

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY
IFCC COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 24, 2017

Attendees:

Dr. Carole Miller: ATC
Melissa Hunt, RVT: ATC
Caroline Angelo: VP of AA ATC
Dr. Amy Dorminey: OTC
Dr. Jennifer Mathews :SRTC
Sharon Poinevaent, RVT:SRTC
Dr. Bonnie Ballard: GTC
Ryan Cheek, RVT; GTC

Dr. Ballard started the meeting and had everyone introduce each other as there were new members in the group.

Old Minutes:

There has been no restructuring or hours cut to programs. TCSG will not allow increases in credit hours. However, Holly said that if a program needs to add more she would be willing to bring it to her superiors. To see old minutes go to the TCSG website and click on Academic Affairs then IFCC and then minutes.

The last meeting's minutes were accepted.

Dr. Miller explained that they offer Veterinary Medical Terminology online now. The course can serve as a recruiting tool for those taking prerequisite courses, including high school students. All of the veterinary technology programs can use this course. A student would apply as a transient student, pay a fee of \$20.00, and provide a transient letter from the sending school along with proof of US legal status and Georgia residency. The course can be selected through GVTC which is easier. GVTC gives credit to the school from which the student is a transient. The instructor is Dr. Kelly Lockerman who used to teach at ATC. It has been offered in the summer and fall. This past fall one section had 16 students and the other 14. Of those 16 were accepted into the program. There will be two sections of the course offered in the fall with 20 per section. The course consists of quizzes, a midterm and an on campus final.

Dr. Mathews inquired about doing the Introduction to Veterinary Technology course this way. Dr. Miller and Ryan explained that it could not have it contains AVMA essential tasks. Dr. Miller was asked about what happens if a high school student completes the med term course and then it takes years to get to get into the program? She was not concerned about it. Holly suggested that an exemption test could be considered. Ryan shared that he teaches the VETT 1000 course as a hybrid with student meeting on campus one day a week and the rest of the work is done online. Tests are taken in class.

Dr. Miller announced that she will be retiring on April 30th.

When looking up courses in KMS we need to make sure we are looking at the correct curriculum as older versions are there. Only the version that was implemented is valid. The current version will have the correct credit hours.

Dr. Miller had looked at the VETT 2120 class and it still had reticulocyte counts in the state standard but it had been dropped by the AVMA. She reminded us that Dr. Grumbles had agreed at the last meeting to look at the standards and compare them to the AVMA essential task list. She retired so it was never done.

Holly said that changes like that are submitted to TCSG with an Information Ticket which lists the changes that are needed. Once submitted Holly will send us a draft of the change to approve before it is posted in KMS.

It was suggested that the committee check the AVMA essential skills list against the state standard to make sure they are the same. The committee divided up the courses so each member had courses to check. Dr. Miller agreed to take 1000, 1060, and 2230.. Melissa took 1010, and 1030. Dr. Dorminey took 2220. Dr. Mathews took 1020, 1110, and 2120 .Sharon took 2130, Dr. Ballard took 2160 and Ryan took 2210. Billie Walker from OTC was given 1070 and Dr. Light from ATC was given 2300. The changes will be submitted by printing the state standard, highlighting the change and then writing the additions below. These should be submitted to Ryan by April 15th.for review. To access standards from the TCSG website:

TCSG scoreboard -> KMS login -> Application support-> Program management-> which college ->Welcome -> look for programs at the top of the screen and scroll down to find VET TECH ->see list for major code -> VT23 -> courses. Internet Explorer should be used to access this site.

Holly said to notify her if we have any problems utilizing the KMS site.

Dr. Mathews inquired about having a comparative A& P course. The members discussed biology and A & P courses offered as prerequisites. Ms. Angelo stated that there is a Biology course that is basically 2113 and 2114 combined which was developed for the HIMT program. It is 5 credit hours. It could be offered as a choice, an and/or for the general education section with BIO 1101. Ryan suggests that prospective students take a human A& P course prior to admission. The course would be paid for out of pocket.

An AS degree requires 15 hours of general education core courses.

Chemistry was also talked about . GTC loses 30% of the applicants to the chemistry course. While there could be a different chemistry course offered, Dr. Ballard doesn't want a watered down chemistry so we get another type of applicant. Chemistry 1151 is a possibility to offer. It transfers to other colleges as a non-science degree course. What we cannot do is develop a comparative anatomy course and drop chemistry. Chemistry is mentioned as a topic that should be part of the AVMA accredited program curriculum. Chemistry is a problem for all the programs.

An idea would be to give applicants a choice of courses to take in science. Each college could choose the combination of courses to allow for admission.

It was mentioned that the quality of the instruction of the science courses makes a big difference and good instructors can be hard to find. Holly said that SACS/COC dictates what terminal degree is required to teach these science courses.

ATC and GTC are the only programs that have competitive admissions. SRTC uses the Elsevier test as part of the application process. Ryan noted that Elsevier will not provide the validity studies so it is questionable how good the test is. GTC uses the TEAS. At OTC everyone who applies gets in. GTC and ATC has a points system where an applicant receives a certain amount of points depending on what GPA they have and what their aptitude test score is.

SRTC's have students who struggle with math in VETT 2160. It would seem that since they have had math in the past this shouldn't happen. Ryan mentioned that instructors at GTC met with the math department to see why students can't convert units. It turned out they don't do problems with units. They now do and it has helped some. Carole said that maybe the committee could develop a medical math online course.

TCSG may have an across the board policy for all programs which would be problematic for our program. A selection process has to be rigorous as our students by nature of what they do can kill a patient. Health Sciences has a limited amount of clinical sites to use so this limits the number of applicants a program takes.

Holly informed the committee of a change that has to be made to Health Science courses. These changes were basically a result of the federal government granting Pell and SWIG to students in schools that are "diploma mills" which have huge tuition fees but students who graduate cannot get a job. Now TCSG colleges can no longer have a Health Science degree with the Pre-vet, Pre-rad tech, etc. because this degree does not lead to a job. In order for a college to continue to be Pell and SWIG eligible, a change has to be made. Each college must submit their option to TCSG by April 1st. There are three possible options to satisfy the new policy.

Option One: provide stackable credentials where a handful of courses would end up with a diploma which would then be required for program admission.

Option Two: for programs with competitive admissions, have a non-competitive portion of a program that a student can enroll in. Then they go through competitive admissions to complete the remainder of the program.

Option Three: an interdisciplinary program that would have components that would make a student employable.

Dr. Ballard recalled a meeting at GTC months ago where the subject of the Health Science degree came up. There was a concern about the employability issue and the HS division had to come up with a program that would satisfy the employability issue. The HS division came up

with a certificate program that had courses such as management, medical math, and medical terminology so that the person who gets this degree has knowledge in topics that would be common to all health science related jobs. A degree was developed that satisfied the employability issue that all the HS faculty could agree on. It was submitted to Dr. Seals, the VPAA. Nothing ever became of it. The topic appeared to be dropped. Dr. Ballard said she would see if she still had the notes from that meeting. Holly asked for them if they exist.

No date was set for a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.