



HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MINUTES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
VIA ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19

Date of Meeting: November 4, 2021

Members present:

Capra, Bonnie- Instructor, Pinellas Technical College
Cobena-Ramos, Kara- Student Member
Myrick, Melissa- BayCare Health System, Industry Chair
Newberry, Sheila- Faculty, Health Information Technology
Russell, Keeva- Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Sabree, Kengia- Program Director, Health Information Technology
Thompson, Tonia- Sarasota Memorial Hospital
Wilusz, Lisa- BayCare Health Systems

Members excused: Deanna Stentiford, Dean of Health Sciences

Others present:

Pecchio, Kristin- Career and Academic Advisor for Health Information Technology
Rivera, Frances- Career Outreach Specialist

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm.

Previous Minutes Approved:

The minutes from the April 21, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Motion by: Lisa Wilusz

Second by: Sheila Newberry

Unfinished Business:

No recommendations for changes to the welcome introductory email created in from the Summer working session. Melissa was re-elected as the Industry Chair.

Program Updates:

Program Status- provided by Dr. Kengia Sabree

- Current Students: 176
 - **HIT-AS:** 87 versus 117 (Fall 2020)
 - **MEDCD:** 79 versus 78
 - **HCINF:** 10 versus 10

Overall there are 568 students taking HIM classes in Fall 2021 versus 687 in Fall of 2020.

- **HIT-AS Graduates:** 37 (Fall 2020- Summer 2021) and students in PPE III/ potential Graduates by Dec: 12
- **MEDCD Graduates:** 57 (Fall 2020- Summer 2021)
- **HCINF Graduates:** 37 (Fall 2020- Summer 2021)

Pass Rates- provided by Dr. Sheila Newberry

The following pass rates are through 2nd quarter 2021 reported by CAHIIM: 66.67%. National Pass rate for this timeframe is 72%. Lowest domains are still Information Governance and Leadership. The

new leadership course isn't offered until Summer 2022.

This information was provided by our testing center and only captures exams that were paid for by the school in the 2020-2021 Academic year.

- RHIT- 75% (28T=21P/7F)
- CCA-85% (26T=22P/4F)
- CAHIMS-29% (7T=2P/5F)

Program Updates/ Curriculum Changes-

- As of Fall 2021, the certificate names have been changed to:
- We also adopted the 2018 CAHIIM competencies, which included the name changes (tracks) required compliance was due by 09/30.
- We are currently wrapping up revitalizing all of the PPE courses (1800, 2810, and 2820) plus 1005.
- We need to recruit more non-traditional students (males) into our programs.
- Currently, our admin position is vacant due to Marcia's retirement. In case you know anyone, who may be interested in filling this role.

Subcommittee Reports: None.

Student Update: The group shared the type of information that they would like to hear from Kara (curriculum challenges, challenges from other students, etc.)

Kara mentioned wanting increased engagement (between faculty and students), and a place or forum to collaborate with other students (Kengia to show Kara where the Student Lounge/Students Helping Students forum). Bonnie asked if students could message one another through the courses.

Kara mentioned the advisory board should be open to more students.

Other Business: Introducing our New Career Services Representative, Francis Rivera. Francis will be at HEC and All State Campuses.

Industry Updates & Discussion:

BayCare Health System has 210 patient financial solutions. 13 HIM operations, 32 in coding, and two pathology transcription positions. Sheila asked how coding positions are open to entry-level, and Melissa mentioned growing their own coders in small doses. Bonnie asked if PTC students who are on the path to SPC could be considered. Melissa said yes, as long as the program is accredited by AHIMA or AAPC. PTC students pursue AAPC credentials, and therefore would be eligible to apply for positions through the BayCare Medical Group.

Kara asked if BayCare were mandating vaccines. Due to the Federal mandate, and to keep the Medicare funding, all employees must be vaccinated by 01/04/2022.

Bonnie asked about religious and medical exemption, but that's at the discretion of the employer.

BayCare are doing sign on bonuses and referral bonuses for their employees.

Sarasota Memorial has four vacancies in HIM Operations, and have experienced candidates, without experience turning down positions due to unrealistic salary requirements.

Plans for next meeting: TBA- Spring 2022 (*Kengia to send a few dates before Winter break*).

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by 3:52 am.

Secretary: Kengia Sabree