Summer 2008

Allied Health Department Overview

There have been many exciting changes recently in the allied health department. Inaugural department chair and EMS program director Slade Griffiths was recently promoted to Vice President of Academic Affairs for Cowley College. Slade now oversees the faculty, all academic programs, business and industry training, and instructional support services. As the founder and developer of both the allied health department and the MICT program, Slade’s direct involvement with the allied health program will be greatly missed. We wish him all the best in his new position.

Following Slade’s advancement, Chris Cannon was promoted to fill the positions of department chair and EMS education program director. Chris will continue to co-teach the 18-month MICT program and the 12-month program with Cindy Branscum, and he will continue to teach online courses for the department.

Tiffany Sowa, former lead medical office instructor for Cowley, was also recently promoted and is now Cowley College’s eLearning Director. Tiffany now has an office at the new Cowley eLearning Center in Wichita and oversees all of Cowley’s distance education courses. Loretta Heft, medical coding instructor, has replaced Tiffany as the lead medical office instructor.

New Classes Offered Fall 2008

Advanced Medical Life Support Class

On November 6th and 7th Cowley will offer our first ever Advanced Medical Life Support provider course. This course is designed to help the student increase his/her knowledge concerning medical emergencies using advanced level knowledge and practices that would be very useful for anyone in a prehospital or emergency medicine position. Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to differentiate stable vs. unstable patients using advanced knowledge of pathophysiology and critical thinking skills. Students will have in depth knowledge when it comes to the differential diagnosis of the medical patient.

Pediatric Disaster Management Course

We will offer a Pediatric Disaster Management course on November 14th and 15th. This two day course will have a preparatory classroom component followed by a mock disaster on day two. This section of the course is targeted at EMS professionals, with other sections for journalism and theatre major students.
This course is designed to help the students increase their knowledge concerning disaster management when encountering pediatric patients. This is a multidisciplinary course where many future professionals will have an opportunity to interact in a learning situation. Upon completion of the course, the student will have a theoretical and practical understanding of the national incident management systems (NIMS) as they relate to pediatric disaster situations. The student will gain an increased appreciation of the roles other discipline-specific responders have during disasters.

EMS Education

NOW IS THE TIME TO APPLY FOR THE 2009 MICT PROGRAM! WE ARE CURRENTLY TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE NEXT 12-MONTH CLASS THAT WILL START IN JANUARY. APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE.

12-month (Day) MICT Program

There are currently 11 students in the Cowley 12-month (Day) class. They are finishing up their clinical experience and preparing for Field Internship. The students have enjoyed many learning opportunities at Via Christi, William Newton Hospital, KMC, and with Dr. McDermott in the Cedar Vale and Sedan area. We greatly appreciate these organizations and the learning opportunities they assist our students with. During clinicals the students have also completed PALS, PEPP, NRP, PHTLS and ACLS. This year they will be offered an opportunity to take AMLS in November. Next year AMLS will be offered as a summer course.

18-Month MICT Program

The students of the 18-Month MICT Program recently completed Electrocardiography and successfully passed the comprehensive final exam. They are currently working through Prehospital Pharmacology, and will begin their pre-Fi and OR rotations soon. This MICT cohort is being conducted at the Butler of Andover campus through a partnership between Cowley and Butler Colleges. The didactic session of the program will run through December, and the students will complete their clinical and field training during the 2009 spring semester.

MICT Student Back from Iraq

Jared Smith thought that he would finish the MICT class he started in 18 months. During clinicals, he found that his commitment to the US Army would alter his plans.

For nearly the last year, Sergeant Smith has been providing emergency care to the ill and injured soldiers and others in Iraq. He is now home in Wichita and has recently returned from his honeymoon. Jared will start his field internship soon and will finish the MICT program this fall.

Basic and Advanced Tactical Classes offered in September

Enroll now for the Basic Tactical class on September 6 & 7 and the September 20 & 21 Advanced Tactical class. Eligible students must have current EMS certification and/or employment as a public safety officer AND instructor approval. Learn the basic EMS tactics involved in delivering a search warrant, hostage situations, hostile environments and riots. The student will develop competencies in working in high-risk situations and will be able to respond to these emergencies, with an increased knowledge of EMS tactical operations.
Girls Talk Tech Camp

Taking advantage of a grant funded by the Kansas Board of Regents to provide exposure for women in fields of technology, 19 young ladies took part in Cowley College’s Girls Talk Tech summer program on June 16th.

Participants in the program saw demonstrations from Cowley College’s MICT and other career and technical education programs. The one-day event was held at Cowley’s Winfield Allied Health Center and other Cowley College locations.

Cowley instructors Cindy Branscum and Melissa McCaslin, as well as current MICT students Katie Casner, Carla Ficken, Kelli Mitchell, Cassie Reilly, Brian Powell and Luke Ratzlaff, discussed the EMS profession and demonstrated current EMS technologies and practices with the students. Demonstrations included advanced airway management, fracture splinting and ECG recognition stations.

Active Shooter Drill

On June 19th, current Cowley MICT students T.C. Bodwell, Katie Casner, Kelli Mitchell, Brian Powell, Cassie Reilly and Kelland Wolf participated in an active shooter drill on the Cowley College main campus in Arkansas City. The students assisted local law enforcement agencies by playing the parts of both victims and suspects during the drill. The drill helped prepare both law enforcement and Cowley administrators and faculty to deal with a potential active/barricaded shooter scenario.

Nursing Home Administrator (AIT) Program

The health care industry is currently experiencing a nationwide shortage of qualified health care workers, including administrators of long term care facilities. Cowley College offers the Administrator in Training Program (AIT), designed to accommodate the flexibility students need today. Students can start the program whenever they desire and have two years to complete the required 680 clock hour practicum required by Cowley at a KDHE approved long term health care facility in Kansas. Students are also required to complete two online leadership classes (three credit hours each for a total of six hours) of their choice offered by Cowley College. Following the tenets of adult education, students pick the most appropriate classes for their individual needs.

To learn more about this program, contact Bruce Irwin, Director, at irwinb@cowley.edu.

Pratt Community College RN Program at Winfield Allied Health Center

Pratt Community College will start a first and second year nursing class in August at the Winfield Allied Health Center. Interested students are encouraged to contact Janet Bogle, PCC Winfield Coordinator/Instructor at 620-229-5993.

2008-2009 first level nursing instructors are Janet Bogle and Sharon Logan. Two new instructors for the second level students were recently hired by PCC. Joy Sayachak-Phavongham and Pam Kaufman are currently preparing for classes which begin August 19. Karen Harden will begin her new position as secretary for the nursing program on August 4.

There are also plans to offer an MICT to RN bridge program starting in 2009. This program will be a partnership between Pratt and Cowley, and will have both online and on-ground learning components. More information, including prerequisites and curriculum information will be announced when they are available.
Medical Office Division News

The Medical Office Division of Allied Health encompasses the Medical Coding, Medical Transcription, and Medical Front Office Professional programs. Our goal is to produce highly qualified, experienced students from this program that will benefit the facilities where they will eventually provide patient care. To this end, we are currently reviewing and updating the curriculum for several of our courses and look forward to offering even better classes in the future.

CNA and Related Education

We are busy teaching a great group of students who want to enter the healthcare field by completing the Certified Nursing Assistant course. Additionally, we are continually teaching Certified Medication Aide and Home Health Aide courses. We have an LPN IV certification class starting August 19. Please visit our web page or give us a call for more information.

Leadership Program

We are offering both online and on-ground leadership courses this fall. Students may complete the entire leadership program online if they wish, or they may take selected courses in on-ground sessions at Cowley campuses. Emphasis areas in EMS and Business leadership are available, and all faculty members are graduate level or higher.

If you would like to enroll in a successful, proven program contact Chris Cannon, at cannon@cowley.edu.

Sports Medicine – Athletic Trainer Program

Jeff Simundic from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, was recently hired as an assistant athletic trainer for Cowley. Jeff began his new duties with Cowley on August 1st, bringing the total number of Cowley ATC’s to two. Jeff Fluty, Cowley athletic trainer, said “Jeff will be a great addition to our staff, especially with the addition of soccer to the athletic department.” There are also currently eleven athletic training students enrolled for the fall semester.

Allied Health Faculty and Staff

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