

Trinity Health Radiologic Technology Program/Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Aug 10, 2022 1:00 pm

In Attendance	<p>Michelle Bratton, (PD), Renae Stratton (Clin Preceptor), Jess Anderson (Lead Tech), Jim Coffin (Radiology Dept Manager), Andrea Roedocker (Coor. Strategic Development); Shelley Semrau (Dir. Organizational Development); Austin Burckhard (student rep); Karen Zimmerman (CNO/VP Pt Care)</p> <p>By phone: Dawn Rubbelke (Trinity UKG Rep)</p> <p>Absent: Jim Miller (Program Medical Director); Cindy Milkey (Community member); Becky Hoes (Community member)</p>
Old business	<p>None. 1/12/22 minutes were already approved and have been published on the website.</p>
I. JRCERT Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. JRCERT: An interim report will be due February 20, 2023 will be considered by the Board at its May meeting. PD is working on it now and will submit it as soon as reasonably possible after JRCERT contact calls. The Interim report only includes 10 of the 35 JRCERT standards to reply to (1.1, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5) website compliance, policies on radiation and MRI safety, pregnancy, student supervision, PED, Assessment Plans, goals and SLOs. There will be an interim report invoice sent in November. B. The 2021 annual report was submitted and was approved by the JRCERT. C. The JRCERT requires a Contingency Plan to be in place for catastrophic events that may affect students completing programs. PD used the Pandemic Policy and JRCERT’s outline to create that policy. It will be kept in the Master Ed Plan. D. JRCERT updated much of its website and has added many forms and examples that PD has been using to update our materials.
II. Program/ Master Plan Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Policy Manual – Final revisions done and made available to members prior to meeting. PD called for approval. Shelley noted a typo on pg. 8 and Andrea noted that Trinity dress code recently changed. PD has noted these changes for the next revision to the manual, but dress code seems to be on track with Trinity as it is now. B. ARRT: ARRT has allowed for the Program’s Introduction to Mammography (418) class to count for 12 CE credits towards a student seeking to take the mammography certification exam. Committee discussed that the same could be done for students seeking to take either CT or MRI credentialing exams as well. C. ASRT: The ASRT adopted a revised radiography curriculum in 2022. PD is updating the syllabi as each course is reviewed for the next class and completed the JRCERT curriculum analysis grid with the new ASRT format. Of note is optional content related to Artificial Intelligence and Advancements in Medical Imaging (like 3D volume imaging, Dual energy tubes, etc.) none of the text we currently use discuss this topic but may in the future. Jim mentioned that Trinity does have AI in place for certain areas, breast imaging (CAD), acute strokes, GE equipment has the capabilities with CXR. D. The Master Education Plan is being updated. PD will try to put together electronically so will be easier to find topics and less paper. Recently put together a Contingency Plan (new requirement from JRCERT) that will be in Master Plan, that covers catastrophic events that may alter class or clinical time for students and how to handle those changes. This was already addressed informally during the COVID crisis, PD added to that format and formalized the process. JRCERT does not require it to be in Policy Manual. E. Didactic Curriculum: No major changes. F. 2023 Class update: the 6 junior students are spending most of their 3rd semester this summer in clinical rotations. They are doing very well!

	<p>G. <u>New juniors – class of 2024:</u> The 2024 class of 6 students will begin August 22. They will be in class 5 days a week through Sept. 16 and then will begin clinical rotations 3 days a week. The calendar change from early August to late August makes our program more competitive with other ND programs and university program schedules without any major revisions to the coursework and clinical requirements from years past.</p> <p><u>ACTION:</u> Lead tech or Renae to bring up the students clinical start date at a lead tech or diagnostic tech meeting so they are aware that they are new.</p>
<p>III. Resource /Staff Updates</p>	<p>A. <u>Trajecsys:</u> Renae is now tracking student PTO requests on Trajecsys, less paper the better. Committee considered whether it was necessary to print paper copies of the Policy Manual/Clin Plan/JRCERT Standards since it is readily available to students on Trajecsys and electronically. It has already been printed for the new students, but next year may try electronic copy only but still go over all the policies in the first week as usual.</p> <p>B. <u>Developmental Tests and Registry Review:</u> The class of 2022 utilized the RadTech BootCamp website during review and most felt it was a good resource for registry review. PD will continue to utilize the resource for the 2023 class. We continue to use the traditional St Catherine’s tests, the Lange Review book, as well the review worksheets. The 2022 class did not like the Lange review book, they thought it was too wordy and complicated. Based on these and other suggestions, PD looked for other review resources and had the 2024 junior class purchase a Mosby registry review book that included outlines of the material tested by the ARRT. PD will continue to use all the same review materials but will start doing more physics review throughout the program. With the 2023 class, PD has started asking students to summarize each physics unit, so they have a good start on an outline for registry review in the end.</p> <p>C. <u>ASRT Education Institute:</u> PD was finally able to attend this, but it was online instead of in person, which was not ideal. There was very good information on teaching methods to employ.</p> <p>D. <u>Website updates:</u> PD worked with Pete on the website last week to ensure compliance with JRCERT checklist and Interim Report. The website has many redundancies that are inherent to the software and cannot be removed, and some of the links were going to different policy manuals or documents that had been revised. Let PD know if you come across any problems on it. Website compliance is part of the Interim Report that will be filed in or before February 2023 for a determination of the accreditation period.</p>
<p>IV. 2022 PED updates/ 2022 Grad Program evaluations & Student/Employer 6 months post grad surveys for class of 2021</p>	<p>A. <u>Program Effectiveness Data (PED) 2022 class:</u> 2 of the 4 graduates are now employed at Trinity, one took a position in Bozeman Montana and another in Las Vegas. All 4 2022 grads passed the ARRT registry exam on the first try with an average score of 91, national average is not available yet; the 2021 class had an avg of 89, national average in 2021 was 82.3. Notably, JRCERT now only asks for 1 year for the Program Completion Rate. This information is required to be on the main webpage.</p> <p>B. <u>Program Evaluation by 2022 Graduates:</u> Students are asked to fill out a detailed Program Evaluation just before they graduate. A summary of the answers going back to 2017 was created to track each class and compare responses.</p> <p><u>Clinical rotations- 2022</u> – All categories were marked adequate except:</p>

- Trauma – 2 said don't always see during clinicals, really about timing.
- Pediatrics – 2 said hard to get experience since can't hold patient.
- IR/Physician assists: 1 student said inadequate.
- Advanced Modalities: 1 felt that one week in IR/CL was enough, 1 student felt less time in most modalities would be good.

Summary: Overall, these comments are similar going back to 2017. Some specific comments were that uncontrolled timing is to blame for most rotations that lacked pediatric, surgical or trauma exams; some would like more hands-on experience with the portables earlier.

ACTION: As to the comment on the advanced modality rotations, PD noted again that the schedule was modified to only 1 week in Rad Therapy and NM, and rather than 2 MRI and CT rotations, the final rotation is a combined CT/MR rotation. Renae also mentioned that the US rotation is probably going to be shorter since they also have US students, so will work with the US clinical instructor on timing for our students to observe. This allows for several elective weeks for the 4th and 5th semesters and has been well received.

Didactic coursework 2022: All categories were marked adequate except for image evaluation, which is a trend from previous years. We have already addressed this issue by incorporating more individual time with students evaluating their own images, and by utilizing the McQuillen image analysis workbook. The 2022 class liked this workbook but felt it should be done sooner or along with positioning courses. PD and CI have discussed this and feel that it is working out well to do it in their senior year, and that doing it along with positioning would be too much at once. Last meeting Jim mentioned getting an unused reading station monitor to use for reviewing images with the students that would be better quality. It was also noted that we are still working on a process for the students to sit with a radiologist while reading. The radiologists are very busy, but we have implemented this during the AIC rotation if there is an opportunity.

Other noted comments: Many students struggle with remembering radiographic pathology and there was a suggestion to do a Pathology review course at the end instead of during positioning courses. PD incorporated a "Master Pathology List" with common radiographic pathologies listed by anatomical category and has asked the 2023 class to take the time to define or describe each pathology for their registry review materials. Another student suggested medical term review throughout program: PD mentioned that grab bag/review previous material can be incorporate during class time on a regular basis. CI already does a lot of positioning review during clinical hours.

ACTION: Committee discussed use of review games online or in classroom for fun review of pathology, physics etc. Renae recently had the students create review games for pharmacology and Austin noted that it was very helpful in memorizing trade/generic medication names. PD will utilize more routine review and come up with games for medical terminology, pathology and physics to use more often in class.

More experience with fluoro overheads, IVU/VCUGs and myelograms and trauma It is difficult to get experience in some exams because we just don't do them often in our facility. Committee discussed whether having students

set up their own simulations for practice in these areas should be mandated and Austin noted that students who feel they need more practice will likely do this on their own even without it being required.

ACTION: PD and CI will consider whether more class time and practice time is necessary in these types of exams overall. More individualized registry review was requested when students paces are very different. PD tried less in class registry review with all of 2022 students together and allowed those who felt comfortable to study more on their own. Committee discussed this, and Karen noted that there is value in group discussions of areas even if you feel you have mastered it yourself. PD agreed and felt that some of the 2022 could have done better in certain areas and may have benefited from reviewing areas they felt comfortable with, so will continue the traditional method of keeping the entire class together for registry review next spring. Shout out to Renae and diagnostic techs- students commented that having Renae available in clinical areas to ask questions made them more comfortable and noted that most techs were willing to answer questions as well. "Having (RS) in the department every morning got us comfortable and allowed more write ups." All students ranked the overall satisfaction in the program as a 10.

SUMMARY: Jim to check on unused reading station monitor for reviewing images. PD will start doing physics review each semester and will incorporate a "master pathology list" for students to fill in for each anatomy and positioning course to reinforce them throughout the program. Registry review schedule will be addressed to see if more individual times can be accommodated.

C. **6 month Post Grad surveys for 2021 class (4 graduates-3 employed at Trinity, 1 elsewhere):**

Employer survey responses: 4 of 4 surveys were returned from employers. Scale is from 4 to 1 with 4 being the highest. 3 of 4 employers gave a "4" on overall satisfaction with new graduate employees (one was a "3"). Breakdown by category was

- Manual skills (2-4s, 2-3a)
- Speed/competence (1-4, 3-3s)
- Repeat exams (4-3s)
- Efficiency (2-4s, 2-3s)
- Initiative/attitude (3-4s, 1-2)
- Attitude toward change/confidence (2-4s, 2-3s)
- Pt relationships (3-4s, 1-3)
- Co-worker relationships (1-4, 3-3s)
- Judgment (1-4, 3-3s)

The 2021 results were compared to the classes of 2017-2020, 2 new grads had more "3s" than is usual, one due to lack of initiative, and the other due to lack of confidence. Notable in the 5 classes that were compared, majority of 3's are in relationships and confidence items- repeats, speed, efficiency, which improve with experience.

ACTION: Committee discussed that the lack of initiative and confidence is often a personality trait and even great students sometimes become less than great techs and vice versa. No action needed.

2021 Graduate Survey responses: 4 of 4 surveys were returned- consists of 3 separate parts detailed below:

- **The first part** is information about the registry and employment for 2021 grads. PD noted that all grads remained members of the ASRT and 1 with the NDSRT at the time of the survey. This was mostly information that is available to PD within a few weeks of graduation.
- **The second part** has each grad score their educational experience 6 months later with ranges between 1-10 (very unsatisfied to extremely satisfied). All ranked their experience overall as 9-10 (extremely satisfied); 9-10 on registry preparation; 3 students were 9-10 and 1 was 8 prepared for the career. These are typical responses.

When rating the **technologists' professionalism** all 4 graduates ranked this as an 8 – mostly professional. This seems to be improving. In 2019, 2 students scored it lower than “good” or “excellent”. In 2020, the scores were *extremely* professional (1 grad), *mostly* professional (3 grads) and *usually* professional (1). This topic was discussed last year and again it is noted that overall most technologists do an amazing job of teaching and mentoring the students, some are better than others.

On **tech supervision** 2021 grads said they had excellent supervision (3) and one great supervision. This is another improvement compared to previous classes (2019 graduates had 2 low scores; 2020 scored this as excellent (2) and great (3)). The program has continued to stress the supervision policies since the diagnostic department is always changing. Also it is notable that Renae spends a lot of time not only supervising student exams but also working in the department, which promotes teamwork.

As for whether students were **allowed enough independence** when allowed to develop confidence, the 2021 class had 1 gave a 10 (excellent level of independence) and 3 gave a 7-8 (above average level of independence).

ACTION: Committee members were happy with the gradual improvement in scores for tech professionalism and supervision and felt this reflects the current great diagnostic technologists that work well together. No action needed.

- **The third part** has the graduates score themselves on 7 questions related to critical thinking and job skills, with the highest score (90-100% “always”) and the second highest (89-65% “usually”). The percentage ranges were added to help quantify this for this class. This class scored always and usually consistently, with the most “usually” in question 2 and 3. This is a consistent trend in thinking outside the box for technique and positioning skills that take more experience and time to develop. 2021 grads were all extremely satisfied with their career choice.

	<p>ACTION: PD will clarify the percentages for next class, so they fill it out consistently with numbers between 1-100. Shelley and other committee members noted that Google Forms has a survey maker. PD will try it to get the surveys more easily accessible and into electronic form to send and receive responses for next ones.</p> <p>Summary: No big issues stand out that have not already been addressed in some fashion. We will continue to track these results and compare them to prior class comments to look for areas of improvement.</p>
V. Administrative Schedule/Open discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Keller papers will go to a new judge this year and scholarship will be presented in Nov during Rad Tech week. • GI bill updates: One senior is using it for tuition (paid in full) and one new junior may be able to use the program for tuition as well. PD recently was emailed about annual training requirements and attended online webinars and completed the hours required although it was unclear whether it was required in our program. ELR accepted the hours and then clarified that since we have less than 20 students the annual training is not required. • During the online training, PD learned about 85/15% Compliance report that should be submitted every semester – essentially ensures that no more than 85% of current students are receiving benefits under the GI bill. PD also learned that an exemption to reporting 85/15 report could be requested. PD did both (per the ELR suggesting): the 85/15 report was approved since currently only 1 of 6 receives benefits; the exemption to making the report was also approved so long as no more than 35% of students are receiving benefits in the next 24 months. Going forward if 4 students of 12 received benefits, the 85/15 report would need to be filed each semester, otherwise PD will request another exemption in 24 months. • The next Committee meeting will be in Jan 2023 to discuss results of the SLOs in the 2022-2023 (seniors 4th semester/Juniors 1st semester) Assessment Plan. We decided last January that we wanted to leave the current tools in place to compare to last year before suggesting any revisions to the goals, benchmarks etc. <p>Update: Next meeting scheduled for Monday, 1/30/23 to discuss the Assessment Plan/SLO/Goals of the 2023 senior and 2024 junior classes.</p>
VI. Student Report	Austin had nothing to report for the senior students.