

Radiation Therapy Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes – February 26, 2009

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Massie – Chairperson, Kathy Haynes, Jennifer Davis, Minnie Venable, Aneta Younger, Julie Lindow

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT: Tony Tackitt, Bill Crawford, Jerry Moller, Cherie Clifton, Kim Crowley

- I. **Welcome** – Massie welcome everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.
- II. **Minutes** - The minutes of the April 11, 2008 meeting were approved as written.
- III. **Continuing Health Care Education** – Crowley reported that the Radiology Symposium will be October 23-24, 2009. The symposium that was held year went very well - evaluations were good. Crowley would like to see more CEU workshops for the Allied Health Division. If anyone is interested, call 354-6085.
- IV. **Allied Health Counselor/Advisor** – Clifton reported that spring registration is up 4% from last year. There have been lots of inquiries about Radiation Therapy. Also, summer registration will start April 13.
- V. **Student Representative** – Lindell reported that she was doing well, however, the traveling time between clinical sites can be tiring at times (85-95 trips in two years, per Tackitt), plus can be expensive. Some of the students do carpool back and forth. Clifton reminded the committee that there's a scholarship available to help students with gas expenses, etc. Two Radiation students so far have utilized the scholarship. Tackitt added that this is the first year that the program has no students from out-of-town which may be a reflection of the down turn of the economic situation.

- VI. **Director Report** – Tackitt would like to add RADR 2340: Anatomy for Medical Imaging to the curriculum. In doing this, total hours for the program would be 73 hours (which is one hour over). Tackitt would then reduce RADT 2409: Dosimetry II a four hour course to a three hour course RADT 2309 which will bring the total for the program to 72 credit hours. ***Massie, Chairperson, made a motion to endorse this proposal, to begin in the fall of 2010, was seconded by Haynes, and unanimously endorsed by the entire voting committee.***

The committee discussed at length about changing the Radiation Therapy to a totally online program, with the exception of clinic. If this were to take place the program could take 25-30 students, however, in doing so, another full-time faculty would need to be hired to take care of the clinical portion of the curriculum in the fall of 2010. Members understand the concept, and some members made the reference that if “we don’t do it, someone else will”.

Also, as a reminder to the committee, the program was granted a full 8 years accreditation in 2002. Curriculum approved by JRCERT and the interim report done in 2006, was accepted in 2007, as well. The next accreditation will be in 2010.

Tackitt gave everyone a copy of the following statistics:

ARRT Exam Pass Rates:

- 2004: 9/ 10;
- 2005: 10/11;
- 2006: 8/8;
- 2007: 10/12;
- 2008: 10/10 = 100%
 - TOTAL: 48/51=94%
 - All that did not pass 1st attempt passed 2nd attempt
- Job Placement (employed in the field within 6 months):
 - 2004: 9/10 (Alice)
 - 2005: 10/11 (Stacie)
 - 2006: 8/8
 - 2007: 12/12
 - 2008: 9/10=90% (Michelle M) (1 part time)
 - Total: 48/51 = 94%
- Clinical Competency Pass rates: 2008: 100%
- Employer surveys:

- Class of 2007: 100% of responses in “Excellent” or “Acceptable” range. (Benchmark of >80%) note: only 5 of 10 responses
- Class of 2008 data not yet available -
Tackitt informed the committee that this information will be sent out later in the spring semester.
- Graduate Surveys (2008): (Benchmark > 80%) Tackitt suggested revising benchmark to 75%. ***A motion was made by Massie, Chairperson to endorse revising benchmark to 75%, was seconded by Venable, and unanimously endorsed by the entire voting committee.***
 - Overall program good/excellent: 10/10=100%;
 - Met educational goals: 10/10 100%;
 - communication/problem solving skills: 9/10 90%
- Retention:
 - Class of 2004: 10/10 = 100%
 - Class of 2005: 9/11 (Audra, Jana)=82% note: Stephanie E completed in 3 yrs
 - 2006: 8/10 = 80% (Amy H., Heidi U.)
 - 2007: 12/12 = 100%
 - 2008: 10/10 = 100%
 - Total: 49/53 = 92 % retention

Program Mission and Goals were given to each committee member to read:

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 competence.

After reading the mission and goals and with no further discussion: ***Massie, Chairperson, made a motion to endorse the Program's Mission and Goals, was seconded by Younger, and unanimously endorsed by the entire voting committee.***

- VII. Clinical Report – Younger from Harrington Cancer Center reported that the students are doing well, and that the quality of students this year

is good. Davis from Joe Arrington Cancer Center reported that the students are doing well.

VIII. Adjournment – Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes were written and submitted by Kim Lacey, February 25, 2009
