

Antelope Valley College
Radiologic Technology Advisory Committee Meeting
June 24, 2010; 6 pm
APL 119, Antelope Valley College, Lancaster, CA

Attendance:

- Viken Manjikian, MD, Radiation Safety Officer
- Sue Vradenburg, RT; Antelope Valley Hospital
- Maria Kelly, RT, program director
- David Elzinga, student
- Dr. Karen Cowell, RN, PhD, Dean, Health Sciences

Old Business

Opening comments

Participants were welcomed by Maria. The contents of the meeting packet were reviewed.

Equipment and Education Materials Needed

The program received funding from Perkins IV for a CR reader for the lab and instructional media (CDs, DVDs, and the like) to enhance lecture.

Dr. Manjikian will have students sit with him while he reads x-rays so they get the feel for what he is looking for. The students will be doing this between August and December after the pathophysiology course.

The program needs compensating filters, cones, and aluminum filters. These may be available as donations from the local hospitals.

JR CERT Self-study Status

The visit occurred in April and we are waiting for the report. Maria thanked those who participated. We were pleased with the visiting team's comments. The response letter should have minimal areas to address. The team's report will be discussed at the October JR CERT meeting and the program should be accredited by December.

Assessment Plan Results

The Advisory Committee is required to review the mission and goals of the program and the assessment plan annually. Maria explained the goals, outcomes, benchmarks, time frames, results and actions. A suggestion was made to align the published program goals with the assessment plan. The attendees agreed by consensus that the published program goals should be the same as the assessment plan goals. The revised program goals will be reflected in the 2010-11 college catalog.

The results of the assessment were discussed. The results were consistent with benchmarks except for Program Completion rate. Maria indicated that the benchmark for program completion is 75% and the program has already fallen below this benchmark.

Maria reported the results below:

Reasons for attrition to date:

- 2 Students were dismissed due to academic failure in the second semester (7 semesters total) of the program.
- 1 Student was dismissed due to academic failure in the third semester of the program.
- 1 student voluntarily withdrew in the beginning of the fourth semester because she wanted to join the military instead.

The committee agreed that most of the attrition was due to students failing a course and Sue stated there could be a trend. However Maria reported each student failed a different course. The committee discussed that this should be considered a normal result in any program, as some students simply do not do the work required for passing grade or their aptitude lies in other areas.

The committee also discussed the case of the one student who voluntarily withdrew and explored the possibility of changing the programs enrollment requirements to ensure all students knew what the job was like beforehand. David recommended that applicants be required to volunteer in a radiology department. Sue recommended that a personal interview take place with each applicant. Dr. Cowell stated that these suggestions were considered during the initial development of the program, but after researching enrollment requirements she found that the State Chancellors office prohibits such requirements as potentially discriminatory. Maria explained that there were several orientation meetings prior to the enrollment period in which many aspects of the job and program were explained to potential applicants. The student that withdrew attended one of these meetings. Dr Majikian inquired into the math requirement and if that could be a potential area of concern for attrition. Maria noted that Math 102 is a requirement for Radiation Physics, and all of the enrolled students had passed Math 102 or equivalent before the start of the program. Dr. Cowell explained the process for changing any course prerequisite and stated that the assessment results thus far would not provide enough evidence to change prerequisites at this time. The committee agreed that this is probably not a concern and would not be the cause for current attrition rates. The committee agreed that at this time the attrition rate was reasonable and no actions should be taken.

Mission and Vision Statements

The mission and goal statement was then reviewed. The group suggested deletion of the word "dispositions" and addition of the word "behaviors" in the mission and goal statement. It was the consensus of the group to make the change. This information should be reflected in the 2010-11 college catalog.

New Business

First Class Graduates

The first class graduates in December 2010. The college does not have an official graduation ceremony for December graduates, but the students could have a pinning ceremony at which certificates could be awarded.

Student Enrollment

The class of 2012 started on June 14, 2010. There are ten students in the class who were selected in order of receipt of application from a total of 30 applicants.

Tour of Laboratory/New Classroom

Maria took the group on a tour of the classroom and laboratory. As she did, she pointed out the features of the lab.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Antelope Valley College
Radiologic Technology Advisory Committee Meeting
February 24, 2011, 4 pm
APL 119, Antelope Valley College, Lancaster, CA

Attendance:

- Maria Kelly, RT, program director
- Cindy Austin, Faculty & Antelope Valley Hospital Department Educator
- Debra Patterson, Kaiser Permanente

Old Business

Opening comments

Maria welcomed participants. The contents of the meeting packet and minutes from the June 2010 were reviewed

Equipment and Education Materials Needed

The program received funding for aluminum filters and other various lab supplies. The facilities no longer have available compensating filters and extension cones. These may be available as donations from other institutions or may be need to be purchased with funds. Maria will investigate ways to procure the items. There was some discussion on the need for the items since the local facilities no longer use them. Maria pointed out that the items are still covered in the program texts and ARRT exam and used frequently at other institutions, so students should have a familiarity with this type of equipment.

JRCERT Self-study Status

The program received official notification that an initial 3-year term of accreditation had been awarded. This is the highest term for accreditation for a new program under 5 years of existence. The next site visit is scheduled for April 2013.

Class of 2010 Status

There were 7 graduates in the 2010 cohort. At this time 5 out of the 7 have taken the national registry exam. All five passed the exam. Two students have had offers of employment contingent on acquiring their Fluoroscopy Permit. Other students are waiting to look for employment until they take and pass all examinations. All students will be fully employable after each receives the ARRT, CRT and Fluoroscopy Permit in the State of California.

Class of 2012 Status

The cohort of 2012 started with ten students as limited by the RHB and JRCERT. Of the ten students, nine are progressing towards graduation at this time. Graduation for this cohort is scheduled for June of 2012.

Laboratory Equipment Status

The program received funding for a CR Reader and DVD/CD's via Carl Perkins grant for students learning objectives in the fall semester. The items have been purchased and installed and students are currently using them in the laboratory.

New Business

Next Cohort Enrollment

The College's Board of Trustees had voted to delay the next cohort start until June of 2012, after the current cohort graduates, due to budget crisis. This move will save the college salary expenses as a second full time instructor will not be needed with only one cohort at a time taking classes. The impact to the employers will be that the next time the program will graduate students will be in 2012. There was some concern expressed on behalf of the local employers that they will have to recruit from outside the area to fill open positions in the interim. Also concerns were voiced that graduating a class every other year may not meet the recruitment needs of local employers and that there might be a complete cancellation of the program. Maria expressed that the Board of Trustees did not state any intention to cancel the program altogether and that the delay of operating two cohorts simultaneously is intended to be a temporary measure in order to help balance the budget.

Curriculum: Positioning Laboratory Changes

There was a suggestion last semester that the students perform simulated demonstrations at the classroom laboratory rather than at the clinics. The concern was that students felt that they could not get enough uninterrupted time practicing at the clinics. In order to address the concern, the instructors decided to have Tuesday mornings reserved to simulated practice and demonstration at the college laboratory for a trial period this term. The instructors will reassess the need at the end of the trial period.

Change in RSO

Dr Manjikian has stepped down as the Program RSO. Maria Kelly will now perform the duties as the RSO.

Tour of Laboratory/New Classroom

Maria took the group on a tour of the classroom and laboratory. As she did, she pointed out the features of the lab.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 29, 4:30 p.m.

APL119, Antelope Valley College, Lancaster, CA

Attendees:

Cindy Austin, Joyce Cohen, Dr. Karen Cowell, Jeff Crawford, Maria Kelly, Susan Vradenburg

Opening Comments: Maria welcomed participants. The contents of the meeting packet and minutes from the February 24, 2011 meeting were reviewed.

Old Business:

Equipment and Educational Materials Needs

Accessory Laboratory Equipment

The program received funding and purchased various accessory lab equipment last year. However, the program is still looking for an extension cone for student experiments on scatter radiation. There was a question as to whether or not facilities are using this equipment and how beneficial would it be to have one at the campus lab for student learning. Jeff indicated that Palmdale Regional Medical Center will be purchasing one for patient care use and thought students would definitely benefit from simulated exposure to this type of equipment. Susan stated that she had access to an older cone that she would donate to the collage, however Maria indicated that the type used for older equipment did not fit the campus x-ray tube housing, but may be able to modify it for use by students during laboratory experiments and welcomed the donation. Maria will investigate this option and make a recommendation to the board for it's next meeting.

PACS, CR and Internet Access

The faculty and employers felt that the students would benefit from a simulated PACS environment at the campus laboratory, since the clinical affiliates and employers in the area are all using digital and PACS. Susan and Jeff indicated that it would be beneficial for students to learn what happens when images are transmitted incorrectly in a test environment to demonstrate how errors affect patient care. Maria indicated that Internet access to the classroom and laboratory is needed to support this technology. In addition, Maria stated that Internet access would also be used by service vendors for remote access for trouble shooting for equipment errors. Dr. Cowell will inquire about Internet access to the classroom and laboratory. The program director requested Perkins IV funding for a second CR reader and a simple PACS with a large view monitor for the 2011-2012-budget year, but the proposal was placed on the second tier to be approved and may not happen this year. If funding is not achieved this year, the Program director will submit a request for next year.

Film Experiments

Some discussion ensued on the difficulty of obtaining a good film site for conducting the State mandated film experiments. Currently the program has an agreement with Dr. Antebi's office for use of the x-ray room and film processor. However, faculty reported that student learning is consistently interrupted by patient care while at the site and due to other issues has proven to be rather inconvenient logistically for both instructors and students. Maria reported that film sites in general have been difficult to find because all of the RT sites in the area and most doctors offices use digital

now. Jeff indicated that the chance of an RT being employed at a film site would be zero in the State and the focus for RT students should be on digital processing not film screen. Maria indicated that the State still requires film experiments even though the ARRT and ASRT has removed much of the detail on film processing out of the curriculum and examination content. Therefore the college is still obligated to provide film experiments for the students until the State changes the regulations to be more congruent with current practice. Jeff suggested looking Dr. Garrison's office as a possibility. Maria also attempted to solicit how other programs are dealing with the unavailability of film sites, but have received no responses so far. Maria recommended that the program continue to use Dr. Antebi's office until another site can be located and agreed upon.

Educational Resources

Maria indicated that most of the program textbooks have new additions out in 2012 corresponding to the updates to the ASRT curriculum and ARRT examination content specifications. Faculty have access to new editions via the Evolve/Elsevier portal.

Next Cohort Enrollment June 2012

The next enrollment period will begin in March of 2012. This will be the class of 2014. The program director will hold enrollment information meeting this semester in October and November for prospective student interested in the program. The information sessions include:

- Information on career options in medical imaging
- The role of the radiographer
- The college's enrollment process
- Prerequisites and courses required for the degree.
- Overview of courses in the program
- Program rigor and expectations

Ten students will be selected on a first come first serve basis conditional on meeting all the enrollment requirements.

Class of 2010 and 2012 status

The class of 2010 graduated 7 students, the class of 2012 currently has 8 students progressing towards graduation. The pinning ceremony for this cohort is scheduled for May 31, 2012. The requested location may be either 1) the new college theater or 2) the boardroom (SSV 151).

JRCERT Status

The next JRCERT site visit is scheduled for April 2013. The self-study and program accreditation fees will be due April 2012. Any updates to the JRCERT assessment plan, WASC SLO's and PLO's will also needed to be completed. Cindy and Joyce volunteered to help with completion of the self-study.

New Business:

Curriculum updates (ASRT 2012)

The ASRT curriculum and the ARRT content specifications have been updated and will be in effect January 2012. The program's Course Outline of Records (COR) have been updated for each course to be congruent with these updates and be more current with the actual current practice in the field.

Positioning Laboratory Changes

Last year a pilot was started to see the effect of moving positioning laboratory to the campus laboratory on students learning for positioning. Students and faculty believed it would be beneficial to perform some laboratory demo backs (graded competencies) and practice demonstrations at the campus laboratory, so as not to interfere with patient care at the clinical sites. Faculty reported that the advantage was that students all heard the same instruction at the same time and could benefit from hearing other students questions. Overall the students felt that the clinical environment was not as conducive to making mistakes and corrections that could lead to learning at clinical for their simulated practice of procedures and demonstrations. There was also a suggestion from the graduate surveys to have less time at the hospitals, with more time in the positioning laboratory in the first year.

The clinical faculty proposed that positioning laboratory should meet on Tuesdays for the first year for a full day (rather than ½ day) at the campus laboratory rather than the clinical affiliates. This would impact RADT103 and part of RADT107, resulting 8 hours in the campus-positioning laboratory and 16 hours at the clinical sites per week. Summer and Intersession hours would not change. Jeff stated that extra time for simulated practice would benefit student learning and agreed with this proposal. Maria will calculate the hours and schedule the next cohort accordingly.

In addition, some discussion ensued around the need to have demo-backs (graded simulated procedure demonstrations) used more consistently as assessment tools to track student learning outcomes, rather than just for formative assessments. Clinical instructors were allowing students who were not prepared the first attempt to redo the demonstration, without grading the first attempt, then only submitting the second attempt to the department chair for SLO data input. Maria pointed out that this might be one reason the SLO's for clinical courses consistently met target. The clinical faculty agreed that demo-backs should be graded more consistently and progressively, so areas of concern with student learning may be readily identified. Students will be graded on all attempts and if a student fails to demonstrate an objective, s/he will be graded accordingly, be given specific recommendations for practice by the clinical instructor and after the recommended practice is achieved allow the student to repeat the assessment.

Program Assessment Plan (Are we meeting program goals?)

The below assessment results were discussed. Options for changing the assessment plan based on the results were also discussed. It was agreed that the program assessment plan matches the mission, goals and objectives of the program appropriately and that given the program assessment results, the assessment plan should remain unchanged until more data is collected, except for program completion rate benchmark(see below action plan/goals).

- ARRT Examination Pass Rates- 100% on first attempt- 75% benchmark
- Job Placement Rates- 84%- with in six months-75% benchmark
- Program Completion Rates – 64%- (75%) -discussion on benchmark ensued, see action plan/goals below.
- Graduate Survey Results- On a scale of 1- 5- 3 or better on all questions
- Employer Survey Results- On a scale of 1- 5- 4 or better on all questions.
- Student Learning Outcomes (JRCERT & WASC) – All objectives were achieved for all courses for the cohort
- Program Learning Outcomes (JRCERT & WASC) - All objectives were achieved, except program completion rate (see above) for the cohort
- WASC (regional accreditation) Annual Program Review – highlights were reviewed

AVC Radiologic Technology Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Action plan/goals:

The Board discussed several possibilities for the results of program completion rate for the 2010 cohort. The possibilities included, the State of California enrollment regulations, mandatory limitations on enrollment by the Radiologic Health Branch and JRCERT, program rigor and individual personal reasons from the students involved (i.e. lose of spousal support, changed mind about career, etc). There was also some discussion on the intermediate algebra prerequisite for physics possibly being placed as a program entrance requirement instead. Dr. Cowell indicated that we would need to prove by Title 5 standards, that students would be more successful if intermediate algebra was a program prerequisite. So far, most students admitted to the program completed this course beforehand, and therefore correlation with program completion is difficult to prove, given the numbers needed (thousands of students) to state the case.

The board agreed that given the circumstances above, the program completion benchmark is unrealistic, should be moved from 75% to 70% and continue to be tracked for several cohorts.

Other Business:

Dr. Cowell asked for volunteers to speak at a middle school careers day on health science professions for February 23, 2012.

Maria gave a tour of the campus laboratory.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm

Next Meeting: TBA