

EMS Department

Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Time: 2:00pm – 3:11pm

External Participants: 5

Jake Moser – EMS Educator, Northwestern Medicine

Jim Ward – Sycamore Fire Department

Ryan Lange – Northwestern Medicine

Anthony Woodson – Program Director

Dave Delille – DeKalb Fire Department

Internal Participants: 4

Austin Reidl – Student Representative

Susan Lencioni – Instructor

Jessica Berek – Dean of Health Sciences

Cynthia Karasewski – Administrative Specialist I

I. College Updates

- Overall enrollment
 - College enrollment is up 9.4%, Health Sciences Division enrollment is up 10.7%
- College Priorities
 - The college has put a priority on textbook affordability and student affordability in general. We are encouraging faculty input and participation, supporting use and development of free materials (open educational resources) and grant support. Grants, such as the PATH grant, are used to help offset costs of qualifying healthcare programs. The College's fee structure also is being evaluated to help make sure students are receiving an affordable education and can understand their costs.
- Health Sciences Open House
 - Will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 5pm-7pm
- Campus Conversations – the impact of AI
 - Just like all industries, higher education is navigating the impact of AI
 - Faculty are exploring how to incorporate it in their teaching, and how to help students understand benefits and limitations
 - College has hosted professional development with external speakers to consider new perspectives
 - Robust committee discussion on how AI has impacted EMS and relationship to simulations and education. AI can be a great supplement but is not a substitute to clinical experiences.

II. Program Updates

- Program Enrollment
 - 2023-2024 paramedic cohort update - started with 13 students, 2 withdrew, have 11 currently after midterms
 - 2022-2023 paramedic cohort update - graduated 6, 4 passed national exam 1st time, 1 passed 2nd time, 1 failed twice
 - 2022 – 2023 EMT-B class – enrollment was high thanks to PATH support. Analyzed EMT-B 2023 class results which had low success rate on national exam. Pass rates were also consistent with other area classes.
- Curriculum
 - Kish curriculum is well aligned for successful students to enter the field at an entry level. However, much more is learned with on-the-job training
 - Equipment and staff - Showed committee new head for high-fidelity manikin, monitor, and think pad. Currently looking for PT instructor for EMT-B basic class for the Spring semester.
- Facilities
 - Kish facilities are sufficient and will continue to make investments and improvements
 - Discussion - it may be interesting to arrange a trip to Lake Forest to see their brand-new SIM ambulance training facility. Article about Lake Forest training center: <https://news.nm.org/northwestern-medicine-lake-forest-hospital-opens-leading-simulation-center-in-illinois/>
 - Other colleges have similar set up and Waubensee has old ambulance in their classroom that been adapted to fit and work with technology.

III. Partner Updates

- National exam results
 - Testing success continues to be a concern, especially EMT-B students. Plan to reach out to A-TEC Ambulance (Roger Scott) to see if there is more we can do and share best practices
- Employment outlook
 - Jobs continue to be plentiful as departments locally and regionally need paramedics

IV. Additional items

- Discussion with student representative
 - Student request to instructor about timing of homework and quizzes; agreed upon a 2–3-week trial solution to support student learning and completion of ride time requirements
- Class presentations

- Dave Delille asked if the instructors ever have outside employers come and talk with current students. In general, instructors are open to it, but it often takes up too much class time