MLT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes
May 25, 2011
4:00 – 5:00 pm
Room 2327, 2300 Building

Present: James Nakasone, Mary Rickel, Sue Seegers, Molly Morse, Gillian Lewis, Christopher Edwards and guests Linda Breiwick and Pat Olson.
Absent: Kristin Engstrom, Kelly Johnson, Dorothy Canavan, Shelley Lankford, Tina Carpenter, Laurence Ferreri and David Cunningham.

Program Chair: Mary Rickel

Facebook: Gillian Lewis, Health Occupations Dean, discussed issues with facebook and social network media and professional programs. She said that more employers are checking social network media when considering hiring. She cited one incident where a hospital facility found patient information posted on facebook. The student was dismissed from the professional program.

Shoreline Health Occupations programs have all now included a statement regarding use of facebook and social network media. Gillian reported that this policy is now included in student handbooks in HO professional programs. James Nakasone mentioned that Swedish Hospital has a policy mentioning specifically that no derogatory comments about the facility should be made.

Sue Seegers added that the MLT Program has started a facebook page at the recommendation of David Cunningham at the last MLT Advisory Committee meeting. She said that she has been able to locate students that she had lost contact with, and she could see the advantage of using facebook with students.

Phlebotomy Students: Mary Rickel reports that eight phlebotomy students will start clinical practicum training of 4 weeks start summer 2011. Ten students were accepted into the program. Personal and family issues resulted in two students dropping out of the program. Mary reported that phlebotomy student graduate surveys have listed salaries as high as $15-17/ hr.

Sue reported that feedback from a clinical facility emphasized that for a facility to submit Healthcare Assistance license for a phlebotomist, the new employee must have a high school diploma or GED. Gillian said that a high school diploma was not required for people to take college classes. Shoreline has now included high school diploma or GED on the Phlebotomy application form.

MLT Students: Molly reported that 23 MLT students will complete the program by Fall 2011. There are two part time students, and six students were able to finish all practicum courses spring quarter 2011. This is the first year that more students will complete the program in Fall quarter.
WA ST Department of Health has not funding training programs for the next year, and will not be able to train students in Microbiology.

Sue reported that MLT Program had requested and received Perkins Grant funds for selected projects. We have made three short videos on using pipettes, handling biohazard waste and latex agglutination. Three other videos are being planned. These will be posted on Bb for student laboratory classes. We also received funds to create an online MLT Laboratory Safety Manual. We worked to create review questions and activities.

**Networking / Fundraising:** Pat Olsen was invited to talk about the “Nurses Night Out” event. Alumni were invited. Students were involved in many projects, and emceed the event. There were two guest speakers. The charge was $10 in advance, and $15 for on-site registration. Appetizers, dessert and coffee were served. She encouraged the MLT Program to follow the time line and planning activities that they had set up.

Both Linda Breiwick and Tina Carpenter have expressed interest in helping plan an MLT Program reunion sometime next year.

**Linda Breiwick MLT Program Scholarship:** Linda reported that she attended the 2001 Spring Scholarship Celebration sponsored by the Shoreline CC Foundation. Jennifer Valente was the recipient of the “Linda Breiwick MLT Program Scholarship of $500. The MC announced $400, and we will verify the $500 amount.

Linda was actively involved in helping the Foundation send letters to MLT graduates. Our goal was to funds of $5000. We received $1400 in donations.

**HECO Grant:** Gillian reported that Shoreline CC with 4 other community colleges has received a Health Education Career Opportunity grant. The purpose of the HECO grant is to provide career ladders in clinical laboratory by recruiting students into phlebotomy, clinical laboratory assistant and medical laboratory technician. The funding will help support qualified or eligible students with tuition for those students targeted to complete by June 2013.

Shoreline will hire a part time HECO Project Manager to help work with training facilities so that Shoreline can increase MLT enrollment by 15 students total by June 2013.

**Criminal Background Check Discussion:** Molly handed out the criminal history screening that would disqualify an applicant from being hired to work with vulnerable adults. She mentioned that more questions regarding what may be okay on a criminal history background check are coming up. She reported that regardless of this list, that Shoreline considers any event on a criminal history background check would disqualify a student applying to the MLT or Phlebotomy Program.

**Professional Technical Program Review:** Sue reported that the MLT Program is one of the professional technical programs being reviewed for elimination. She will be sending an email letter to a few graduates. Molly reported that she will send email letters to the MLT Advisory Committee. This is a preliminary stage, and not future information is available at this time.
Gillian mentioned contracted funding to help support programs, and House Bill 1795 which would allow for differential tuition.

**Meeting adjourned:** 5:10pm

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 26, 2011