Medical Laboratory Technology Program (MLT)  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
Wednesday, October 27, 2010, 4-5 PM  
Room 9202, Pagoda Union Building (PUB)

Present:  David Cunningham, Gillian Lewis, James, Nakasone, Dorothy Canavan, Shelley Lankford, Linda Breiwick, Mary Rickel, Sue Seegers, Molly Morse, and Tina Carpenter.  
Not Present:  Christopher Edwards, Beth Engel, Kristin Engstrom, Dr. Ferreri, and Kelly Johnson.  
Chair:  James Nakasone, Swedish/ Edmonds

Members introduced themselves. The MLT Advisory Committee has two new members: Shelley Lankford for Shoreline Department of Health, and Tina Carpenter, Northwest Clinical Laboratory.

STUDENTS

2010 MLT Class:  Molly Morse summarized statistics for the 2010 MLT class. The current MLT class has 25 students:  
- 2 part time and 22 full time students  
- 2 retraining: 1 former MLT graduate and 1 MT retraining in Hematology  
- 4 males and 21 females  
- ESL = 6 students

Fall/ Winter Phlebotomy Class- Mary Rickel reported that 10 students were accepted into the Phlebotomy Program. One student has dropped out because they were accepted into an LPN Program.

2009 MLT Graduate Survey:  Sue Seegers summarized the MLT Graduate Survey form and had tallied responses from 12 MLT graduate responses. The survey was emailed to 2009 and 2010 MLT graduates (45). About 6-8 surveys were undeliverable. This is the best return of surveys that we have had. A majority of students were employed, working in hospital clinical laboratories, earning $21-24/ hr and indicated that they would be interested in a certification exam review course. Sue noted that some students are still completing practicum training Fall quarter 2010.

A suggestion was made to use Survey Monkey in the future and send surveys to students following graduation. Peer support was recommended as a way to support students in the program. Have graduates take to students and share their experience.

Health Education Career Opportunities (HECO Grant):  Gillian Lewis, Dean Health Occupations Division, announced that Everett Comm. College wrote the career pathway grant. The goal was to increase clinical training sites and career pathways from phlebotomy, clinical
laboratory assistant to MLT program level. The “Five Star Consortium” colleges include Shoreline CC, Edmonds CC, Everett CC, Cascadia CC and Lake Washington Technical College. The grant is for developing and increasing career pathways.

Tina Carpenter mentioned the HEET grant for training in the clinical laboratory at Northwest Clinical Laboratory.

David Cunningham mentioned simulation activities to better prepare students, enhance learning, and reduce time on campus.

Dorothy Canavan asked if an announcement regarding this grant could be submitted to “Elabortions” newsletter.

**Linda Breiwick MLT Shoreline Foundation Scholarships:** Linda Breiwick MLT Program Scholarship asked us to think about ways to bring in money for student scholarships. She said that two scholarships have been given in the past years in the amount of $400. Students apply in April, and money is used for tuition or books.

Linda said that she would work with Shoreline Foundations to send a letter to alumni and facility laboratory managers in November. A recommendation was made to use Facebook to track graduates and get the word out about scholarship fundraising.

Gillian Lewis pointed out that Financial Aid forms and applications were taking up to 12 weeks for processing. She recommended that we post that information on the MLT website.

**CLINICAL FACILITIES**

**Clinical Affiliates:** Molly Morse reported that Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (MDL) in Mt. Vernon has agreed to train two MLT students in all laboratory practicum rotations. One student for spring 2011 and another during Fall 2011. In contacting MDL clinical coordinator, Molly was notified that MDL would not be able to train students. The affiliation contracts specifies that if training cannot be offered at the scheduled time, that the facility would make arrangements to train the student at the next opportunity available. MDL was bought by LabCorp. Dorothy Canavan said that the MDL laboratory space was still operating, although many tests were being sent to LabCorp-Seattle. Dorothy recommended contacting Ann McGrew regarding Hematology and Chemistry practicum training at LabCorp-Ballard. Molly mentioned that she was looking for more Microbiology practicum training facilities or current facilities to agree to train.

**Clinical Practicum feedback of Shoreline MLT students:** James Nakasone, Swedish/Edmonds, reported that they had hired 4 MLT graduates in the last year.

**CERTIFICATION**

**MLT (ASCP) Certification Exam report:** Molly Morse handed out a report summarizing Shoreline MLT (ASCP) certification examination pass rates for the 2007-third quarter of 2010. The national pass rate range was 76-79%. Shoreline MLT (ASCP) pass rate ranged from 75%
(2009) to 100% (2008). Pass rate for 2007 was 85%. Pass rate for third quarter 2010 was 86.6%.

We had discussed and addressed ESL student challenges with the national certification exam. One recommendation was to increased the minimum passing grade for MLT courses. Upon further review, Sue Seegers pointed out that ESL students had also passed the MLT (ASCP) exam that had lower passing grades in the MLT Program.

Due to work force shortages, Molly Morse said that she would recommend the AMT certification examination to students not passing the ASCP exam on their first attempt. Many of these graduates would be excellent workers, and would continue to grow in their career.

**Announcements:**
Shelley Lankford announced the 17th Annual “Washington Clinical Laboratory Conference” was being held Monday, November 8th at the Tukwila Community Center. For more information, call Leonard Kargacin at 206-418-5416.

Dorothy reported a discussion from CLAC regarding pain clinics performing drug testing for oxycodone. Because drug testing is moderate complexity, regulation of testing needs to be in place. Shelley Lankford reported the Washington State Medical Test Site Licensure was following up on these reports. Dorothy also reported that home testing and genetic testing were discussed.

Molly announced that Christopher Edwards requested a two month lead time to schedule time off to attend the MLT Advisory Committee meeting.

The **next meeting** will be schedule in **May 2011** unless issues come up that need to be discussed.