



Spring 2024 Complementary Health Program

Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Meeting Time: 9:00am

External Participants: 2

Mitzi Pearson– Hand and Stone

Beth Pertl – Owner, Elements Massage

Internal Participants: 6

Dr. Jessica Berek – Dean of Instruction

Leslie Ciaccio – Coordinator of Complementary Health Programs

Julie Kimpan Freeman – Instructor, Massage

Kimberly Morgan – Instructor, Massage

Cindy Karasewski – Administrative Specialist I

- I. College Updates – Dr. Jessica Berek, Dean of Health Sciences
 - A. Overall College Updates
 - i. College has proposed a variety of changes to reduce student costs, specifically regarding fees. The removal of course fees will be very helpful for Massage and Esthetics students.
 - ii. Continuing to work on Textbook Affordability
- II. Program Updates – Leslie Ciaccio
 - A. Program Enrollment
 - i. The Therapeutic Massage program enrollment is up with 10 students currently enrolled in the program and ready to graduate on August 1. 7 graduates completed last summer.
 - ii. The Esthetics program did not run this fall due to low enrollment. It will be offered again Fall 2024 fall pending enrollment.
 - iii. The Kishwaukee College/KEC dual credit Esthetics program has 10 students enrolled.
 - B. Curriculum Changes
 - i. The US Department of Education issued a regulatory package that mandates that all clock hour programs must align 100% with the state minimum hours or students lose financial aid eligibility. This is effective July 2024.
 - a. The minimum hours required hours for Massage Therapy in Illinois is 600 and Kish program is currently 608 hours.
 - b. To meet the requirements, we have proposed changing the TPM 145 course from a 1 credit course to a .5 credit course. This will remove 8 hours, and the program will meet the required 600 hours for Illinois.
 - a. Esthetics already meets the 750 hours for the State, but we will be updating the catalog description.

C. Upcoming Conferences

- i. The Illinois chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) will be having its annual meeting and conference on April 12-14 in Springfield. Kish faculty member Julie Kimpan-Freeman is presenting.
- ii. KEC students will be taking a field trip on April 22 to the America's Beauty Show at the Rosemont accompanied by Kimberly Morgan.

D. Clinic Update

- i. The Therapeutic Massage clinic has been going well. Spring semester appointments are completely booked.

E. Continuing Education Classes

- i. Melissa Gallagher, Kishwaukee College's Coordinator of Short-Term Training & Continuing Education has been working with Adjunct Professor, Julie Kimpan Freeman to offer CE classes since 2024 is a license renewal year for Massage Therapists.
- ii. Offerings have been available monthly since October including pregnancy massage, kinesiology taping, forearm massage, and cupping techniques all being offered.
- iii. Caccio will follow up with a flyer to share with the group to relay to their employees.

F. Employer Panel – July 17, 2024

- i. The next Kishwaukee College employer panel will be held at Kishwaukee College on July 17, 2024, 5pm. This will give our Advisory Committee members a chance to meet with our soon-to-be graduates.
- ii. The Employer Feedback Survey will also be sent out this Spring, likely in April.

G. Partner Updates – all

i. Employment Outlook/Labor Market Data

1. The U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics states a projected increase of 18% from 2022 – 2032 for massage therapists, and skincare specialists is projected to grow 9% from 2022 – 2032.
2. Local massage and esthetics employment
 - a. Pertl: Elements Massage is hiring and always looking for FT/PT help. They are also looking for estheticians since they are adding facials to their offered services.
 - b. Pearson: Hand and Stone has 10 massage rooms and 18-19 employees; always looking for FT/PT with Saturday availability. She is also seeking estheticians.

III. Additional Questions or Feedback

- a. Additional conversations about the college fees for classes: Leslie shared that it is approximately \$2000 in fees being eliminated for TPM and EST students.
- b. CE for Esthetics available? Currently we do not but reach out if there is something specific you are looking for us to offer.