

Council Minutes

The Council of Allied Health in North Carolina

UNC General Administration Building, Board Room

Wednesday, November 1, 2006; 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

I. Welcome and Introductions

A. Attention called to 2007 Schedule at bottom of Agenda

B. Welcome to new members

1. Pheon Beal, Office of the Secretary of Department of Health & Human Services (not present)
2. Sam Clark, NC Health Care Facilities Association
3. Kim Jernigan, NC Community Colleges System
4. Joan Kaye, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse, DHHS (not present)
5. Patrena Majette, NC Health Careers Access Program. Patrena Majette is the Interim Director of this program replacing Carolyn Mayo who moved to NC Central University to become Chair of the Department of Communication Disorders (not present)

C. Introduction of Council members and guests

II. Approval of September 6, 2006 Council Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 6th, 2006 Council minutes. A voice vote was taken. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

III. Presentations

A. "Transforming the Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Service System – An Update", Christina Carter, NC DHHS, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse, Implementation Manager of Reform

B. "Pandemic Influenza: Making Tough Decisions, NC IOM/DPH Task Force on Ethics and Pandemic Influenza Planning", Pam Silberman, President and CEO, NC Institute of Medicine

IV. Business of the Council: Discussion and Action

None

V. Reports

A. Council Financial Report and 2006-07 Budget – Alan Brown

1. No new updates.
2. A reminder that the Council is finishing the first year of a two-year continuation grant from the Duke Endowment.
3. AHEC received \$1.3 million in non-recurring funds for Allied Health in general from the General Assembly in the May short session. These funds must be used by June, 2007. AHEC discussing with the universities and community colleges the possibility of developing/supporting clinical sites in allied health professions throughout the state.

B. Update on current AH Job Vacancy Study – Alan Brown (for Erin Fraher) and Phillip Summers

1. A quick summary of the second Vacancy Report which is now underway and will continue to collect data through November. An initial report will be made to the Council in the January meeting.
2. To date, 1,800 ads have been collected: 1,000 from online sources and 800 from newspaper advertisements. An interesting point has been noticed in that vacancy priorities are different between the online and newspaper ads for the top 5 positions.
 - a. Newspaper Sources (from top 1 to 5): Physical Therapist, Medical Assistant, Medical Technologist, Medical Technician, Speech Language Pathologist
 - b. Online Sources (from top 1 to 5): Physical Therapist, EMT-Paramedic, Occupational Therapist, EMT-Basic, Physical Therapy Assistant
3. Phillip Summers explained that the online search is using Indeed.com which is an online index (google like search index) that searches thousands of sites. In addition, secondary searches are done of the websites listed by the professional associations in the survey last fall. In addition, in response to concerns over the first Vacancy Report, more local newspapers are being surveyed throughout the state. Summers also discussed the problem of duplicity: same job being advertised in various venues, same job advertised for a long period of time, etc...The other problem is that certain professions may not advertise in either newspaper or online.
4. In response to a question from the audience, Summers said that hospital human resources departments are not being surveyed.

C. Federal and State legislative activity affecting Allied Health professions – Pat Porter

1. Limited activity at the Legislature because of elections.
2. PLEASE VOTE! Members and guests are encouraged to be informed voters. Please be informed about position of candidates on issues related to the Allied Health professions and health care in general.
3. To view activity from the last legislative session, go to www.ncleg.net. Look up the report of the House Select Committee on Healthcare which includes information from the Subcommittee on Healthcare Workforce:
http://www.ncleg.net/LegislativePublications/studyreportstot_5/healthcarehouse/default.htm
4. To view the budget items from the May 2006 session, go to
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2005/Bills/Senate/PDF/S1741v8.pdf>

D. Activities of the Executive Director – David Yoder

1. *The Impact of Allied Health Workforce on Economic Development in NC Conference/Symposium*
 - a. Friday, June 15, 2007 – this will be a one-day meeting to showcase the work done by the Council and to provide information to key stakeholders: university systems, community college system, professional associations, Legislature.

- b. To increase attendance by legislators, Friday was chosen rather than Wednesday on the advice of Peyton Maynard who pointed out that the Legislature meets Tuesday through Thursday. Legislators might stay over for a meeting especially if they are part of the program.
 - c. Symposium Task Force will meet for the first time immediately after today's meeting for a brainstorming session.
2. January 3, 2007 Council Meeting
- a. Panel Discussion of Extended Degree Programs in Allied Health – professional doctoral programs versus Ph.D. programs
 - b. Panel will include representatives of industry and the education system
 - c. Possible professions to be represented: PT, OT , Clinical Laboratory Science
3. Workforce Study
- a. “Allied Health: Jobs for North Carolinians” by Erin Fraher and Aaron McKethan in the October 2006 issue of Carolina Context – this outstanding new publication can be read at www.southnow.org
 - b. Polysomnographer Tech Vacancy Study – Phillip Summers continues to work on this study; at the moment, there are no updates. Pat Porter points out that this particular study lends itself to a presentation by Fraher on the determination of need versus demand. As the Council makes recommendations for various programs, and in light of the upcoming discussion of clinical doctoral programs, the presentation by Fraher would be timely. Such a presentation would be of value to guide the Council in determining whether it is responding to need or demand, and to which should the Council respond?
 - c. NCHA and Sheps Center Workforce Collaboration to analyze hospital workforce data is now underway, and may be ready to report at the June Conference.
 - d. Executive Director Search Task Force – will be appointed by Executive Committee to search for Executive Director to start July 1st, 2007.
4. Activities
- a. Council Flier updated – Queens University will be added to the private universities next year. Copies were sent to professional organizations that requested these for distribution at their state conferences.
 - b. Association Booklet – getting ready for press
 - c. Met with Health Care Works Coalition on September 20
 - d. Attended NGA Policy Academy Orientation Site visit on September 21 and October 16. Will do so again on November 2nd.
 - e. Represented the Council at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for School of Allied Health Sciences at East Carolina University on September 22.
 - f. Attended Open House for UNC Allied Health Sciences Department's new home at Bondurant Hall on September 30. Delivered Welcome Speech as Master of Ceremonies for the day long celebration.
 - g. Drafting letter of Council updates to Council Advisory Board
 - h. Attended ASAHP National Meeting in Chicago on October 18-21
 - i. Attended NC Conference on Aging on October 25-27 and had a booth with the Council Display – many participants interested in the Council and its work.
 - j. Submitted resolution to the Governor's Office for Allied Health Week which is November 5-11. However, it was denied because the

Governor's office is no longer issuing proclamations for professional associations.

- k. Invited to attend the meeting of the Southern Allied Health Deans of Academic Health Centers in Charleston, SC on November 6-8. Will also make a presentation on the allied health workforce studies.
5. National Governors Association Policy Academy on State Sector Strategies: *Innovative Workforce Policies to Address Worker and Employer Needs*
- a. The National Governors Association has implemented several programs to aid states in developing and implementing state sector strategies or initiatives as part of their workforce and economic development policies. These initiatives
 - (i) involve a specific industry;
 - (ii) partnerships between employers, educational and training institutions, and other community organizations;
 - (iii) and workforce solutions for displaced, disenfranchised workers or, in general, low- and middle-income workers.
 - b. One of these programs is a year-long Policy Academy for a group of five states. North Carolina, Georgia, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and Oregon successfully applied for the program. During the duration of the academy, experts in various fields from the NGA will assist these states in developing a state action plan. The states will also participate in group meetings and a national meeting. North Carolina is the only state that has chosen health care, specifically allied health, as the targeted sector. Projected job growth along with severe labor shortages substantiates the choice of this sector. Initiatives already in place within the state involving employers and educational institutions further validate the sector choice. The implementation of successful sector strategies in North Carolina will provide workers who have lost jobs in the manufacturing sector an opportunity for re-training in the allied health field with stable, well-paying jobs that offer career advancement. Furthermore, the individual plans developed by the states will serve as models for workforce, education, and economic development initiatives across other industry sectors as well.
 - c. Several members of the Council are part of the core team (Pheon Beal, Kathy Heilig, Erin Fraher), or the home team (Tom Bacon, Jim Sadler, Stephen Thomas, David Yoder). There will be one more in-state meeting of the core and home teams followed by a meeting in Minneapolis of core team members to share expertise with the other Policy Academy states.

VI. Round Robin

A. Kim Jernigan, NC Community College System

- 1. The 2006 session of the NC General Assembly provided 2 awards of non-recurring funds to the Community College System (all funds need to be expended by the end of the program year, June 30, 2007)
 - a. \$5,000,000 – directly to expand or improve programs in Allied Health. Fifty four colleges have submitted RFPs; the money has been allocated based on these requests and is waiting approval from the State Board of Community Colleges.
 - b. Three grants of \$125,000 each to support development of new curriculum programs in the following areas: associate degree in nursing; allied health; science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and k-12

classroom teacher preparation. The RFPs were sent out October 27, 2006, the submission deadline is November 20; the State Board will meet by teleconference in mid-December to decide on awards.

2. New Programs

- a. Medical Assistant Program at Nash Community College – State Board is ready to grant approval November 17th
- b. Programs under development but have been submitted applications
 - Pharmacy Technician – Johnston Community College
 - Medical Assisting – Durham Technical Community College
 - Polysomnography Technician – Sandy Hills Community College

B. Stephen W. Thomas, UNC Systems Allied Health Programs

1. Allied Health is well represented in the UNC System General Administration priorities for building new facilities. Several schools have sought permission to plan new facilities or expanding existing facilities. For example, the following schools have submitted requests for new Allied Health buildings:

- a. Appalachian State University
- b. UNC Pembroke
- c. Western Carolina University

2. Recently opened facilities

- a. East Carolina University's Allied Health School had a ribbon cutting ceremony for its new Health Sciences Building on September 22, 2006 – this new facility boasts 127,000 square feet with a student enrollment of 661 (17% increase over last year)
- b. The Department of Allied Health Sciences in the School of Medicine at Chapel Hill moved into new state-of-the art facilities in Bondurant Hall this past May. To celebrate a new beginning and continued excellence, the Department hosted an open house on September 29 and 30 for alumni, friends, the university and at large community. The newly renovated and expanded 106,000 square feet Bondurant Hall houses the Department of Allied Health Sciences and its seven divisions (enrolling over 400 students), the School of Medicine's Admissions Office, the Dean's office, the Alumni Affairs office, and the Office of Student Affairs for Medical Education.

C. Tim Holmes, Allied Health Professional Representative for Group 2 (Rehabilitation Sciences)

Medicare Low Vision Rehabilitation Demonstration Project in North Carolina – this project, started in April 2006 and funded by Medicare, expands benefits to patients with moderate to severe visual impairments (macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy) by providing reimbursement to three professions not traditionally considered licensed health care providers: certified low vision therapists, certified orientation and mobility specialists, and certified vision rehabilitation therapists. OTs and PTs have always been recognized by Medicare as providers to low vision patients. In addition to North Carolina, this demonstration project is being conducted in five areas of the country: Atlanta (Georgia), Kansas, New Hampshire, New York City (all five boroughs), and Washington State. This is a very hot topic and is being carefully monitored by the AOTA and the NCOTA. Holmes, who is both an OT and an orientation mobility specialist, is fielding many calls both locally and nationally. This project has the potential to expand services to other areas of the

country as well as to have an impact on service delivery and educational programs. For example, presently in our area only NC Central University has a program that provides training at the master's level for K-12 teachers to obtain certification as teachers of the visually impaired and/or certification as orientation and mobility specialists.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

In Attendance:

Members, Staff and Consultants:

Judi Ashbaugh	NC Dept. Health & Human Services; Office of Rural Health & Community Care
Kathy Baars	NC Dept. Public Instruction Representative; Exceptional Children Division, Preschool Disabilities
Thomas J. Bacon	Immediate Past Chair, Director, NC AHEC
Alan Brown	Treasurer, NC AHEC Program
Samuel B. Clark	NC Health Care Facilities Representative
Chastity Glover	NC Association of Health Care Recruiters
Elizabeth Haile	NC AHEC Allied Health Representative
Kathryn E. Heilig	Chair, NC Hospital Association
Timothy Holmes	Allied Health Professional Rep. – Group 2, Rehabilitation Sciences
Kim Jernigan	NC Community Colleges
Karen Luken	Vice-Chair, NC Office on Disability and Health
Patricia Porter	Government Liaison
James Sadler	UNC System General Administration
Martha Taylor	Allied Health Professional Rep. – Group 5, Dental Sciences
Stephen Thomas	UNC System Allied Health Programs Representative
Lilly Topal	Assistant to the Council
David E. Yoder	Executive Director

Guests:

Frances E. Apple	NC Society of Radiologic Technologists
Tracey Bates	NC Dietetic Association, President
Diena Burton	WakeMed Health and Hospitals
Christina Carter	Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse; NC DHHS
Faye Cobb	Winston-Salem State University School of Health Sciences, for Peggy Valentine
Tom Connelly	Cabarrus College of Health Sciences
Julie Cooper	Charlotte AHEC
Terry Cordell	Mountain AHEC
Dawn Grant	Eastern AHEC
Nedra Edwards Hines	Northwest AHEC
Rees Jenkins	
Valerie Mueller	Mountain AHEC
Marge Ottofy	NC Society of Medical Assistants
Connie Paladenech	NC Society for Respiratory Care
Pam Silberman	President and CEO, North Carolina Institute of Medicine
Joshua F. Smith	NC Academy of Physician Assistants
Phillip Summers	Cecil G. Sheps for Health Services Research, Graduate Assistant
Peggy Valentine	Dean, School of Health Sciences, Winston-Salem State University