

MLT Program Advisory Committee Minutes

Monday, November 23, 2020

Voting Members Present: Roy Antiquiera, Tina Carpenter, Dorothy Canavan, Jackie Degler, Shelley Lankford, Elizabeth Means, Mary Rickel (Chair), Stephanie Saubers.

Other members: Linda Breiwick, Mary Burroughs, Lauren Hadley, Molly Morse (faculty lead) and Sue Seegers.

Voting Members Absent: Kristen Engstrom, Kelly Johnson, Anne McGrew and James Nakasone.

Chairman Mary Rickel opened the meeting at 4:05pm

Minutes Approval: Minutes to the June 16, 2020, October 12, 2019 and October 29, 2018 meetings were reviewed prior to the meeting and approved by the committee.

MLT 2019-2020 graduates: Molly Morse, MLT Program Director, announced that 17 students will be graduating this year. Three students finished in August and the remaining 14 will graduated in December 2020. Fourteen of the students have registered to take the MLT (ASCP) certification exam.

MLT 2020-2021 Class: Sue Seegers said that due to COVID and social distancing in the MLT Laboratory, that 12 students were admitted to next years class. There will be two lab sections for each laboratory course with a morning or afternoon class. There are three laboratory courses, Hematology, Parasitology and Mycology and Immunology. Each will be taught one day of the week Tues.-Thurs.

The summer MLT 245 Integrated Immunohematology was taught with two lab sections, three days a week with 9 students and social distancing. The blood bank course was move to a larger microbiology laboratory to accommodate more students who were completing the MLT Program. Jackie Degler from Bloodworks Northwest taught the course and did a great job rearranging the class and adjusting the online canvas course. The lecture course was a zoom presentation with interactive activities and student participation. Students did a great job at attending the online lecture presentations.

College and Health Occupation News: Mary Burroughs, Nursing Program Director and acting Health Occupations Dean, is serving as advisor for COVID requirements, training, advising and tracking COVID cases on campus. She reported that there has been an increase in COVID cases in employees and students. No secondary infections. She reported that the college may be able to start in April, May or June. COVID Tracking and the logistics of having students on campus has been very time consuming. Mary noted that even though most classes have gone online, high demand career training in biotech, manufacturing, dental hygiene, medical laboratory technology, nursing, NAC and automotive brought about 100 students to campus each day. Each student and faculty had to be monitored prior to class and entering the classroom. PPE equipment such as masks and faceshields had to be purchased.

Teaching in the times of COVID: Jackie Degler and Sue Seegers discussed the challenges and accommodations that they have made with Spring and Summer lecture and laboratory courses taught.

Lectures are totally online, and laboratory classroom is a hybrid model starting Fall quarter 2020. The MLT 181 Introduction to Med. Lab. Procedures was taught online.

Linda Breiwick asked about the change in training rotations to August from later fall quarter at Veterans Administration. VA moved rotations to start after summer quarter ended and for students to complete by November 1, 2020 when they start training the UW students. We were able to complete 5 students training to complete Fall quarter. Some students had had rotations cancelled spring quarter.

MLT Program Director Position: We are reviewing the MLT Program Director job description and the position will be posted in January 2021. Candidates must have a master's degree, MLS certification (generalist) and minimum of three years teaching experience. Sue Seegers, MLT faculty, has announced her retirement and her position will be posted soon after the director position.

Discussion about the MLT Program Director position. Could we hire a consultant? Did the Director need to teach so many classes? Could associate faculty help to teach lecture or team teach laboratory courses? Molly mentioned that the position does need to be a faculty appointment.

Workforce Training: Lauren Hadley reported that the college has not seen a jump in enrollment which is the usual pattern in a turned down economy. She reported that there are funds for worker retraining, and for low income students who qualify if income is less than \$2000/mo. There is one application which is reviewed and directed to funding sources. There are not loans and funds are lost to the college if not used.

What's new at clinical facilities?

Linda Breiwick wanted to know if we would be able to continue the training rotations at VA starting in August prior to other training rotations starting in September. Molly said that because of lower class size, we didn't need to pursue that option at this time. Next year may be a time to consider this opportunity.

Shelley Lankford mentioned that the WA ST DOH training lab is not the COVID Testing laboratory. They are hiring for COVID and PCR testing. We will mention to our MLT graduates.

Jackie Degler said that there is one opening and applicant can be hired prior to taking the MLT ASCP BOC examination.

Roy said that they would look at possibility of returning to training MLT students, but facility decision at this time is to not train students.

Linda mentioned sending thank you not to clinical affiliates for training this year because they have all gone above and beyond expectations to complete MLT student training.

Discussion about the next MLT Program Advisory Committee meeting in May 2021. Lauren Hadley said that she would send a doodle survey to select time and day for the meeting.

Linda Breiwick requested that we use her comcast email address at lindabrei@comcast.net

With no further discussion, the meeting was **adjourned at 5 pm.**

Action Items:

- Thank you notes to clinical affiliates – Molly Morse
- Notify committee when the MLT Director and MLT faculty positions are posted. – Molly Morse
- Send doodle survey to MLT Advisory Committee – Lauren Hadley
- Forward Workforce funding opportunities to MLT students – Molly Morse