

Behavioral Science
2024 Advisory Board Meeting
October 29, 2024

We opened the meeting with introductions and looking over the scholarship information. I did apologize for not being able to inform them about the Department issues that were discussed in last year's meeting. We did discuss ways in which we might increase our student's application concerning scholarships. Some of those ideas were the use of social media—Facebook or Instagram.

General Discussion:

1. Concerning critical skills employers might be looking for in new hires?
 - a. Face to face interactions—most agreed that students lack the ability to make eye contact or just in knowing how to interact with others. This is important as a behavioral scientist since you must interact and communicate with patients.
 - b. Communication and writing skills were also discussed since behavioral scientists not only communicate face to face with patients, but also write reports.
2. Certifications or training programs that have value for this major.
 - a. Bridges Out of Poverty was suggested as most clients are experiencing poverty as an issue.
3. Emerging trends/challenges being seen in behavioral and mental health that our programs should be addressing to better prepare our students.
 - a. Confidence—students seem overwhelmed when they realize they may have to communicate with law enforcement, DHS, judges, etc.
 - b. Ethics and personal boundaries.
 - c. Time management
 - d. Self-care
4. New technologies or tools being used and how can we ensure that our students are proficient in these before graduation?
 - a. Netiquette
 - b. Organizational skills
 - c. Writing skills
 - d. Team work
 - e. Communication skills.
 - f. Most agreed that technologies/tools are easily mastered by most students, but it is the interaction between people skills that most lack

- i. Most felt the above was most likely due to Online courses, use of social media, and not being required to interact in person with others.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45.