

INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE (IFCC)

DENTAL ASSISTING MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Leader: Liza Charlton, C.D.A.

Recorder: Yvonne Jenkins, R.D.H., C.D.A.

Location: Central Georgia Technical College

Date: Friday, September 21, 2018

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Attendees: Nora Calhean~ Albany Technical College, Ivey Spears~ Albany Technical College, Jennifer Burrell~ Athens Technical College, A. Peterson~ Atlanta Technical College, Cartrelle Clayton~ Atlanta Technical College, LaKizzy Green~ Atlanta Technical College, Blake Cauley~ Augusta Technical College, Sharon Jones~ Augusta Technical College, Columbus Technical College, Lindsey Evans~ Central Georgia Technical College, Eric Reid~ Central Georgia Technical College, Sharon Cook~ Columbus Technical College, Allison Patnode~ Georgia Northwestern Technical College, Lea Anna Harding~ Gwinnett Technical College, Liza Charlton~ Lanier Technical College, Yvonne Jenkins~ Ogeechee Technical College, Stephanie Derfus~ Savannah Technical College, Kimberly Nolan~ West Georgia Technical College, and Jessica Harvey~ West Georgia Technical College

AGENDA TOPICS

AGENDA TOPIC	DISCUSSION SUMMARY
Welcome	Sasha Kahgia, Curriculum Program Specialist, welcomed the group and introduced Nikki Stubbs from GVTC. She also stated that after a short presentation by Ms. Stubbs, we would be moving to Quad A for to ensure that everyone is comfortable.
OER Presentation	Ms. Stubbs gave a short presentation on OER (Open Educational Resources), which features a variety of free education materials for teaching.
Curriculum Revisions	<p>After everyone resettled in the new room, IFCC Chairperson, Liza Charlton, suggested that we get started on curriculum revisions and that we go course by course.</p> <p><u>DENA 1010-Basic Human Biology</u></p> <p>Everyone agrees DENA 1010 should be kept in the curriculum and that no changes need to be made. Some schools require ALHS 1011 instead, but other schools allow students to take either ALHS 1011 or DENA 1010 because they feel ALHS 1011 is too difficult for some students.</p> <p><u>DENA 1030-Preventive Dentistry</u></p> <p>It has been suggested before that the lab be removed from this course. Sharon Cook of Columbus Tech stated that we need to keep the lab. She explained that Georgia's new law allowing dental assistants to provide coronal polishing (150-09.01 Y) will require more training in the area. She stated that Sandy Woodward of Wiregrass Tech has written a proposal to include coronal polishing in the DENA 1030 curriculum. After some discussion, it was revealed that there is no specific TCSG standard regarding</p>

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	<p>coronal polishing. Ten programs teach it in DENA 1350, but a few programs teach it in DENA 1030. One school conducts a coronal polishing seminar.</p> <p>There was a lot of discussion about the law regarding polishing. BOD rule 150-9.01(y) states that a general duty dental assistant may <i>Use a rubber cup prophylaxis on a patient with primary dentition. A dental assistant may only begin providing rubber cup prophylaxis after the dental assistant has completed a curriculum approved by the Board or a minimum of eight hours of on-the-job training in the provision of rubber cup prophylaxis by a dentist licensed to practice in Georgia.</i> There was some discussion about the use of the term <i>primary dentition</i> and about the fact that coronal polishing is currently considered a general duty, not an expanded function.</p> <p>Sharon Cook of Columbus Tech suggested that we look at the curriculum Sandy Woodward of Wiregrass Tech wrote for a new embedded TCC on coronal polishing. Someone said that if a program starts in the fall and students graduate during the same academic year, the TCC would not be counted as an extra graduate.</p> <p>Stephanie recommended that we combine DENA 1030 (Preventive Dentistry) and DENA 1070 (Oral Pathology) into one course called <i>Dental Health and Nutrition</i>. CODA requires oral hygiene instruction before going to clinical. Someone mentioned that we teach disease processes in 1030, 1050, 1070, and 1350. Someone else asked how combining those two courses would reduce contact hours. Another point was made that not all schools teach DENA 1030. Someone suggested that we leave polishing in DENA 1350 and add a credit hour.</p> <p>Liza reminded the group that our goal today was to reduce contact hours. Someone stated that we need to remember how many hours we currently have and how many we would need to maintain a diploma. The current curriculum includes 55 hours, and a TCC is 36 hours or less.</p> <p>Liza asked how many would like to move from a diploma to a certificate. Only three programs were in favor of the change. One program that is not CODA accredited only offers TCC's. Their graduates may not sit for the CDA exam but can sit for NELDA exam. They have a lot of dual enrolled students because that is what the dentists in that area wanted. Liza suggested that we move forward with reducing hours. She suggested that we look at general education hours.</p> <p><u>General Education and Occupational Courses</u></p> <p>COMP 1010 and ALHS 1040 are considered occupational courses, not general education. ENGL 1010, MATH 1012, and PSYC 1010 are general education courses. Sharon said that Sandy Woodward suggested that we look at removing MATH 1012. It was removed once before, but because a diploma requires eight hours of general education courses, we added it back to the curriculum the next year.</p> <p>Sharon asked about COMP 1000.</p> <p>Stephanie Derfus from Savannah Tech stated that we should not be concerned with the terms, <i>diploma or certificate</i> because CODA looks at content, not credit hours. She stated that there are accredited certificate programs. She would like to see us go to a certificate program, eliminate the core courses, and have students complete the entire program in one academic year. Sharon said that she would not consider moving away from a diploma as she considers it a selling point for her program.</p> <p>Someone said that students should be able to take degree level core courses so that they will transfer to a degree program. Liza stated that we changed the wording at the last meeting allowing students to take either diploma level or degree level core courses.</p>

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	<p>Stephanie stated that she doesn't think they need math because she teaches it in DENA 1070, DENA 1390, and DENA 1400. She also doesn't think they need a computer course. Liza reminded us that we can't remove any core courses because of the eight hour rule. Someone else mentioned removing COMP 1000. Some schools teach that content as part of another course such as COLL 1010. Liza took a vote asking who would like to see COMP 1000 removed. Twelve out of 14 program directors want to remove COMP 1000. Liza asked who would like to see ALHS 1040 removed from the standards. Eleven out of 14 would like to see ALHS 1040 removed.</p> <p>The discussion moved back to DENA 1030.</p> <p><u>DENA 1030-Preventive Dentistry (continued)</u></p> <p>The question remained as to whether or not we should remove the lab from DENA 1030. Oral hygiene instruction is a standard in DENA 1030. Liza asked the group where they were teaching OHI. Some people teach it in the lab while others teach it the classroom, and at least one program gives the students an at-home assignment. Someone suggested adding OHI to the DENA 1340 lab. Liza asked for a vote. She asked how many would like to leave OHI in DENA 1030 and teach it in the classroom. It was decided to leave OHI in 1030 and teach it in the classroom.</p> <p>Stephanie Derfus came to the front to discuss her recommendation that we combine DENA 1030 (Preventive Dentistry) and DENA 1070 (Oral Pathology) into one course called Dental Health and Nutrition. Because she teaches the courses in different semesters, she thinks it's weird that she is teaching disease processes in three different courses. Someone asked if she was proposing removing anything from either curriculum, and she stated that she was not. Someone stated that there was no real benefit to combining the courses if there was no overlap in content, and therefore, no reduction of hours. There is 76 minutes of lecture overlap, but 750 minutes would have to be removed to reduce the course by one hour. Someone suggested that we need to be going course by course and checking for repeated content. Liza suggested that even if we didn't reduce hours, we could still reduce repeated content. Sasha asked that we break up into groups and then each group present their outcomes.</p> <p>Sandy (via phone) suggested some of the minutes allotted for certain standards are very overinflated. She said that if we reduced the minutes on some of those, we could reduce contact hours that way. She gave DENA 1400 as an example.</p> <p><u>DENA 1400-Practice Management</u></p> <p>Sandy suggested that we could remove 975 minutes that are slated for basic computer skills by just adding the words <i>using the computer</i> to the other outcomes.</p> <p>Liza called a 10 minute break with the intention of breaking up into groups of five upon our return. After a few minutes in groups, the consensus was that we would be more productive working together.</p> <p>Someone asked why we were trying to reduce minutes, and Liza explained that we had a very high number of hours for a diploma program. She also said that CODA representatives were pleased to see that she repeated certain topics during her last site visit.</p> <p>Liza stated that we had possibly met our goal of reducing hours by removing ALHS 1040 and COMP 1000 from the curriculum. She added that at our June meeting we had discussed three things: medical emergencies are now taught in DENA 1340, but the</p>

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	<p>description is still in DENA 1350, whether or not a mistake was made during Q2S when calculating the hours for DENA 1080, and how to reduce contact hours. She reiterated that it is difficult to remove content because not all schools teach the same courses.</p> <p><u>DENA 1080-Dental Anatomy</u></p> <p>It was decided that the hours and content are sufficient. Lea Anna Harding of Gwinnett Tech stated that even though we changed the name of <i>Dental Biology</i> to <i>Dental Anatomy</i> several years ago, <i>Dental Biology</i> is still listed as a prerequisite of several courses instead of <i>Dental Anatomy</i>. She asked that these areas please be updated. Someone also mentioned that temporomandibular joint is misspelled in the DENA 1080 standards.</p> <p><u>DENA 1340- Dental Assisting I</u></p> <p>Someone again stated that medical emergencies and medically compromised patients are now taught in DENA 1340, but the description is still in DENA 1350.</p> <p><u>DENA 1030-Preventive Dentistry (continued)</u></p> <p>Liza reminding the group that we had discussed removing the lab from DENA 1030 but never actually voted on the subject. Liza asked for a show of hands to remove the lab from DENA 1030. Ten of 11 programs voted to remove the lab from DENA 1030. It was also stated that those who want to offer the additional coronal polishing TCC will teach the content in DENA 1350.</p> <p><u>DENA 1010-Basic Human Biology (continued)</u></p> <p>Liza confirmed that students may take either DENA 1010 or ALHS 1011. Someone asked if we could remove DENA 1010/ALHS 1011 since we teach Dental Biology. It was explained that Dental Biology is now called Dental Anatomy, and that it is not the same as DENA 1010 or ALHS 1011.</p> <p>Liza summarized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the lab from DENA 1030 • Remove medical emergencies and medically compromised patients from the DENA 1350 description and add it to the DENA 1340 description • Coronal polishing will be taught in DENA 1350 • Leave DENA 1080 alone <p><u>DENA 1390- Dental Radiology</u></p> <p>Lea Anna asked if we could reduce some of the lecture minutes in DENA 1390. No one was in favor.</p> <p>Sasha suggested that we need to remove another 15 contact hours. She stated that if we did not, she needed a good explanation as to why our programs have more contact hours than CODA requires.</p>

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	<p><u>DENA 1400-Dental Practice Management</u></p> <p>Sharon mentioned that we take Sandy’s suggestion to remove the lab from DENA 1400 and add 750 minutes of lecture, which would eliminate 15 contact hours.</p> <p><u>DENA 1090-DANB Preparation</u></p> <p>Stephanie asked why we teach DANB Prep. She stated that CODA says nothing about DANB Prep, and therefore, we should not teach it. Sharon said that all of her students sit for DANB, and that course makes a big difference. Sharon said that we need to encourage our students to take DANB to separate our graduates from people taking short courses. Stephanie suggested that individual programs could offer DANB Prep through continuing education if they wish. Someone else said that if we cut out all of our core courses; we would be on a level with 10-week programs. Someone else suggested that we’re already competing with those programs. Sharon suggested that if we keep cutting hours, we’ll be just like those programs. Sharon said that we need to set ourselves apart. She stated that we want our students to be more marketable.</p> <p>It was discussed that Georgia doesn’t require dental assistants to be a CDA, but many states do. Graduates who take DANB will be ahead of the game if Georgia ever does require it, or if they move to another state. Someone stated that many dentists really don’t care or understand what being a CDA means. Sharon suggested that it was up to us to educate those dentists. After much discussion about the necessity of students to take DANB and whether or not we need the review course, Liza called for a vote. Only two people were in favor of removing the course. Yvonne Jenkins of Ogeechee Tech stated that even if students do not plan to sit for DANB, the DANB prep course is an excellent review. Stephanie stated that she thinks that if a review course is needed, then the program is too long.</p> <p>Sandy suggested renaming the course the <i>Dental Assisting Program Review</i>. After it was some discussion, it was decided to leave the course as is.</p>
Closing Remarks	Sasha would like for us to create a curriculum map showing that CODA standards match TCSG standards. Sharon said that Sandy has been working on this. Sasha asked that it be sent to her.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<p>Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove ALHS 1040 from the curriculum (students will be required to present proof of BLS certification prior to Dental Assisting program courses) • Remove COMP 1000 from the curriculum • Add coronal polishing to the DENA 1350 description • Add medical emergencies and medically compromised patients to the DENA 1340 description and remove from DENA 1350 • Remove the lab from DENA 1030 • Oral hygiene instruction will be taught in DENA 1030 • Make no changes to DENA 1080 		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change Dental Biology to Dental Anatomy (Dental Biology is still listed as a prerequisite of several courses instead of Dental Anatomy) • Make no changes to DENA 1090 • Make no changes to DENA 1390 • Create a curriculum map showing that CODA standards match TCSG standards and where each standard is taught 		

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/NOTES:

TCSG programs not only meet CODA standards but go beyond them in order to set our students apart from assistants who are trained in the office or just attend a 10-week course. If we keep cutting hours, we'll be just like those 10-week programs. We need to continue to set ourselves apart which makes our graduates more marketable. TCSG program Dental Assisting graduates are not just trained chairside; they are educated in all aspects of dental assisting. They are not only taught what they need to do but also why they are doing it. This protects the assistant and more importantly the patient.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:00 p.m.

Minutes Submitted By: Yvonne Jenkins, R.D.H., C.D.A.