

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – KAREN LUKEN, CHAIR

1. Luken welcomes members and guests. All members and guests introduced themselves.
 - a. UNC-CH—Lauren Holahan, Diane Goff, Laurie Ray, Lee McLean, Brenda Mitchell, Allen Rinas, Bill Pully, Alan Brown, Alisa Debnam, Karen Luken, Cornell Wright, Darlene Duncan, Brenda Mitchell, Justine Seabolt, Stephen Thomas, Edna Williams, Carolyn Cusic, Jonathan B. Owens, Faye Cobb, Tom Scott, Deirdre Daley, Carol Siebert, Judith Ashbaugh, Kathy Heilig, Darlene Duncan, Bridget Pemberton-Smith, Ronda Brooks, Wade Marion, Beth Burns, Renee Godwin Batts
 - b. UNC-A – Ned Fowler, Margaret Ottofy, Sheryl Young, Rosalyn Wasserman
 - c. UNC-Charlotte—Amy Crisson, Ruth Hedgpeth, Terry N. Chapman, Karen Schmaling
 - d. UNC-G—Nedra Edwards Hines, Libby Haile, Robert Mayo, Carolyn Austin, Lisa McDonald
 - e. Western Carolina—No attendees
 - f. ECU—Trinette Cooper, Elizabeth Layman, Dawn Grant.

II. APPROVAL OF MARCH 4, 2009 MINUTES – Approved with one change on page 2, section V, number 1 (Tar Hell was changed to Tar Heel)

III. PRESENTATION

1. Lisa McDonald – “*Benefits of Council Membership*” - (PowerPoint slides available on CAHNC website)

IV. PRESENTATIONS BY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

Presidents were asked to address three questions: (1) What is the most significant /important educational issue, (2) Employment Issue, and (3) Legislative Issue

1. Chapel Hill
 - a. **PT – Deirdre Daley, Top 10 list**
 - (10) Need for PTs
 - (9) New PT CAPTE Candidate
 - (8) Increase class size in Schools – strained
 - (7) NCPTA – working with workforce coalitions
 - (6) Working with Adult Rehabilitation
 - (5) Continuing modernizing the Practice Act
 - (4) Continue work with OT/PT/Speech on co-pays
 - (3) Started new Strategic Plan
 - (2) Working on Competence Initiative
 - (1) Co-pays are barely covering Services
 - b. **OT Association – Carol Siebert**
 - Workforce demands exceed availability especially in Rural NE and Mountain areas
 - 5 Counties have no OTs
 - OT Assistant – (9) counties have none, (31) counties have 3 or fewer . Most have to contract for services.
 - Faculty have to be prepared on the Doctoral level
 - Finding faculty is a problem
 - Salaries in the University system are lower

- Cannot meet demand of Practitioners
 - Increase need in the older adults and young children populations
 - Increase number have their own practice
 - Number 1 problem – insuring continue coverage (Medicare /Medicaid)
 - The Medicare/Medicaid CAP Act – House bill 42 & 46 would repeal the Act. In addition, they are trying to make sure the Adult Benefit is written into the Bill.
- c. EMS – Tom Scott**
- Education – Medicare Reimbursement- trying to keep up to date with the changes is difficult.
 - Employment – Salary and Staff retention. Losing personnel to Nursing and Paramedic programs
 - Legislative – Medicare reimbursement issue. Clients are calling EMS as their primary physician because they lack health insurance. Call volume has increased 7-8%.
- d. Art Therapy – Bridgette Smith, President of NC Art Therapy Association**
- Education – Programs are not accredited in North Carolina. (2) locations have added programs; Queens University and Warren Wilson College
 - Employment – Not considered a viable profession and not getting paid for the work that they do.
 - Legislative – No State licensure. Insurance does not recognize program.
- e. Massage Therapy – No presentation**
- f. Speech, Hearing & Language – Beth Burns**
- Education – Need to Increase Scope of Practice but time is limited in Graduate School.
 - Employment – Meeting demands for Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists – significant vacancies
 - Legislative – Budget problems due to Medicare/ Medicaid and current NC State issues
- g. Blood Bankers – Ronda Brooks**
- Education – Med Techs 2nd level of certification in Blood Banking are low. Schools are closing (Western Carolina is closing its program this year)
 - Employment – Not enough qualified Techs –Now they are coming Out of State
 - Legislative – Medicare Reimbursement is an issue. A Unit of Blood is not reimbursed at the rate it costs.
- h. Cytology – Allen Rinas**
- Education – Physicians will require more specific diagnoses to treat cancer, therefore we need to develop Education Curricula to include more specific diagnostic information. Program is moving toward a Masters Degree program. Students need intensive training in Anatomy to perform bedside testing.
 - Employment – Increased demand for newer technology. Increase in retirements.
 - Legislative – Licensure vs. nonlicensure debate. Need to pursue licensure to define scope of Practice. Proficiency Testing – many oppose this option.
- i. Dental Hygiene – Jonathan Owens**
- Education – Continuing Education to meet needs of Hygienist.
 - Employment – North Carolina is saturated with Hygienist

- Legislative – Need fewer legislatures that hinder us from going to Rural Areas. Need to change legislature that would increase the number of Hygienist that can work with Dentist.
- j. Physician Assistants – Wade Marion
 - Education – We currently have 5 programs in North Carolina. Campbell will be starting one soon.
 - Employment – not enough PA’s
 - Legislative – Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance wants to reimburse at the Medicare rates.
- k. Music Therapy – Information was submitted in advance and presented by Karen Luken.
 - Education – Cost for tuition is high. 4 ½-year degree program. Internships are not paid.
 - Employment – Low Salaries
 - Legislative – In the early stages of pursuing licensure.

UNC- CHARLOTTE

- i. North Carolina Health Information Management – Amy Crisson
 - Education – Funding does not include HIM/HIT Need credentialing. Reduce Class Offering.
 - Employment – Budget reductions. Hiring freeze/layoffs. Categorized incorrectly by the Department of Labor.
 - Legislative – AURA – Terminology & Classification Standards

UNC – GREENSBORO

- m. Recreational Therapy – Carolyn Austin
 - Education – Academic accreditation; Recreational Therapy is only accredited in North Carolina. There are 11 programs and only 3 (RPA COA)
 - Employment – Jobs – RTs are not hired. Lack in salaries, Graduates move out of state or enroll in another degree program (OT/PT).
 - Legislative – Recognition by CMS included but not recognized by payers.
- n. Clinical Laboratory Science – Libby Haile
 - Education – Difficulty recruiting qualified students. Closing of programs (Western Carolina closing)
 - Employment – shortages
 - Legislative – Modernization of diagnostic schedule (HR 1452). No licensure of any laboratory professional

UNC – ASHEVILLE

- o. NC Community Colleges Deans of Allied Health Sciences– Ned Fowler
 - Education – Increase cost of programs and lack of funding sources? Need for Criminal Background checks, drug screenings at clinical sites results in varied methods, which are difficult to manage. Need unified guidelines. New Programs starting (Pharmacy Tech, Health Infomatics)
- p. Medical Assistant – Patti Henry (was she at UNC-Charlotte?)
 - Education – Increased number of students because of economic situation. Not enough Educators. Not enough money to cover costs. Now we are limiting travel for educators.

- Employment – Primary Care locations are overwhelmed. Layoffs result in loss of insurance but people still need care. See *CNA Today* article “*Patient Centered Medical Home*”(available on CAHNC website)

UNC – CHAPEL HILL BUDGET VIEW

- Rumored 20% cut coming. If this occurs, programs will have to close.

ECU – BUDGET VIEW

- Currently there’s a hiring freeze
- No spending

V. COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – ALISA DEBNAM

1. Allied Health Observances

- American Speech Language
- National Hospital Week – 5/10-5/16

2. 2010 Calendar –

- Please announce meetings to your Associations.
- Please send the topics you would like covered before the July retreat.

3. 2009 Allied Health Newspaper Inserts

- Kick off begins in July for Articles.

4. Council Website – Please click on your profession and verify that we are connecting to the appropriate site.

5. Additional Requests

- Off site coordinators, please send names of attendees to today’s meeting to Alisa.
- Please send presentations electronically to Alisa so that they can be posted on the Council website.
- Presidents
 - Send Alisa the date when membership changes over.
 - We would love to come and talk to your members, please let us know when your meetings are held.
 - Do you have a Newsletter? We would like to submit an article to be published in your Newsletter.

VI. BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL – ALAN BROWN

1. Budget Update – Reduced from \$100,000 to \$71,886. Contributors include Western, ECU, NC Hospital Association, UNC-Allied Health Sciences, and NC AHEC.

2. 2008-2009 – projected several thousand saved due to the Council not having an Administrative Assistant.

3. Discussion items

- Lee McLean asked, “*What are we going to do next year?*” Alan Brown replied, “*We do need to have this discussion*”
- Bill Pully replied “*that he would continue his commitment to the Council*”. Lee McLean echoed this promise.

VI. CLOSING REMARKS / ROUND ROBIN

1. Karen Luken - What can we contribute to maintain the Council? – Please send us your concerns regarding Workforce issues, diversity, certification/ licensure. Etc.

2. Executive Committee Retreat – upcoming in July

- Please send us your questions, ideas, and feedback prior to 7/10/2009.

3. Alisa Debnam - Outlook of Workforce Study

- We have Patron that has provided ½ of the funds. We are presently looking for the other ½. Cost \$70,000 (includes 10 professions)
4. Faye Cobb - Winston-Salem State
 - Opening Laboratory
 - PT Department received Endowed Professorship \$250,000 and will be matched by the University.
 - If you would like a copy of their Strategic Plan, please contact Dr. Bethea. Alisa will try to get an electronic copy to post to the Council's website.
 5. Steve Thomas – ECU
 - Graduation keynote speaker will be Alisa Debnam.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next Meeting- September 2, 2009

Meeting Adjourned