



Diagnostic Medical Sonography- Sharing Best Practices Session Notes (April 8th, 2020)

Attendees

1. Sasha Kahiga-CPS, TCSG
2. Brittany Duncombe, TCSG
3. Nina Madden
4. Leslie Mansell, Columbus Technical College
5. Elizabeth Anderson- VPAA, GA Northwestern Technical College
6. Frank Pharr- Dean, GA Northwestern Technical College
7. Jennifer Eiland, Oconee Fall Line Technical College
8. Tammy Bayto-Dean, Oconee Fall Line Technical College
9. Kristi Flowers, Augusta Technical College
10. Autumn Milburn, Augusta Technical College
11. Tina Welch, Ogeechee Technical College
12. Kristen Buoy-Dean, Gwinnett Technical College
13. Regina Ridgley- Columbus Technical College
14. Kim Strong- Gwinnett Technical College

Topic Discussion Notes

1. TCSG Recommendations & Resources
 - GVTC- Academic Continuity Webpage, <https://gvtc.tcsg.edu/deac/>
 - Provides online strategies, best practices for instructors and students, recommendations for virtual labs, and much more.
 - Agencies Program Modification Spreadsheet
 - Sasha presented and explained the TCSG Health Program Clinical Hours.
 - Any communication received from a programmatic accrediting agency, or regulatory body should be sent to Sasha to ensure

that the spreadsheet is updated with the most recent agency information.

- The group reviewed the information presented and informed Sasha of the following,
 - 1500 examinations are a requirement for the clinical sites and not the accrediting organization.
 - The 1500 examinations should be removed and replaced with JRC-DMS does not mandate hours or examinations, and the clinical length/amount of examinations is sufficient to the time needed to acquire required competencies. Agency expects programs to follow submitted TCSG standards.

Diagnostic Medical Sonography	210	450	1530		90	CAAHEP (JRC-DMS)		Students must perform 1500 examinations	For students in clinicals, decisions made may impact the students' graduation date. Factors to consider include but are not limited to, meeting with the Program Advisory Committee and clinical stakeholders to discuss options for continued learning, utilizing other clinical affiliations that are accepting students, extending the students' learning, following your local public health authority's recommendations, following your program's and institution's protocols, implementing the academic continuity plan for your institution, meeting your institutional requirements for potentially extended graduation for all students, consulting policies for incompletes, leaves of absence, and student enrollment agreements. If suspended from clinical sites, and no other sites are available, then keep documentation during the disruption and if there are any deviation from requirements for students to graduate then the JRC-DMS Board can evaluate on a case by case basis. Our policy has been (as it was for programs impacted by Hurricane Katrina) to not penalize programs for national situations beyond their control. If graduation dates are delayed, be prepared to provide to the JRC-DMS with evidence demonstrating which clinical sites and students were directly impacted and the length of the
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2. Open Discussion

- Sasha discussed her attendance on the American Technical Education Association (ATEA) Best Practice for Going Virtual meetings and will send out any notes if a Sonography meeting is presented in the near future.
- The colleges shared the following information,
 - Columbus Technical College
 - Uses Blackboard Collaborate
 - Gwinnett Technical College
 - For competitive admission, use TEAS entrance examination
 - Biology and English is weight more
 - Moved deadline to June 22nd
 - Georgia Northwestern Technical College
 - Uses Blackboard Collaborate and requires students to create patient portfolios.

- For competitive admissions, use the Psychological Services Bureau Health Aptitude Exam (PSB) and required students to take all 5 categories.
- Competitive admission has been pushed back until June or July
- PSB was been suspended for Fall admission and will only require GPA.
- Students must attend an information session; the next session is scheduled for May 1st.
- Augusta Technical College
 - For competitive admission, use TEAS entrance examination

3. Recommended Resources/Suggestions

- Instructors suggested that colleges purchase Transducers if financially feasible.
- Instructors requested for Sasha to offer these meetings once a month, Sasha will review May calendar and send out a calendar if available.
- Instructors suggested DMS apps for students to download. (Sasha is awaiting the links)