



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

- 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