

Minnesota West Community & Technical College
Surgical Technology Program
Advisory Board Minutes
November 12, 2019

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Amy McCuen, Surgical Technology Program Director. Introductions were given of those present: **Sarah Anderson** (Sanford Worthington Manager of Surgical Services), **Mary Jane Sorenson** (practicing surgical tech), **Tara Olson** (Clinical Learning & Development Specialist, Surgical Services, Sanford USD Medical Center), **Alisha McKibben** (practicing CST, MN Adjunct Faculty), **Ali Bures** (Inpatient OR Manager, Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center), **Myles Tieszen** (Surgeon, Sanford Luverne Hospital and Clinic), **Nicole Johnson** (past student/ practicing CST), **Ku Paw** (current MN West student), Ashlyn Bentley (current MN West student), **Barb Berghorst** (Public Member) showed just to say she would not be able to attend.

Absent: **Taylor Rasmussen** (past student/practicing CST), **Chloe Hagen** (practicing CST), **Anne Wiczorek** (practicing CST), **Jay Koepp** (Perioperative Manager, Chippewa County Montevideo Hospital).

Business

Amy provided an update of Dental Assistance program new to the Luverne campus. Update on the new Neurology, Orthopedic and ENT instruments purchased and received. The clinical evaluation was revised and implemented in the Trajecsyst tracking database. The revised Student Handbook was handed out and approved by the board.

Amy plans on visiting the clinical sites and meeting the Surgical Managers and Preceptors.

Retention of 2018-2020 students: Started with 13 students. Fall 2019: 6 students remain. Two left the program due to medical reasons. Two changed programs after shadowing. Three failed courses.

Number of 2019-2021 students: Starting with six students.

Program Outcomes

Reviewed the Student enrollment from fall 2017 through spring 2019.

Cohort 2017/2018 – 11 new students

7 students returned for 2nd year

6 students graduated from the surgical tech program Spring 2018

Cohort 2018/2019 – 13 students - 1st year
5 students - 2nd year
5 students graduated (Spring 2019)

Cohort 2019/2020 – 6 students – 1st year
5 students - 2nd years
1 student transfer (2nd year)

New Business

Informed board of the recruiter visits from Mayo Mankato, Sanford Sioux Falls, and Avera Sioux Falls. Very successful. Students asked a lot of questions. Received handouts that included interviewing and resume writing tips.

Preparing to visit Clinical Sites to meet the Operating Room Managers and Preceptors. Also placing students at clinical sites.

Amy and Alisha visited several High School Career Days: Redfield, MN, Slayton, MN, Fulda, MN, Worthington, MN and Luverne MN West Center.

Will be hanging peg boards in Lab class room to hang instruments on so that we have a visual of the instruments. This will also make it easier for students to get to the instruments and practice handling/passing them.

Will have a panel of CST come to the school and talk to our students about their career.

Hope to have 1st years shadow at Sanford Sioux Falls again in Spring 2020. Also will hold another suture session in the spring of 2019.

Graduate Placement

Five students graduated from the program in May 2019. Three students are placed as practicing surgical technicians. One is continuing her education and the fifth one took his certification exam late and passed but would not respond to my emails or telephone calls as to where he is working. We have an 80% placement rate.

Certification Exam Results

Students continue to do web based testing here at the college for their certification exam. Participation is at 100% for the last 4 years, it is a requirement of students to participate. In 2018, we had a 91% pass ratio.

2019 pass rate 60% pass rate. Two were given the opportunity to retake the test over at no charge because NBSTSA changed the passing score (from 109 to 102) during the time when they took the test. They had high enough scores to pass (108 and 105) but they were considered failed and given the opportunity to retake the test at no charge. One retook the test and failed. The other decided not to retake the test because the hospital she works at does not require being certified.

Clinical Site Availability

Clinical sites remain the same for 24 possible students. Two of our clinical sites provide a great opportunity for robotic surgery. All of our sites provide the opportunity to complete the number of surgical cases within the allotted timeframe.

Equipment & Supplies

Approximately \$85k donation of supplies and equipment from Sanford Worthington was provided to the Surgical Technology & Nursing program of MN West. This generous donation provided Leverage for equipment approval. The Surgical Technology program put in a request and was approved to receive laparoscopic equipment (5mm 30-degree scope) and simulation lab (\$9,870). Also purchased Orthopedic, Neuro, Plastics and ENT instruments.

Employment Opportunities

The need for surgical technicians remains very high in our area. Avera in Sioux Falls and Marshall and Sanford Sioux Falls and Fargo are still in need of technicians.

Other

Committee members had no further questions. We closed with a tour of the schools lab for the members that missed the tour at the beginning.

After introductions, Amy took the members on a tour of the school and the surgical tech lab.