

RADIATION THERAPY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – November 17, 2005

Members Present: Judy Massie – Chair, Dale Barker – HCC, Jared Fornash – HCC, Jessica Flores – Student Rep.

Ex-Officio's Present: Tony Tackitt – Program Director, Bill Crawford – AH Division Chair, Dr. Matney – VP and Dean of Instruction.

- I. Welcome – Massie welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.
- II. Minutes - The minutes of the April 26, 2005, meeting were approved as written.
- III. Continuing Healthcare Education – Absent
- IV. Allied Health & Nursing Counselor – Absent
- V. Student Representative – Flores reported that classroom 100A is still cold! Tackitt reported that the classroom is better now that the unit on the roof was fixed. The students are enjoying their schedules and rotations. The students enjoy the Lubbock rotation and the experience is good. They go to Lubbock for three weeks, 3 days a week. Flores reported that she has not yet “experienced” the Wheel of Misfortune, but heard from other students it was intimidating. Barker reported that he thought that the Wheel of Fortune was a fair way for the doctors to ask the students questions without singling out any one student. Tackitt heard from some students that they felt shamed because they did know the answers to the questions. Barker said that he was surprised by that, because if the student does not know the answer they just move on to the next student and no one tries to intimidate them if they don't know the answer.
- VI. Director's Report - Tackitt brought up the Radiation Therapy Internet Program out of Kansas. The program takes students that have a degree in Radiology (advanced standing) and then the students take one year of Radiation Therapy on the internet. The program takes up to 90 students at a time. Tackitt and Barker heard that the quality of students coming out of that program were not good. Tackitt would like to start an on-line program someday but said that he would take no more than 20 students and do it right. Tackitt gave the committee the following statistics and program mission and goals:

Program Data 2005: [Note: student survey data is for class of 05', employer data is from 04' \(05 data has not yet been sent out as our meeting moved to Fall instead of the usual spring—employer evals sent in winter\)](#)

1. Program pass rate of at least 85% over 5 year period on A.R.R.T. examination.
 - 2005: 9/9 pass (Stephanie E not yet taken exam)
 - 2004: 10/10
 - 2003: 11/11
 - 2002: 11/11 (note: Stacie B never took the exam)
 - 2001: 7/7
 - 5 yr overall: 49/49= 100% Benchmark met
2. 100% of the graduates will pass comprehensive "Exit" examination before they will be allowed to graduate.
 - Program requirement, benchmark met
3. The program will exhibit a job placement rate of not less than 75% within 6 months of graduation over the previous 5 years
 - 2005: 7/10 (Nina, Stephanie, Stacie)
 - 2004: 9/10 (Alice)
 - 2003: 11/11
 - 2002: 11/12 (Stacie Burris)
 - 2001: 7/7
 - 5 yr: 45/50= 90%
4. Students will maintain passing grades in their clinical rotations, thereby demonstrating a proficiency level consistent with an entry level radiation therapist. ARRT comps to be passed.
 - Benchmark met, program requirement
5. 90% of graduates/employers will rate the program overall as good or excellent (rating 3 or 4 on Lickert scale). 80% or more of graduates and employers will rate every item on the survey as good or excellent.
 - Benchmark met (100%)
6. Min. 90% of graduate surveys will indicate that student met their educational goal
 - Benchmark met (100%)
7. Maintain an average course completion rate of not less than 75% over a 5 year period.
 - Benchmark met 95%
8. Maintain a program retention rate of no less than 75% over a 5 year period.
 - {{Class of 2006: 9/10 (Amy H)}}}
 - class of 2005: 10/13 (Audra, Jana R., Nelson)
 - 2004: 11/11
 - 2003: 11/12
 - 2002: 11/13 (Jodi G., Sandy L)
 - 2001: 7/11 (Amy Buchanon, Heather Sutton, Lee Adams, Greg)
 - Overall 5 (full) yr: 50/60=83% retention
9. At least 90% of program graduates earn degree within 3 years time once formally accepted and enrolled in the program. Reasons for not completing the curriculum within 3 years will be

documented and brought before the Advisory Committee for discussion.

- 22/22=100%, Benchmark met
- 10. 100% of the graduates will pass exit examination before they will be allowed to graduate.
 - Benchmark met: students must pass exit exam to graduate
- 11. 80% of students will successfully complete, or withdraw passing, each lab course during the curriculum (1 yr).
 - Benchmark met 100% (Amy withdrew, but passing)
- 12. 80% of students will successfully complete, or withdraw passing, each Practicum course during the curriculum.
 - Benchmark met 100% (Amy withdrew, but passing)
- 13. 80% of students in Intro course will successfully complete all aspects of the course (1 yr)
 - Benchmark met 100% (Fall 2005)
- 14. 100% of students will successfully complete Interpersonal Communications (or other acceptable speech course) before graduation.
 - Benchmark met (graduation requirement)
- 15. 90% of employer surveys will rate performance as good or excellent in areas of communication, critical thinking/problem-solving.
 - Benchmark met 100% (2004 grads)
- 16. 90% of graduate surveys will rate personal performance as good or excellent in areas of communication, critical thinking/problem-solving.
 - Benchmark met 100% (2004 grads)
- 17. 50% of graduates at the time of program completion will report on exit interview/survey a personal goal to continue their education after graduation.
 - Benchmark met 2005 grad: $6/7 = 86\%$
- 18. 100% of students will be informed about various professional organizations within the field in their first semester as accepted students in the program
 - Benchmark met 100% (Intro course requirement, with quizzes)
- 19. 90% of employer surveys will rate performance as good or excellent in areas of communication, critical thinking/problem-solving.
 - Benchmark met: 2004 grads: 100% Benchmark met
- 20. 90% of student surveys will rate performance as good or excellent in areas of psychomotor skills as a result of their training.
 - Benchmark met: 2004 grads: 100% Benchmark met
- 21. 100% of students will complete all of ARRT required and additional program required competencies before graduating from program.
 - Benchmark met: 100% (curriculum requirement)

22. All laboratory /clinical requirements will be met before student can graduate. 100% of students will pass all clinical courses and all technical labs.
- Benchmark met (curriculum requirement)

PROGRAM MISSION AND GOALS:

The Radiation therapy program is a unique health care program providing a valuable resource for the community to educate personnel to treat cancer. In keeping with the mission of Amarillo College, the Radiation therapy program has a mission "To provide a comprehensive curriculum that will enable each graduate to perform the duties and responsibilities of an entry level radiation therapist." Consequently, accomplishing this mission is measured and evaluated to the degree to which the program achieves the following goals:

1. Maintain programmatic accreditation through the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiological Technology (JRCERT) and adopt technical competency requirements equal to or in excess of American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) requirements.
2. Program graduates should be able to successfully write for and successfully complete the national certification examination given by the ARRT.
3. Students will be able to successfully complete the comprehensive program "Exit Examination" at the end of the curricular training. Graduates will go on to fill local/regional/national needs for certified radiation therapists.
4. The program will prepare the students for the clinical responsibilities of an entry-level radiation therapist.
5. The program will review its mission & goals annually
6. Program graduates and employers will describe satisfaction with the program.
7. The program will demonstrate adequate retention rates with students completing the program in a timely manner
8. The program will provide an educational environment that promotes (affective) communication skills, critical thinking/problem solving skills and lifelong learning.
9. The program will provide a curriculum that promotes cognitive competency with a curriculum that encompasses didactic subject matter required by JRCERT

10. The program will provide a curriculum that promotes psychomotor competency.
- VII. Other Business – Fornash reported that now that HCC has a new CT Simulation machine, he is not sure what the students are supposed to do. Tackitt said that the students need to be doing what the techs are doing. Tackitt said that he would write some objectives for the staff on what to teach the students. Barker reported that the lab in the allied health building is nothing like what the students see at clinic and is difficult and a challenge to teach them a “real world” situation. It can be done, but only to a certain extent. Flores said that the AC Lab has been very beneficial to her and other students and they enjoy Barker’s teaching. Barker added that the HCC clinic time for students after hours will soon be going away. Fornash said that the first year students should jump right in and NOT just observe the techs. Tackitt said that he advises the students to step in and help when they can. Fornash also added that the students need to be reminded that at HCC the patients are the tech’s first priority, then the students comes second. Tackitt said that he addresses that in the Introduction to Radiation Therapy class. Fornash said that the PET/CT rotations are too long at HCC. Tackitt said that he was would look into that and also he thought about revisiting the Hospice rotation at Odyssey. Fornash was wondering who went over the policies and procedures of HCC with the students? Tackitt said that he invited the Director of Radiation Services at HCC but she has not had time due to the merger.
- VIII. Adjournment – Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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