

EMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 27, 2014
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER: 1:42 PM by Dr. Nelson

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Joe Nelson, DO-EMS Program Medical Director & Chairperson
Dr. Nerina J. Stepanovsky, EMS Program Director
Mark Maddalena, South Pasadena Fire Dept.
Shawn Tatham, Pinellas County EMS Administration (for Craig Hare)

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Nancy Kelley, Assoc. Provost-HEC
Ted Rogers, Lead EMT Instr.
Martin VanBourgondien, Lead Paramedic Instr.
Greg Taylor, EMR Instr., Pin. Pk. HS (Dual Enrollment)
Melissa McNalley, PA, Assoc. Med. Dir., Medical Consultants

WELCOME:

Dr. Nelson welcomed everyone and introduced his associate, Melissa McNalley of Medical Consultants, Inc. He has invited her to get involved with the SPC EMS Program. **He noted that this committee does not have quorum present.**

He also requested a motion be made to approve the **Minutes of September 13, 2013**. Minutes were **approved**.

State Bureau of EMS Updates – Dr. Nelson

Dr. Nelson announced the appointment of Ina Leinas as the new EMS Training Coordinator for the Florida Dept. of Health. Ms. Ina Leinas, who will replace Ricky Stone, has EMS education background. Also noted that there are spinal immobilization changes taking place and of major concern are pediatric methods being used.

Faculty & Staff Updates-Nerina Stepanovsky

Full time faculty member, Ralph Sibbio, has recently returned from active duty and will return to teaching duties at SPC on June 16, 2014.

The EMS Support Coordinator position has been filled by Scott Pelletier. Scott is a graduate of our program and started his duties last October. We're extremely grateful for his help. We are also pleased to announce the hiring of Mike Wallace as fulltime instructor. Mike began teaching this past January.

Chris Henderson has returned as adjunct instructor after medical leave. It was noted at this point that Chris has served as our Advisory Committee alumni representative for a while and it was suggested that we appoint a new alumni rep. Ted Rogers put forth the name of recent graduate, Aimee Downey-Jacobson. Nerina shared some information about Aimee and will call her to see if she is interested in serving.

Mark Eggers, also an SPC EMS Program graduate will begin as an adjunct faculty teaching both EMT & Paramedic lab classes.

Nerina stated that the maximum teaching load for adjuncts during summer session is 8 ECH, (Equated Credit Hours). She will be getting more information on the allowable amount for Fall & Spring sessions.

Overall Program Report-Nerina Stepanovsky

Nerina stated the continued need for field preceptors, particularly from Sunstar/Paramedic Plus, due to the rule regarding team leads for paramedic students and 5 transports required for EMT students. We have received positive feedback on Transcare (in Tampa) that is used by our EMT students. Dr. Nelson suggested asking Glenn Clegg of Transcare to serve on our advisory committee.

Dr. Nelson elaborated on the difficulty of getting qualified, medical training facilities that have available staff and time to precept students. The situation in Pinellas County has become an issue because of the number of medical training programs available in this area and surrounding counties. Competition for preceptors is intense. Because of the limited space the possibility of fining students who miss a scheduled clinical was discussed. Finding ways to make clear to students the importance of taking agreed on, assigned clinical dates seriously was discussed at length.

Greg Taylor, Emergency Medical Responder instructor at Pinellas Park High School's Public Safety Magnet Program, began his fourth class (for seniors) this January 2014. He has 5 out 11 eligible students who will be taking the NREMT EMR exam. Fourteen students are set to begin the Fall 2014 class and 11 are set for Spring 2015.

Our SPC/EMS Program will have their next CoAEMSP accreditation visit in November 2015, as well as the DOH/OEMS state visit.

SPC/EMS class offerings for Summer 2014 include an Emergency Medical Responder class (full at 24 students), EMT Evening program (full at 31), A completing EMT Evening class, Intro to Paramedic, Medic I, and Paramedic Field Internship class. Also offered is the EMS 1522C (Pharmacology) class as well as the BSC 1084C (Essentials of Human Anatomy).

Fall 2014 offerings include both a Day & Evening EMT Program, Medic I & II classes, Emergency Medical Responder as well as BSC 1084C (Essentials of Human Anatomy).

Lead EMT Instructor & Pass Rate Report – Ted Rogers

Ted shared recent pass rates for EMT students. See below.

EMT Exam Pass Rates 11/11/13-5/10/14

	Failed	Passed	Total	% Passed	Retake %Passed	Overall %Passed
FMTI Hillsborough	30	27	57	47.37	28.57	42.31
Hillsborough Community College	22	77	99	77.78	42.86	70.08
Leary Vocational Technical	5	20	25	80	43.75	65.85
Manatee Technical Institute	14	22	36	61.11	25	54.55
Pasco Hernando Community College	5	16	21	76.19	21.43	54.29
Sarasota Technical Institute	6	15	21	71.43	44.44	63.33
Southeastern College St. Petersburg	2	9	11	81.82	33.33	71.43
Southeastern College Tampa	2	5	7	71.43	33.33	47.37
St. Petersburg College	4	19	23	82.61	50	75.86
Statewide Average				70.62		62.46
NREMT Average				72		
SPC had the highest first time pass rate (82.61 vs 81.82, + 0.79%)						
SPC had the highest retest pass rate (50.00 vs 44.44, + 5.56%)						
SPC had the highest overall pass rate (75.85 vs 71.43, + 4.42%)						

Ted gave a brief explanation of the education methods for EMT classes. Basically students take 10 weeks of didactic and lab education and 6 weeks of clinical education. He stated that the Spring enrollment had no withdrawals from the EMT Evening class. He began a discussion regarding the changes in students over the last few years, namely a lack of personal responsibility that affects course assignments, clinicals and simply following directions.

Nerina extended thanks to Ted for teaching both the Day & Evening EMT classes during Spring session.

Lead Paramedic Instructor & Paramedic Pass Rate Report-Martin VanBourgondien

Marty shared the State pass rates for paramedic from Spring 2013 – August 2013, and November 11, 2013 – May 10, 2014. See below:

Paramedic Pass Rates for Bay Area Programs January 1 to August 30 2013

Program	First Time Pass %	Total Students	Retake Pass %	Total Students	Overall Pass %	Total Students
FMTI Hillsborough	91.67	18	29.41	23	54.79	41
HCC	100	63	38.46	19	84.62	82
Kaiser NPR	76	5	76	4	76	9
Manatee Tech	92.31	13	50	7	78.95	20
Pasco Hernando CC	91.67	21	75	8	85	29
Sarasota Tech	100	11	0	0	100	11
Southeastern College St. Pete	40	7	22.22	11	28.57	18
Southeastern College Tampa	54.55	13	25	19	37.04	32
SPC	100	15	50	2	93.33	17
Previous (1/1/2013 to 8/30/2013)	85.71	70	47.06	14	78.16	87
State Average	86.33	1265	34.69	855	63.62	2120
NREMT National Average						

Paramedic Pass Rates for Bay Area Programs November 11, 2013 to May 10, 2014

Program	First Time Pass %	Total Students	Retake Pass %	Total Students	Overall Pass %	Total Students
FMTI Hillsborough	66.7	12	36.84	21	46.43	33
HCC	85	20	30.77	18	63.64	38
Kaiser NPR	57.14	7	0	4	40	11
Manatee Tech	100	7	50	2	88.89	9
Pasco Hernando CC	100	6	60	6	80	12
Sarasota Tech	80	7	100	1	83.33	8
Southeastern College St. Pete	0	6	0	3	0	9
Southeastern College Tampa	0	2	0	3	0	7
SPC	66.67	3	0	2	40	5
(1/1/2013 to 8/30/2013)	100	15	50	2	93.33	17
Before (1/1/2013 to 8/30/2013)	85.71	70	47.06	14	78.16	87
State Average	78.21	706	39.01	636	59.21	1342
NREMT National Average						

There was a question of what is the main weakness of students taking the State exam. Marty explained that patient assessment is being taught using new methods, the state exam tests on old methods. He also stated that of the 12 students in EMS 2659, 6 took an incomplete grade at the end of the term. The main reason is that the final practical exam can't be taken until competencies are met in their clinicals. A variety of issues in paramedic clinicals affect this outcome. Some issues relate to preceptor burnout from teaching our students and their agencies new employees, call volume at some agencies may be high but agency can't do ride in because it would put units out of service for other calls. The need for more Sunstar preceptors continues to be an issue also. Marty noted that overnight shifts can be done with students who get permission from their instructor and the agency. We are getting help for hospital clinicals from Blake Medical Center in Manatee County. They are very accommodating as far as scheduling goes. A suggestion of using Bayonet Point Trauma Ctr. was mentioned and will be looked into.

Marty shared that we just began a summer session of new medic classes and will begin new classes in January and May (2015). We will graduate our current EMS 2659 class this July 24th.

Old Business

EMS Program Support Coordinator Scott Pelletier gave a report on clinical sites and equipment issues. At this time we have not received a completed affiliation agreement with Manatee Memorial Hospital. We had 10 paramedic students using Blake Medical Center in Bradenton last session and they were very complimentary of the facility and staff. Likewise, the staff at Blake was complementary of our students. However, they have requested our students attend 12 hour shifts rather than 8, and they have approved overnight shifts as well. Trauma clinical hour totals will be 24 rather than 16.

A question was raised about using Tampa Fire Rescue for field opportunities and team leads. Nancy Kelley, HEC Associate Provost, said she would look into moving the pending (initiated 5/1/13) Manatee County Fire Rescue Agreement along. To add to possible clinical sites a suggestion was made to check on Trinity Medical Center. We are also looking for a new pediatric site. St. Petersburg Pediatrics was a suggested option to check into.

Regarding EMS equipment, all have been assessed for any damage, as well as battery usage. Scott has developed a new equipment tracking system to follow usage, equipment needing repair, etc.

New Business

The recently acquired METIMan was used for end of program testing, and is being integrated into paramedic labs throughout the entire curriculum. This will help assure airway competencies and critical thinking skills, and can be used to help students acquire needed competencies in adult patients.

We are increasing EMS student involvement in inter-disciplinary scenarios. Thus far, we have worked with Dental Hygiene, Nursing and Respiratory Therapy students. Debriefings have reflected high student satisfaction with the experience and a request to do more of this type of educational experience.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for the following equipment:

- 1) Philips HeartStart MRx ALS monitor with added items with a trade in allowance and 45% agreement discount - **\$12,207.35, with trade in of one LP 12**
- 2) Replace old Emergency Care Simulator (1999) with new one – approx.. **\$40,000, with trade in of old ECS**
- 3) Sweet Extrication Training Simulator - **\$7,495.00**

There was a discussion to consider use of entry exams for EMS students – HOBET V. Nothing was decided.

Next meeting date –

The next Advisory Committee Meeting will take place on September 9, 2014 at the SPC EPI Center. We will be attending breakfast at 8 AM followed by our advisory meeting from 9:30-11 AM. Details will be emailed to committee members.

Dr. Nelson extended thanks to all for their continued support and the meeting was adjourned 3:40 PM.