

Human Services Advisory Committee Minutes
December 10, 2018

Members Present: Amy Erickson and Jim Vetter

Members Absent: Bianca Bell, Carol Cartledge, Mindy Eng-Anderson, Michele Gee, and Mark Heinert

Instructor Present: Lisa Hoynes

Guest: Dr. Amy Juhala, Dean of Humanities, Arts & Sciences

We gathered today for our fall 2018 meeting, lunch was served.

We had a guest with us today to talk about a Career Explorer seminar that will be held at Bismarck State College, June 2019. Juhala discussed the plan for this career exploration and asked for feedback on (1) What types of hands-on activities could be offered from this professional career area? Is there something that would help “sell” this career to high school counselors? (2) What are primary industry needs to promote/highlight? (3) Is there a possibility in any of this industry hosting one of the dinners or provide a speaker to talk about industry needs? One of the primary ideas was to offer a poverty simulation for the hands-on portion of this event. Juhala mentioned human services probably fits better within the humanities, arts, and sciences area versus the health area for this event, and it may be too late to get this structurally switched. We will revisit where human services fits and see if there is something we can add for this event in June. Otherwise, we can look to incorporate into the following year’s activities with humanities, arts, and sciences.

There was discussion on the change of program requirements for human services. Introduction to Helping Skills will be changing to SWK 250--Interpersonal Skills. Part of the requirement for this course will be a 25 hour volunteer experience. Interpersonal skills was discussed further in terms of the interpersonal dynamics changing with the world of technology and interacting behind a screen. That “relationships” are changing. This led to Vetter talking of changing some intake questions for his residents to ask about their social support, including the question of how much of the support is “virtual” and how much support is in person.

I am always looking for human service employment agencies to come to my classes to talk about their employment opportunities and what a typical day looks like for the human service professional. This is not only beneficial for my students, but has been helpful for recruitment of employees for the agency. If you know of an agency that would be willing to come to my class to share some insight into the human services profession, please let me know. I would love to set something up for next semester!

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hoynes