

EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

ALBERTO J. ROMÁN, DPA
PRESIDENT

1301 AVENIDA CESAR CHAVEZ
MONTEREY PARK, CALIFORNIA 91754
323 265 8650



Respiratory Therapy (RT) Advisory Board (AB) Committee Meeting Minutes Fall 2023 – November 13, 2023

Attendance

Michael Haines (Chairperson & DCE of RT), Allan Gonzales (PD of RT), Michael Gurevitch M.D. (Medical Director), , David Citizen (ELAC), Joe Quiroz (KP Riverside), Richard Hernandez (LAGMC), Marlene Berzabal (LAGMC), Jeffrey Davis (UCLA), Graham McDougall (PIH-Whittier), Juan Loza (ELAC)
2nd-Year Students: Reid Boonrat Jesus Flores Ruiz, Mirna Benitez
1st-Year Student: Ruhma Farhad, Moises Garcia

Via Zoom:

Joseph Bernardino (Chair of ELAC RT AB), Gabriel Rodriguez (PIH Health), Eleanor Carillo (Community Member), Bunnarith Chhun (ELAC), Jonaz Mendoza (LAGMC), Gil Parayno (KP BP), Julian Toma (KP BP), Hector Garcia (KP LA), Stephanie Summerville (LAGMC), Anahid Semerjian (LAGMC)

- I. Call to Order - (J. Bernardino) Meeting began at 12:00pm.
- II. Approval of the previous AB Committee Meeting Minutes 04/13/2023.
 - a. A survey request will be sent via email along with the April 13, 2023, ELAC RT Advisory Board Minutes.
- III. Program Director's (PD) Report (***Mr. Allan Gonzales***)
 - a. Key Personnel & RT Staff- Names and titles shown to AB.
 - b. Future ELAC RT Advisory Board Meeting Dates: We will be meeting once a year in fall; it will be on a Monday to accommodate our Medical Director's schedule.
 - c. Accreditation Review – CoARC
 - i. We passed our last site visit (October 6 & 7, 2022.) Our next site visit will be in 2032.
 - d. Program Review Process: Respiratory Therapy courses was shown to AB members. It included the Pre-Program class *Resp Th 101-Survey of Respiratory Therapy*.

- i. A. Gonzales thanked the clinical partners for supporting our students.
 - ii. Total RT Program Units= 56
 - iii. Total Number of Clinical Hours- 984 Hours.
 - e. Student Selection Process:
 - i. Academic Degree get more points.
 - ii. Pre-requisites grades.
 - iii. Cumulative GPA in all coursework.
 - iv. Resume.
 - v. Recent work experience or volunteer experience with direct patient care within the last 5-years.
 - vi. Life Experience essay.
 - f. Tutoring & Open Labs:
 - i. Our RT Faculty handle the Tutoring and Open Lab Sessions.
 - ii. Our tutoring sessions are open to all students.
 - a. Mandatory attendance are for those students who are under a 75% grade; this is based on a classroom instructor's quarterly report.
 - g. Student Achievement Data:
 - i. TMC High-Cut Information: Based on RCS Submitted on 07/01/2023.
 - a. Recent Graduates as of 06/30/23- We had 26 students that tested, and 24 passed the TMC High-Cut Score. This is a 92.3% pass rate.
 - i. One student passed the TMC Low-Cut Score.
 - ii. We are trying to encourage the missing student who has yet to take the exam.
 - ii. CSE- Based on RCS Submitted on 07/01/2023.
 - a. 23/23 passed on CSE = 100%.

iii. Areas Needing to Work On- Reports are run in the summer and the information is provided to our faculty so they can implement a plan in the areas of weakness.

a. TMC:

i. 1B- Perform patient assessment.

b. CSE

i. 1A-Evaluate data in the patient record.

ii. 1D- Evaluate procedure results.

iii. 3A- Maintain a patent airway including the care of artificial airways.

iv. 3b- perform airway clearance and lung expansion techniques.

v. 3G- Perform respiratory care techniques.

h. Graduate Employment:

i. From June 30, 2022, to April 12, 2023, the data shows that 24 out of 26 graduates who are now RRTs are employed in the field.

ii. Employment Satisfaction Survey: From 2020-2022 our student employers provided a 100% positive satisfaction response for our graduates.

i. Graduate Satisfaction: Graduate satisfaction from 2020-2023 is at a 100%.

j. Census & Attrition

i. 2nd Year Students: We started with 30 students and currently have 22 students.

ii. 1st Year Students: We started with 33 students and currently have 28 students.

iii. Most of the attrition numbers are based on personal and non-academic reasons.

k. Quarterly Reports

i. Quarterly Reports are given every 5-weeks for every RT Program course.

ii. Students below 75% are mandated to attend tutoring sessions and/or open lab.

a. M. Haines: failure to comply and a non-passing grade will result in an inability for the student to reapply to the RT Program.

I. Curricular Changes

i. The Stand-alone courses are:

a. Mechanical Ventilation (Resp Th 124)

b. Pharmacology (Resp Th 128)

ii. Starting Summer 2023- We have a dedicated PFT course (RespTh130)

iii. RT Pre-requisite Change:

a. Starting Fall 2023, we are requiring higher level Math and Chemistry Courses. This is a state mandate.

b. The Communication course is now required prior to entering the program.

m. BSRT Exploration

a. We are looking to a bachelor's degree exploration at ELAC. Currently, Los Angeles Valley College, our sister campus, is in the process of obtaining approval already.

i. Once we know how LAVC did, then LACCD, and Administrators will give us the go-ahead to move forward with exploring this process ourselves. When this occurs, one of the requirements is that our Advisory Board Members approve this process. We will send out a survey if this occurs prior to our next AB Meeting.

a. ELAC currently has no bachelor's program.

b. Addendum: A survey to the ELAC Respiratory Therapy Advisory Board members was sent out on November 14, 2023. We have a 100 % approval rating so far.

n. Others

- i. Pending funding availability, ELAC will be paying for graduating student's actual TMC/CSE exams provided students meet certain criteria.
 - a. After the Spring 2024 semester, graduates must:
 - i. Attend all mandatory review course dates.
 - ii. The review is done by our Faculty Instructor(s)
 - b. Students will be given a voucher code to take the TMC.
 - i. After passing the TMC High-Cut score, the graduate will get a voucher code to take the CSE.
 - ii. If the graduate fails any of the exams (TMC, CSE), they will have to pay out of pocket if they want to re-take the exams.
- ii. D Citizen said he's helping graduates get a NPS Certificate after graduation as well.

IV. Michael Haines- Director of Clinical Education

- a. Pre-Clinical at PIH- Whittier (1st-Year Students): We will continue with the CoARC recommendation of a pre-clinical rotation before students to go to clinic.
 - i. Last year and this year we did a pre-clinical rotation at PIH with Gabriel Rodriguez. Students will be observing the hospital structure in groups of 3-4 students per week.
- b. We don't have many students right now, yet we have a lot of clinical sites right now.
 - i. We are pushing our recruitment efforts this semester and the following semesters.

ii. Raul Avila has a special assignment. It deals with obtaining more clinical sites for future use as the program grows.

a. We're obtaining a contract with Huntington Memorial.

b. California Hospital will be allowing our students back at their site.

c. J. Bernardino asked why the numbers are low.

i. M. Haines said we only had two full time Faculty members and we had to limit our limit cap before hiring A. Gonzales and D. Citizen.

ii. Also, during covid, our pre-requisite courses were online, and the numbers and interest in the pre-requisite classes were low.

c. We will be doing Specialty Rotations: NICU/PICU, Sleep Lab, PFT

d. We will be growing in the next couple of years.

i. We will have a new building at the ELAC Main Campus, a laboratory and lecture room at the South Gate Satellite Campus which is currently being constructed.

ii. We have a grant to purchase lab equipment by mirroring what we have at ELAC.

a. What ventilators is your facility using?

i. Long Beach uses Draegers.

a. R. Hernandez said he can donate some Draegers and some old JETS.

ii. Cough Assists are no longer made.

iii. B. Chhun said IPV's are needed. They're used at PIH.

iv. We have Metanebs.

V. Chair's Report

- a. Update on New Building: There's no current update on the new building.
- b. South Gate (Satellite) Campus- Thank you all for answering the survey of approval for us to have a satellite RT location at our South Gate campus.
 - i. The vision is to have a smaller cohort number at the satellite location.
 - ii. ELAC Main Campus and at South Gate: We will have different cohort start dates. This means that if a student fails at the Main Campus, they can retake the class the following semester at South Gate instead of waiting out a year.
- c. Community Service: We started doing community service again. It's a way to help the community that's less advantaged.
 - i. D. Citizen said the students are working with Breathe So. Cal, they did a heart walk. The events done serviced all ages.
 - ii. D. Citizen said he's working with USC Mobile Unit to do events. R. Hernandez said that they have four mobile USC units, he'll ask if our students will be able to ride along with all four mobile USC units.
 - iii. M. Haines said we might bump up the hours to 20 community service hours.
- d. Need for more students: Recruitment efforts.
 - i. A. Gonzales is doing zoom events.
 - ii. We have plenty of students in RT-101, we just don't know why they're not applying to our program.
 - a. A. Gonzales stated some students are barely taking their 1st pre-requisites, others are half-way through in the process. He follows up with them to keep promoting the program.

- iii. B. Chhun and D. Citizen are going to the Life Science classes to promote the program.
- iv. We are also doing a recruitment video to promote the program.
- e. Need for new/more clinical site/Placements
 - i. With the new South Gate Satellite Campus, we would need more clinical sites to place the extra students.
- f. Purchase of Sim Man 3G.
 - i. We purchased a Sim Man 3G, we should have it by the end of fall or start of winter.

VI. Employer/Industry Standards (Mr. J. Bernardino and clinical affiliates)

- a. J. Bernardino stated that his personnel have positive comments about the ELAC Students.
 - i. The profession is heading in the direction of preferring a Bachelor's Respiratory Therapist in the next 8-10 years. At St. Francis, they stopped offering interviews to candidates who only hold a CRT within the last year.
 - ii. Travel assignments have been slowing down, so they're getting more candidates.
 - iii. Mock interviews done every semester is very important.
- b. J. Quiroz states that it's hard to stand out with your resume, but that making it as professional as possible would be great.
 - i. R. Boonrat asked how we should improve our resume. Do we add community service? How will two "A" students stand out to you?
 - a. J. Davis said that there's a personality quiz at UCLA, He'll look at that first. When interviewing, he's looking at the person first.
 - b. M. Berzabal said it's important to back up what you write or say with an example.
 - c. J. Quiroz said that it's okay to not know an answer.

d. H. Garcia said that his site constantly looks at the students that rotate through his facility. It's also great to know the candidate uses their Respiratory Therapy language.

i. Students have a difficult time with their assessments, specifically knowing between their objective and subjective.

ii. D. Alcolcer asked if a bachelor's with a science background looks better on a resume.

a. J. Davis said it might not make a difference for this job, but it does look good.

iii. M. Benitez asked what items are recommended to be placed on their resume?

a. G. McDougall Anything that shows you're hard working.

b. J. Davis said that the resume should only be one-page.

c. H. Garcia said that when it's a new graduate, the site knows you're a new grad. We want to know about you and why you want to pursue a career with Kaiser. The applicant needs to know about the site they're interviewing.

i. Do not come and interview because of the pay.

iv. R. Farhat asked if there is priority with students that rotated at your hospital?

a. J. Davis said it's not priority, but there's familiarity. His staff will let him know how candidates are.

i. Know that the interview will be just two people talking, don't be nervous.

b. H. Garcia, not priority but there's an edge. This occurs only if the rotations show that the student was

a good fit at our site. Obviously, if the work wasn't great, it would be a negative. It's important that you ask questions about us and the site.

c. R. Hernandez said he looks for passion all the time.

d. B. Chhun said don't be a minimalist, always be a maximalist.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 1:27pm. Minutes submitted by Juan Loza