

AGENDA/MEETING MINUTES
Health Sciences Cluster
October 19, 2011
1:30pm- 3:00pm
ETA Rm. #159

Welcome and introductions to new cluster members: Dr. Robert Kershner: New Program Director of Ophthalmic Med Technicians and Prof Winsome Vassell: New Full Time Faculty Nursing, eve/weekend.

Item 1: Ophthalmic Medical Technology Program

Discussion: The College will be offering a new AS degree program in Ophthalmic Medical Technology at the Palm Beach Gardens Campus. The curriculum frameworks are established by the state. The curriculum consists of 17 classes and includes clinical components for a total of 72 credit hours. This will be a limited access program that will accept 15 students per year, starting in the fall of 2012. There are 3 levels of certification eligibility for students upon completion of various stages of the program: 1) certification 2) technician 3) medical technologists.

Action: Cluster voted to support approval for the program

Item 2: HS Disciplinary Procedure

Discussion: For informational purposes only.

Action: N/A

Item 3: The Center for Health Science and Public Safety Corporate and Continuing Education

Discussion:

- All program use Blackboard as the learning platform. Until recently Blackboard was also utilized for continuing education courses developed and facilitated by program faculty. Not having the ability to continue to use Blackboard is prohibiting the ability to continue to offer advanced training and education as requested to our business community partners and area professionals. Blackboard was standardized so that students would be familiar with the same platform from class to class. That same philosophy would apply for alumni who have used Blackboard in our programs and/or for students returning to pursue additional education, regardless if it is through an academic program or via advanced training and education. This inability is negatively impacting our community relationships as we are losing our vast target community audiences which till now have proven to be large, stable, and resourceful means of marketing and revenue.
- When the health science programs continuing education courses went under the umbrella of Corporate and Continuing Education. When marketed as such,

disciplines experienced a significant decline in enrollment since HS disciplines have no recognition for their needs when aligned with “corporate.” Much discussion about this occurred over the last few years and as a result a position was created devoted to only the Health Science Programs with the goal to revitalize all HS continuing education courses; existing and new course development. Target audiences and business partners requested increased utilization of distance learning and faculty converted/updated existing courses and new on-line courses were developed. DL helped to increase enrollment until the re-organization of CCE.

- Re-organization of CCE has negatively impacted enrollment for numerous reasons, of all which have been identified by individual programs and those associated with HS division; lack of DL platform, fee structure, lack of marketing and branding of HS/PS name, registration process, payment, elimination of support staff etc.

Action: Cluster requests:

- Utilization of Blackboard for the Center of Health Science and Public Safety Continuing Education.
- Flexibility in pricing structure (current program students, remain competitive, discipline driven)
- Rename the Center to: The Center for Health Sciences and Public Safety Advanced Training and Education; name strategically aligned to the professions, recognition for target audiences and industry standard certifications required that are not part of a current degree or certificate program.

Item 4: Level II Background Checks

Discussion:

- Dean Rogers provided an update to the fingerprinting requirement in Level II Background Checks. Future background checks will include finger prints, and Dean Rogers has been issued a qualification to oversee this at the college but equipment is not yet ready. NMS is the company that has the contract right now; cost is \$45 for this FPLE. There will be a new form that 1) tells the student every item that needs to be checked, and 2) who the form should be sent to. We have the equipment here, and with some adjustment we will do it later, but for now we will keep NMS. Level 2 is fingerprinting. Forms are ready.
- Questions: Will NMS do the level 1 and 2 together? Ans: NMS will be giving more info later today. There will be a less than 24 hour turnaround of results.
- This is a lifetime search of the background, not just 15 years like in the past. If program directors have questions, the council will scan the paperwork and give the student an answer very quickly. This is only for the group of students that have been accepted, not the ones who are applying. When we get our equipment, we will do current enrolled students.

- Questions: what about current adjuncts who have not been tested: Ans: ask Cheryl Hare for verification. Level 2 is required for those who work in the hospital and includes fingerprinting.

Action: No action required.

Item 5: HS Updates

Discussion: It was learned this summer that Honors Sections cannot be facilitated in hybrid format although faculty previously developed and taught using DL/hybrid format. Faculty argue that the hybrid format is equally if not more so engaging for students, requires students to challenge their critical thinking skills utilizing discussions boards and as a result spend more time immersed in the course learning.

Action: Cluster requests that faculty have the choice to facilitate Honors sections in hybrid format.

Respectfully submitted:
D. J. Marshall
Scribe