

**MNWEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MLT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING 2021/2022
November 3, 2021**

The MLT Advisory Committee meeting commenced on November 3, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. both face-to-face and Virtual.

MEMBERS PRESENT face-to face: Jane Polz (Lab manager, Windom), Julie Stevens (Lab Manager at Pipestone County Medical Center), ReJean Knobloch (Lab manager at Sanford Health Rock Rapids Clinic). Deb Dummer (Carris Health, Redwood Falls). **Zoomed in:** Charley Ahlers (Avera Access Family Medical Clinic, Worthington), Heather Moser (Adjunct Faculty & Avera Merrill Pioneer, Rock Rapids), and Kim Brockberg (Sanford Luverne).

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Enrollment has increased college-wide
2. Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site visit will be November 8th and 9th
3. Licensed psychiatrist has been hired

OLD BUSINESS:

TOPIC: Case Studies during Clinicals

DISCUSSION: Students felt the Case studies were a good review in preparation for the board certification exam.

ACTION: Rita will continue writing case studies for each department.

CLOSED

TOPIC: Minnesota Pipeline Grant

DISCUSSION:

Information about the Grant:

1. Grant is a Partnership with the State of Minnesota and Sanford
2. If student works for a Sanford facility in Minnesota, they can apply to have 100% of their tuition paid for the MLT program.
3. Candidate can live in a different state but has to work at a Sanford hospital in Minnesota
4. Students apply through Sanford
5. Student is required to do 4 hours per month of on the job training while in school. They will get paid their same wage as they are getting paid in their current job at Sanford.
6. 2 year work commitment once pass MLT program

On May 26th we had a Lab Camp which was administered by Sanford Health's new career exploration program Aspire. The students had a tour at the hospital, then came to Luverne Center for Hands-on Activities. At 12:20 a lunch with Panel Discussion. (See Agenda).

OUTCOME: College received 18 leads from the event. Two students signed up for MLT program.

CLOSED

TOPIC: Microbiology hours and Clinical sites

DISCUSSION: Last meeting discussion was held regarding having the 2 weeks of Simulated Microbiology and 2 weeks of Clinical microbiology as it presently is. Some voiced that reducing the clinical experience to 1 week would be an injustice to the student. Another option would be to have the simulated micro lab for 3 weeks and no clinical experience at a hospital site. A decision was made to wait and see what the status of Microbiology sites next year.

The committee members made unanimous decision to extend the SIM Microbiology Lab to 3 weeks. Additionally, the student, if possible, should shadow for 1 or 2 days in a Microbiology Lab to increase learning outcome. Rita explained that she will take the request to the Dean first, then it will need to be approved by Allied Health committee, and then it will go to Academic Affairs committee for approval. **OPEN**

ONGOING BUSINESS:

TOPIC: Enrollment

DISCUSSION: There are 4 second-year MLT Students. 3 will go to Clinicals in January, one has to repeat General Education courses. Kim will go to Sheldon, Eh will go to Windom, and Natalia will go to Marshall.

This Fall 2021, 11 students started the MLT program and 2 Phlebotomist. 2 more students will start the MLT program in January; they already are phlebotomist and have their General Ed courses completed. There is a possibility of 1 more student who took a break will come back in January.

ONGOING

TOPIC: Budget

DISCUSSION: Members received a copy of the 2021/2022 budget. No questions.

ONGOING

TOPIC: Marketing Updates

DISCUSSION: Rita gave presentation to the following.

HS virtual presentation to MacCray Chemistry Class on 3/17	23 students
HS Virtual presentation to MacCray College Biology Class on 3/18	10 students
HS Virtual presentation to 2 groups Marshall High School on 3/22	25 students
HS Virtual presentation to Redwood Area Anatomy Class on 3/26	23 students
Lab Camp administered by Sanford Health, held in Luverne 05/26/21	
Career Exploration in Worthington: 07/21/2021	
Career Fair for Montevideo HS: 10/25/2021	
Face-to-Face presentations to Biology and Med Term classes in Adrian.	65 students

Rita sends “kits” that include an Influenza A/B test (the students swabs their mouth), band-aid with inspirational saying, agar plate with M&Ms, and MLT brochure. She gives a 40-minute power Point presentation about the career and MN West program. She will continue to do more presentations to improve enrollment. **ONGOING**

TOPIC: Clinicals 2021

DISCUSSION: 5 students successfully completed Clinicals. Clinical sites included: Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center in Marshall, Madison Regional Health System in SD, VA hospital in Sioux Falls, Avera Merrill Pioneer Hospital in Rock Rapids and Avera Family Medical Clinic in Worthington. Two students also attended Avera McKennan for Microbiology and 1 went to Windom for Microbiology

ONGOING

TOPIC: Job Placement

DISCUSSION: 100% of 2019, 2020, and 2021 graduates are employed in a medical laboratory.

ONGOING

TOPIC: Published outcomes

DISCUSSION: NAACLS required published outcomes are located on the website and brochure.

	7/1/17 to 6/30/18	7/1/18 to 6/30/19	7/1/19 To 6/30/20	3 year average
Graduation rate	100%	100%	100%	100%
Attrition rate	0	0	0	0
Board certification pass rate	75	100	78	84
Job placement rate	100%	100%	100%	100%

TOPIC: Attrition

DISCUSSION:

10 students started in Fall 2019. 3 failed academically, 1 moved to North Carolina, and 1 decided she did not want to be an MLT. 5 graduated in 2021

11 students started in Fall 2018. 1 student withdrew from all classes in Nov. 2018 and 1 failed in Spring 2019. 9 graduated in 2020

8 students started in Fall 2017. All graduated in 2019.

TOPIC: Graduate Survey

RESULTS:

2020: 5 responses out of 9 received = 56% return.

All responses were Strongly agree or Agree, One disagreed with “Clinical portion of the program adequately prepared me for my present position.”

Plan on continuing education to Bachelors degree? 2 out of 5 said yes

Comments:

1. Strengths of program
 - a. Blood bank was pretty accurate in my hospital setting
 - b. Labs. Especially blood bank and urinalysis
 - c. Program Director and instructors are knowledgeable and hard working.
Highly appreciated
2. Weakness and suggested changes
 - a. Focus more on the MLT ASCP and take the exam during college
 - b. There should be clinical within the city (Sioux Falls). I had to drive 1 hour every day.
3. Starting wage per hour: \$20.39, \$18.00, \$18.00, \$21.00, and \$20.25

2019: 6 out of 8 responses received = 75% return

All responses were Strongly Agree or Agree.

Plan on continuing education to Bachelors? 2 out of 9 said yes

Comments:

1. Strength of program
 - a. Small class sizes for better teacher/student interaction
 - b. Personalized education and adjustable hours
 - c. The support of the program overall is amazing. Anytime I had a question everyone was always there to help
 - d. Structure of the courses
 - e. Small class size aided in learning
2. Weakness and suggestions
 - a. Not enough microbiology
 - b. Some specimens were difficult to come by
 - c. Suggest to have students attend clinicals in a variety of different settings such as clinic, hospital and ER Experience. That way the students can decide which setting they like more. I was able to see all 3 and it helped me decide what kind of facility I wanted to work in after graduation.
 - d. Suggest purchasing Aperio imagescope for classes
3. Starting wage/hour: \$23.84, \$18.90, \$17.62, \$17.51, \$17.50 before certified then \$21.00 after passed boards, \$17.00

TOPIC: Employer Survey

DISCUSSION: Rita has revised the online Employer Survey. She would like the committee to decide which survey should be used. (See sample A and B). Committee members decided on Form B because answers are more specific.

TOPIC: Student assessment and statistics

DATA: Advisory Committee Members reviewed statistics provided (see handouts). 2019 grads: 100% passed board exam. 2020 grads: 9 grads. 8 passed and 1 failed. 89% pass rate. 2021: 5 graduates, 1 grad has taken the boards and failed. 2 other grads are signed up to take boards but have not taken them yet and 2 have not registered for the exam yet.

DISCUSSION:

ONGOING

TOPIC: Advisory Board Survey

DISCUSSION: Committee members to look at questions. If approved, Rita will send them via online survey. Committee members would like Rita to send a list of equipment before they can answer the question.

ACTION: Rita to send list of equipment to members

OPEN

NEW BUSINESS**TOPIC: Equipment**

DISCUSSION: 2 centrifuges will be purchased this week with Perkin's grant money. Avera Merrill Pioneer Hospital, Rock Rapids donated 2 CoaguCheck analyzers.

ONGOING

OTHER BUSINESS:**TOPIC: Retirements**

DISCUSSION: Special thank you to Julie Stevens (PCMC) and Jane Polz (Windom) who have served as lab managers for over 40 years each. They both have been instrumental in the MLT Program.

Meeting was adjourned at 4: 25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Rita Miller, MLT Program Director