

# Fall 2019 Program Advisory Committee Minutes

**Program:** Health Assisting

**Date:** 10/17/19

**Members Present:** Krista Marcoulier (instructor)  
Unelia Videira (instructor)  
Lois Tobin, Hogan Regional Center  
Pamela Curtis, Seacoast Nursing and Rehabilitation Center  
Ruthie Exama, Seacoast Nursing and Rehabilitation Center  
Carmella Verdiglione, Rosewood SNF (parent)  
Ariana Verdiglione, 10th grade student

**Program Facilitator:** Krista Marcoulier (instructor)

**Committee Chair:** Lois Tobin (Hogan Regional Center)

**Subject:** Student Enrollment/Placement

**Discussion:**

- School enrollment has increased from 18-19 year. Discussed program cap at 25 students per grade. More students on co-op this year than last year.  
Freshman Exploratory: approximately 130 students  
Sophomores: 24 (two males)  
Juniors: 23 (1 male)  
Seniors: 23 (3 males) Seniors on Co-op: 15

**Subject:** Annual Programmatic Review

**Discussion:**

- Sim lab relocated to shared space with Dental
- HA and Dental staff received training running SimMan this fall
- Simulation demonstration - Dr. Riccio visited program and attended simulation presentation. Members were impressed with the accuracy and capabilities of SimMan.
- Mechanical Safety reviewed. Legally must be 18 years old to use mechanical lifts. This is the only task students learn in class and can't do in the field.

**Industry/Co-Op:**

- Would like to get a local hospital partner with ENSATS for co-op students
- Students making anywhere from \$15-20/hr with differentials on co-op
- Seacoast looking for co-op students

- Industry members have encountered past Essex Tech HA students and had praiseworthy comments to share
- Member's daughter is now a sophomore at Curry and became an RA in school this year. Shared with student and parent member that her daughter was accepted into 5 nursing schools after graduating from Essex Tech.

**Shop Goals:**

- Have Juniors sit for CNA exam by March/April this year, then move up to January/February next year. The goal is to get them out on co-op Junior year if possible.

**Subject: Bias Review Checklist**

**Discussion:**

- Reviewed all curriculum materials for bias. No evidence. Mannequins culturally diverse.

**Subject: Quality Assessment Tool**

**Discussion:**

- Instructors will complete together

**Subject: New Trends in the Occupational Area**

**Discussion:**

- NA for this meeting

**Subject: Employment Outlook**

**Discussion:**

- Overall shortage of healthcare professionals in the industry
- Potential barriers: competitive programs to become licensed/certified; financial difficulty for students wanting to attend a college/program; management of healthcare facilities - strictly controlling cost via new employees

**Subject: New Business**

**Discussion:**

- Establish connection with Senator Bruce Tarr
- Coordinate a visit from member's daughter again to speak with Seniors and Sophomores about college experience and steps to get to where she is

**Subject: Recommendations**

**Discussion:**

- Portfolios - resume should only be one page with pertinent information; focus should be “why should we pick you”
- Members were impressed to see students had goals beyond ENSATS and had experience in the field

**The meeting adjourned at (time): 2045**