3. Minutes – The minutes of the November 16, 2007, meeting were approved as written.
4. Continuing Health Care Education – Embrey reported that on February 27, 2009, there will be a Wound Care Conference which PT's and PTA's may obtain CEU's.
5. Advisor/Counselor – Clifton reported that spring registration starts Monday. There have been many calls inquiring about the PTA program from perspective students.
6. Student Representative Report – Rider reported that the students have been busy with fundraisers. They have sold 150 t-shirts and part of the money will go for their books and part will be donated. The students will vote next week on where the money will be donated. There will also be fundraisers in the spring. Monday, the PTA students will have "morale day" to help get them through the rest of the semester. The only issue the students have is the fall clinic rotation where they spend three days in a row is difficult. It seems that the facilities are just allowing them to observe and the students would like more hands-on. Hutches will revamp the letter to the clinical areas that address student clinical, what the students have already learned, and ask that they allow the students to do more than just observe.
7. Director's Report – Jones reported that there were 24 sophomore students last May, and 13 graduated. Out of the 13 graduates, 12 passed the exam on the first attempt, and one passed on the second attempt. Jones is trying to different things to keep students in the program, but due to low grades and personal issues attrition is high. The committee members had a lengthy discussion on how to deal with the high attrition rate. Jones is in the process of creating 5 subcommittees and asked the members if they were interested in serving on one or more of the following committees:

- Technology/Equipment
  - Curriculum
  - Clinical
  - Policies/Procedures
  - Recruitment/Retention
8. Clinic Report – Hutches asked the committee how clinic was going and they all said everything was going well and they liked the “three day” in a row clinic rotation. Hutches mentioned that the freshmen should be writing their own SOAP notes, not in the patient’s chart, but on their own document, which she checks and grades.
9. Other Business – Jones asked Dr. Matney to speak to everyone on Career Clusters. The “career clusters” strategy aligns the College’s programs of study with one or more of 16 industry clusters. It intends to aid students in selecting a good field of study and understand how they can move within a cluster as their skills and educational level increase. The college has selected its first set of career clusters to be Information Technology, Manufacturing, **Healthcare**, and Transportation. The new Perkins grant will align budget with the career clusters approach and tie specific activities/enhancements to the improvement of college programs which fall within the selected clusters.

Jones & Hutches gave Becky Burton, aka, Ruby, a token of gratitude for all her help and continuing support of the PTA faculty and students.

10. Adjournment – Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

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

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