

Minutes – Dental Hygiene Advisory Board Meeting

October 9, 2023 – Room 1260

Kalamazoo Valley Community College Texas Township Campus

- I. Welcome and Introduction – 6:11 p.m.
- II. Members Present: Erika Adkins, Mark Dunneback, Brianna Hamilton, Amy Murray, Ashleigh Quinones, Tisha Randall, Samantha Reidenbach, Samantha Wendell, Allison Boerema
- III. Call to approve minutes from last meeting
  - a. Correction of Samantha R.'s name in list of present members.
  - b. Motion passed to approve minutes from the March 3, 2023 meeting.
- IV. Program Updates
  - a. Holistic admissions questionnaire
    - i. Essay questions have been updated after the most recent admissions cycle, in an attempt to improve clarity and consistency in topic among responses
    - ii. All Health Careers programs will be using these questions
  - b. Current cohorts
    - i. 1st year: Two student drops, and one add for a total of 23 students, all female.
    - ii. 2nd year: 19 students
  - c. New Faculty
    - i. Dr. Shadi Khillah, DDS, who will be staying on for next semester
    - ii. Hailee Rose, RDH, BSDH, a Kalamazoo Valley graduate
    - iii. Brandy Zantello, RDH, BSDH
    - iv. Dara Khanchaleunh, RDH, BSDH
  - d. Retirees
    - i. Dr. Leon Coverly, DDS
    - ii. The program is currently seeking dentists for part-time instruction on Tuesday/Thursdays; if interested, please forward information to Ashleigh or Samantha R.
  - e. Mock Board
    - i. Clinical portion – moved to manikins for the exam in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions
  - f. Community Sites
    - i. New partnership with InterCare in Bangor, Benton Harbor
    - ii. Family Health Center in Kalamazoo
    - iii. Van Buren/Cass County Health Departments in Dowagiac, Lawrence; Mattawan location has closed

- g. CTE/KRESA
    - i. Ashleigh has taken over for the time being.
    - ii. Full class of 12 this year, they will do internships next semester
  - h. Additional Updates
    - i. The college has purchased a PrimeScan for digital impressions, exploring ways to utilize the technology
      - 1. Other offices in the area use intra-oral scanners such as iTero, TRIOS, or OraTech
      - 2. Assistants can complete the scans in a matter of minutes
      - 3. Scans can be used to show patients their dental progress
    - ii. Sterisil Water Purification System
      - 1. The clinic current uses inline filters for city water, with no way to shock the water system
      - 2. Looking to shift to a bottle system with silver straws to ensure quality of water, would also require less reliance on students to keep things clean and working correctly
      - 3. Other offices in the area use reverse osmosis or bottle systems; bottles are said to be nice as they are a contained system
    - iii. SVT Audio/Visual
      - 1. Current video system is used to record patients in the clinic and play back for student self-assessment during small group
      - 2. Our current system of 10 years crashed during the semester
      - 3. In the process of getting up and running, but looking to get a new system installed by SVT AV
      - 4. Hoping to have temporary solution over winter break
      - 5. Brianna, a current student, notes that small group is great and they want it back
- V. Comprehensive Needs Assessment Input
- a. Satisfaction with student placements
    - i. Overall satisfied with student placement
  - b. Satisfaction with skill level of graduates
    - i. Industry partners are pleased by the community clinic requirement of KVCC's program
      - 1. Teaches time management in the real world, and students get to see some of the hardest cases
      - 2. Good practice to experience different clinic set-ups and equipment as well as work with a variety of clientele
    - ii. Overall satisfied with graduate skill level
  - c. Are there gaps in skills that our students present?
    - i. Overall satisfied with the skills that students present
    - ii. Make sure students continue to be cross-trained on both ultrasonic and hand scaling

- iii. Make sure students are exposed to various trending equipment in the industry, e.g. cordless polishers, phosphor plates
    - d. Are there gaps in the program?
      - i. No current gaps in the program were noted by industry partners
    - e. Suggestions for improving student and graduate success
      - i. Continue to encourage ergonomics and best practice for body care
        - 1. One suggestion was to require a pair of loupes for the program; look into getting a discounted bulk rate with a vendor
      - ii. Continue to emphasize best practices for dental care in pregnant individuals
        - 1. Industry partners have felt hygienists in general were scared or had a lack of knowledge in treatment
        - 2. KVCC's program will continue to teach safe practices for radiology during pregnancy
        - 3. Pregnancy dental care information is covered in the oral health class
      - iii. Continue to teach students pediatric dental care
        - 1. Industry partners say pediatric offices are overflowing
        - 2. KVCC's program includes 3 child requirements to graduate; most recently, the clinic saw a homeschool family of 12
- VI. New business and/or projects; discuss new and emerging trends in the industry
  - a. Dress Code – industry partners were asked what the current standard at their practices is for employees
    - i. Regulations are mostly around wearing scrubs, nametags, or PPE
      - 1. Noted that offices look more professional when scrub color is uniform among employees
    - ii. Tattoos, piercings, or hair color restrictions have become much laxer in recent years
      - 1. Strictness is very dependent on the owner of the practice; varies from site to site locally
- VII. Timelines for recommended actions plans
  - a. Sterisil – in place before the Winter semester
  - b. SVT AV – planned to be upgraded by Fall 2024 semester
- VIII. Updates from around the college
  - a. New Dean overseeing the Dental Hygiene program – Mark Dunneback
    - i. Began around July when the college combined all the health career programs under the same administrative umbrella
  - b. Dress code feedback is appreciated, as the college is currently reviewing their health careers student handbook

- c. In April, Kim Grubka stepped down as Program Director; Samantha R. and Ashleigh are co-directing this academic year
    - i. Working through what this role looks like going forward
  - d. Industry partners were asked to complete a survey for Perkins reporting by November 1
- IX. Questions/Open Discussion
- a. Has the program considered upping their enrollment?
    - i. Only 14 chairs available in the clinic, which would mean requiring evening or weekend classes if more students were admitted
  - b. Are students trained on the interview process?
    - i. Yes – mock interviews are done with AV system in students’ final semester, and played back during small group for self-assessment
    - ii. Curriculum also has a lecture on interviewing, including dress code and resume/cover letter prep
    - iii. Students are given college resources outside the program, such as Career Coach job postings, professional resume help, and online resources
- X. Next meeting – set to occur March 2024, time/date T.B.A.
- XI. Meeting adjourned – 7:19 p.m.