# SPC St. Petersburg College



## **Health Information Technology**

### **Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 **Time:** 8:01 a.m. – 9:11 a.m.

**Location:** Caruth Health Education Center – HE 177N

Members Present: Denise Fonzo, Perry Ellie, Lucelly Miller, Amy Storozuk, Tonia Thompson,

Joanna Varner

**St. Petersburg College Staff Present:** Mrs. Kengia Johnson-Sabree, Dr. Sheila Newberry, Dr. Kimberley Cianciolo, Marcia Castle and Stephen Coleman (Student Worker)

Guest Speakers: Susan Eber and Lenore Swaim/SPC Apprenticeships and Grants Department

**Members Absent:** Bonnie Capra, Andrea Falvey, Vicky Huther, Ronnie Irvin, Denisha Lich, Colleen McComas, Patricia Schnering, Suzanne Spigner, Karen Youmans

#### **Topic/Discussion**

#### 1. Old Business

Review and approval of Fall Meeting minutes

#### 1. Discussion/Action

Mrs. Sabree showed a short video that related the role of the health information manager and asked for comments from the members. This job shadowing video was shown because Kristin Pecchio asked whether or not there was a video available to introduce our students to the field that could be posted on our website. Most felt that the video was somewhat dated and could be more current in its presentation. Mrs. Sabree asked if anyone would be able to help create a new video. Joanna Varner indicated that

she had the resources to create a new video. Will followup with Mrs. Sabree. 2. New Business 2. Discussion/Action Current Status Current Students The number of current students in the program is 263. 37 Certificate ► 63 Coding ➤ 162 AS Degree **Current Graduates** The number of current graduates for the year is 43. Number Students in PPE 23 current (19 pending for May 1, 2017) III/ Potential Graduates RHIT Pass Rates 78% through 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, national rate at 68%. SPC pass rate is down from 100% due to three failures in the third quarter (14 took exam in total). Discussion that AHIMA provides RHIT results only. Does not provide results for CCA, CHDA, or CHTS-PW. SPC is a testing site for all credentials except for CHDA (approval in progress). Mrs. Sabree is working with the testing center to encourage and promote students to take the credentialing exams at SPC so we can keep track of the exams in which AHIMA does not provide data for. Informatics: AHIMA introduced a new informatics Curriculum Revitalization credential (CPHI) however; the requirements are bachelor's degree plus three years' experience therefore our new students will not qualify. We will continue to prepare our students for the CHTS-PW exam. Denise Fonzo and Kimberly Cianciolo both expressed student satisfaction with the new Medical Terminology course as well as the technology associated with the textbook. Career and Community Mrs. Sabree discussed open house to be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>. An opportunity for networking and to present the Information HIT program to students looking at other health programs, especially for those who may not have been accepted to the programs of choice. We are also holding

a speed-dating event and may request the help and participation of our affiliate employers.

Susan Eber thought that many people equated nursing with job security and that HIT could also be presented in that same light. Perry Ellie questioned if the two could be equated, stating that he thought that there might not be the same job security for HIT jobs. His feeling was that many clerical jobs have been lost due to implementation of EHR. There was also lengthy discussion of many HIT jobs being outsourced, resulting in a lessening of employment opportunities. In making many of these positions offshore positions, companies may be sacrificing quality to save money. Discussion of lack of training for offshore coders and inability to answer questions from providers regarding coding and reimbursement.

Perry Ellie also questioned why AHIMA does not provide more advocacy in keeping jobs 'at home.' Stressed the need for better education of legislators and professionals regarding the detriments of outsourcing these jobs that require a high-skill level.

Perry Ellie brought up the question as to who provides training and education regarding health insurance. Amy Storozuk stated that she had recently taken a course in Tampa for health insurance training. She will follow up with Mrs. Sabree and provide her with information. Susan Eber mentioned that the College of Business offer courses in Insurance. Mrs. Sabree will investigate and provide additional follow up.

 Apprenticeship Initiative:
Presented by Susan Eber and Lenore Swaim Ms. Eber and Ms. Swaim provided information regarding apprenticeship programs and funding being available for facilities that provide apprenticeship programs for students. Amount of funding for sites is \$1200 annually to be divided into 3 payments, an initial payment of \$200, a payment of \$500 at the 25% mark of the apprenticeship, and a final payment of \$500 at the 50% milestone, based on a 1-year apprenticeship.

➤ Benefits of apprenticeship include relationship building and building of employee loyalty when the facility hires the apprentice.

provide the training at the facility; would a FTE be required to take their time to train the apprentice.

> Amy Storozuk brought up the subject that students need 'scrubbing' before they go to their sites for their Professional Practice Experience. Stressed the need for more professionalism. Tonia Thompson agreed that students may need more preparation; remind them that many professionals. It was discussed that the HIT program being online may have certain disadvantages when it comes to 'soft skills' training. Dr. Newberry

Perry Ellie had questions as to who would

the clinical experience is often seen as a job interview by mentioned reinstituting 'in-house' externship.

#### 3. Discussion/Action 3. Adjournment

**Questions and Concerns** 

Motion to adjourn by Kengia Johnson-Sabree, Seconded by Marcia Castle. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Stephen Coleman, Recorder