

AGENDA ITEM 4

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2017, FIELD WORK AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.

The following are attached for review:

- Draft meeting minutes



TELECONFERENCE AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 11, 2017

Committee Members Present

Sharon Pavlovich, Chair/OTA
Jeff Ferro, Public Board Member
Matt Lege, SEIU-UHW
Ada Boone Hoerl, OTA, Program Director, Sacramento City College
Joyce Fries, OT, Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Grossmont College
Michelle Parolise, OT, Program Director, Santa Ana College

Board Staff Present

Heather Martin, Executive Officer
Jody Quesada, Analyst

1. Call to order, roll call and establishment of a quorum.

Committee Chair Sharon Pavlovich called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm and contact was made with all teleconference locations. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

2. Introduction of Committee members.

Committee Chair Sharon Pavlovich introduced all committee members and welcomed any member of the public to introduce themselves at will.

3. Public Comment session for items not on the agenda.

There was no public comment.

4. Discussion and exploration of alternative approaches to increasing the availability of fieldwork sites in California for students completing academic requirements for licensure (Business and Professions Code section 2570.6). Consideration of possible recommendations to the Board.

Chair Sharon Pavlovich provided background on the purpose of the fieldwork Ad Hoc committee. This prompted a brainstorm type discussion on the current fieldwork models for occupational therapists (OTs) and the occupational therapy assistants (OTAs), and the Board's direction to explore the possibility of alternative fieldwork models and what those alternatives might look like.

Ada Boone Hoerl referenced an email from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) regarding the upcoming educational standards being revised for a third time. Ms. Boone Hoerl expressed her excitement to discuss alternatives but

cautioned the committee to be mindful of forward planning considering the draft standards could be changed again before becoming final.

Matt Lege stated that SEIU-UHW is encountering more anecdotal evidence in the Allied Health arena that shows clinical sites are requiring some form of compensation for placing students, which is putting public universities at a disadvantage in finding clinical placement sites for their students. Mr. Lege encouraged the Board to realize that this could cut off the pathway for public students in to these great careers because public institutions are not able to compete with private institutions in placing their students.

Mr. Lege stated that an apprenticeship requires a partnership between employers, labor groups and educational institutions. Mr. Lege stated that apprenticeship programs have been successful in guaranteeing clinical placements that have produced successful students.

Jeff Ferro stated that it became apparent to him that there needs to be a solution to the ever-shrinking number of fieldwork placement spots, which is why he suggested consideration of the apprenticeship model to the Board. Mr. Ferro stated that as a member of the Board he understands and agrees that the apprenticeship model cannot be done at the expense of the consumer and his main concerns are how to get an apprentice or intern's work billed and how to incentivize the employers to take some of their profit and put it back in to educating the future. Mr. Ferro said that the goal should be to find a way to get people trained, to be diverse and to allow people of all income levels to be participate in this occupation.

Michelle Parolise asked for clarification on the apprentice selection process that potential employers would use.

Matt Lege and Jeff Ferro explained that in their experience there are interview processes run by employers as well as application submission and aptitude testing of which the most qualified are chosen.

Chairperson Sharon Pavlovich asked the practitioner committee members for feedback as to how the existing fieldwork placement model is working at their respective schools.

Ada Boone Hoerl stated the existing model is not working because supply (of available fieldwork sites) is not meeting demand. Ms. Boone Hoerl referenced AOTA's Ad Hoc Committee report on Fieldwork in which the proposed solution includes reducing the amount of fieldwork required. Ms. Boone Hoerl stated that the model proposed by AOTA has innovative, good ideas but these ideas do not substitute for direct patient contact. Ms. Boone Hoerl stated that creating a future with multiple options may be the answer.

Michelle Parolise agreed with Ms. Boone Hoerl on creating multiple options and that simulation does not meet the needs of direct patient contact.

Ms. Parolise and Santa Ana College Fieldwork Coordinator Deborah Hyman spoke of the successful faculty led partnership that Santa Ana College forged with California State University, Dominguez Hills for Level I fieldwork students. Ms. Hyman indicated that while time consuming for her as the faculty member that volunteers to run the clinic,

it is still easier than trying to place each individual student. Ms. Hyman remarked that the students gain invaluable experience in working with the developmentally disabled population and participating in the OT to OTA working relationship during their fieldwork. Ms. Parolise said that Santa Ana College would like to expand this model to include Level II fieldwork, however, there is not enough staff to do so.

Joyce Fries stated that the OTA program at Grossmont College admits 26 students per year and is currently able to place all Level I students, however, she is facing increasing difficulty placing Level II students. Ms. Fries said there have been times that she has worked through her summer to make sure each Level II student is placed.

Conversation ensued regarding the process of being able to place fieldwork students in some of the larger hospitals. It was reported that some of those well-known hospitals use the Nursing Consortium in Southern California for vetting and placement of students completing their fieldwork.

Chairperson Pavlovich mentioned that the fieldwork coordinator at Loma Linda University relayed information to her regarding the Ed Summit in Texas that used a model that set up clinics in the community at which students completed their fieldwork.

Ada Boone Hoerl recalled the mention of offering a financial incentive for employers/industry partners whom participate in an apprenticeship program. Ms. Boone Hoerl asked for clarification on that point because she felt it might help reduce some of the legislative resistance. Ms. Boone Hoerl stated that Sacramento City college would love to participate in community based clinics but the amount of grant funding and personnel to get that off the ground and sustain it is cost prohibitive for a public school.

Jeff Ferro and Matt Lege pointed out that there are several potential funding streams available through state and federal government. Committee members were referred to meeting materials which provided information about various apprenticeship funding sources. Information was also provided about past funding by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office with the intent to increase the capacity of their nursing programs and ultimately, increasing the number of licensed nurses; funding was provided for expansion of RN programs as well as to address pre-entry preparation and support student retention.

Matt Lege stated that without a drastic change to incentivize employers, the Board's mandate to protect the public from harm will be in jeopardy because there will not be enough competent, well trained, diversified practitioners.

Joyce Fries asked if there are any current health care related apprenticeship programs?

Matt Lege stated that there are currently apprenticeship programs for psychiatric technicians and an LVN to RN program; there is also a medical coder apprenticeship program. Mr. Lege said that SEIU/UHW just completed a training program for medical assistants that will be registered in the next year or so.

Executive Officer Heather Martin recalled that the current apprenticeship model is typically around 2000 hours of classroom instruction and as competencies are passed

in an area, classroom instruction decreases and on the job training increases. Ms. Martin stated her belief that if the Board chose to utilize apprenticeship as one of the alternatives, the legislation could be crafted in a way that could mesh the apprenticeship education requirements with the current educational requirements required by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), enabling students to be eligible to sit for the exam in the end.

Chairperson Sharon Pavlovich asked what recommendations could be made to Board staff in order to facilitate a follow up meeting.

The recommendations are as follows:

- Information on Casa Colina residency
- Information on reimbursement sources/rates and the incentive to the employers.
- Information on whether billing for services provided by students is acceptable in the various health care settings.
- Why did a facility agree to a residency program this early? Was it a more cost-effective model? Did it eliminate logistical problems in placement? What was the incentive?
- Are there any available resources (current apprentice programs) that have the apprentice process outlined and documented?
- Are there OT Boards in other states that have provisional or limited licenses received after didactic and before fieldwork?

Chairperson Pavlovich asked for any additional comments from committee members and the public.

There were no additional comments. Ms. Martin indicated that a Doodle poll would be sent to all committee members to identify a future committee meeting date, preferably prior the February 8th Board meeting.

Ms. Pavlovich thanked all in attendance for their time and participation.

5. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 pm.