

TCSG Pharmacy Technology IFCC meeting held in Macon at CGTC, Friday, September 30, 2016

The following attended the meeting:

Janae Mobley: Albany Tech
Betty Finney: Central Georgia Tech
Pedro Valentin: Columbus Tech
Sasha Kahiga: Lanier Tech
Christy Bivins: North Georgia Tech
Deanna Ussery: Oconee Fall Line Tech
Jack J. Shepherd: Oconee Fall Line Tech
Lisa Soares: Southern Crescent Tech
Rasheeda McNeal: Southern Crescent Tech
Matt Brown: Southeastern Tech
Holly Free: TCSG
Frank Barnett: Wiregrass Tech
Adrienne Guy: Augusta Tech
Michelle Hill: West Georgia Tech
Melanie Thornton: Columbus Tech
Caroline Angelo: Athens Tech

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am at Central Georgia Technical College in Macon, Georgia, Building I-Quad B by Jack J. Shepherd. Following a brief welcome statement, Mr. Shepherd turned the meeting over to Holly Free, Program Curriculum Specialist from TCSG. Holly spoke briefly about the retirement of Elaine Williams, former curriculum specialist and what her role was in representing the consortium. She also mentioned that we did not currently have any active probes. She also reviewed other TCSG updates. The minutes from the 2015 meeting were then approved as written and recorded by a Motion from Matt Brown, seconded by Christy Bivins and unanimously approved. Holly said ALHS 1040 is currently not in the works to be removed by the State and the Pharmacy consortium is keeping it in the core curriculum. ALHS 1040 satisfies a number of the ASHP goals and objectives not covered in PHAR courses.

Mr. Shepherd then had everyone to introduce themselves and the college they represent. Holly Free also asked members to help get the list serv update and make changes on her sign in sheet if required and to account for co-workers not attending. Members signed in and updated their emails.

Frank Barnett make a presentation about PDMP which is the new Georgia registry involving controlled substance prescription fills and serves as an interface to identify drug diversion and abuse from patients having prescriptions filled for controlled substances at multiple pharmacies. Frank explained how technicians are involved in the process and the legal ramifications that exist as to who can actually access the website. The Georgia Drugs and Narcotic Agency recently arrested an individual who was using the PDMP beyond it's intended scope. Further info is available at gpha.org/cpeasy. All programs are encouraged to integrate PDMP into their curriculum so technicians will be aware of the logistics.

Sasha Kahiga made a motion, seconded by Betty Finnney that Math 1013 be included as a program core class and pre-requisite for PHAR 1000. Not all schools offer Math 1013, but upon review the consortium determined that Math 1013 satisfied the necessary math skills required for Pharmacy Technicians

coming into the program. The motion carried and Holly Free was to pursue the and/or request for approval.

Caroline Angelo mentioned that Athens Tech was looking into the possibility of beginning a Pharmacy Technology program.

Holly Free then explained the TCSG policy about vendors/colleges/universities coming to our consortium meetings. It is legal for samples to be provided for distribution, but the only way these entities can attend a consortium meeting is if ALL have been extended invites. Several members mentioned that PCOM would come to the individual schools to talk about bridging to the Pharmacy degree and/or articulation agreements.

The group then shared ideas about increasing enrollment, as some colleges are struggling with program numbers. Lots of interesting ideas were shared.

Next, Mr. Shepherd asked each college to share info about job placement of graduates and the overall response was most graduates can find employment. With the 2020 rule coming soon, programs anticipate increase in enrollment. Several members expressed concerns over online Pharm Tech programs and how we can keep promoting our programs as a better program to prepare Pharm Techs for the profession.

Lisa Soares shared info about how she had created a Facebook page for graduates to use in job searching and being interactive. Discussions were held about how each college handles recommendation requests and Holly explained to make sure we follow college protocol and keep career services involved.

Several members talked about taking students to Regional GPHA meetings. Members were encouraged to attend their respective GPHA meetings.

Pedro Valentin then spoke about an upcoming meeting at the State GPHA meeting in Macon and how our consortium needed to be represented and present some of the recommendations for the Board of Pharmacy to review. The following members agreed to attend this meeting October 22 with Pedro in Macon. Pedro got the email addresses and will follow up with the time and place. Those to attend are: Pedro Valentin, Lisa Soares, Rasheeda McNeal, Betty Finney and Frank Barnett.

Some discussion was held about reducing the competencies in PHAR 1010 for Chemistry concepts and principles and expanding the minutes in other competency areas for PHAR 1010. After the discussion, Mr. Shepherd appointed Frank Barnett and Matt Brown to review the competencies and edit them for presentation to Holly Free to get approval. Holly stressed we can do this as long as we maintain the contact minutes the same, thus added minutes to other areas for minutes deleted from Chemistry concepts. Frank and Matt are to email the consortium members once they edit the PHAR 1010 Chemistry concepts and members can make additions or deletions before they are sent to Holly.

The consortium then held general discussion about various topics of interest and all had a time of sharing ideas and directions for their programs. A brief discussion was held about colleges that offer TCC's and the MOWR directives. Holly said this are basically institution decisions. Mr. Shepherd cautioned program directors that these certificates and PB71 do not meet ASHP goals and objectives

and if offered by ASHP accredited schools they need to make sure it is not advertised that these do not be advertised as a part of the Accredited program.

The consortium agreed to meet in approximately one year on a Friday at Central Georgia Technical College. Holly Free, program curriculum specialist was to find some proposed dates next fall and submit then by email thru list serv for members to choose the best suited date.

With no further business at approximately 1:10pm the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes as recorded by Deanna Ussery and transposed by Jack J. Shepherd, Chairperson.