CURRICULUM VITAE
Brenda Ramirez, MS, RDCS, RVT

Date: 1/8/2025
School: Allied Health Professions
Department/Program: Cardiopulmonary Science

Current Title: Assistant Professor of Clinical Cardiopulmonary Science, Clinical Coordinator
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Initial Appointment at LSUHSC Date: 11/6/2023
Current Academic Rank: Assistant professor
Date of Appointment to Current Rank: 11/6/2023

Education:

Undergraduate: University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA, B.S. in Biological Sciences, 2008

LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA
School of Allied Health Professions, B.S. in Cardiopulmonary Science, 2010

Graduate/medical: Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, M.S. in Neuroscience, 2013

Certification:

2011 Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer, American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography

2022 Registered Vascular Technologist, American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Course Director Spring 2024: Vascular Technology I, Echocardiography Clinics I, Echocardiography Clinics IV, Vascular Clinics III
Course Director Summer 2024: Vascular Technology II, Echocardiography Clinics II, Vascular Clinics I
Course Director Fall 2024: Vascular Technology III, Vascular Clinics II, Echocardiography Clinics III, Pathophysiology

Formal Course Responsibilities As a new faculty member of the department of cardiopulmonary science, I am responsible for teaching the majority of the echocardiography (echo) labs. In this role, I focus on imparting hands-on skills for scanning echo, guiding students to obtain optimal views and measurements to prepare them for their clinical rotations.

In addition to my lab teaching duties, I serve as the course director for Vascular Technology I, II, and III. This role involves overseeing the curriculum and conducting lab sessions for Vascular Technology I and II. My teaching in these courses emphasizes optimal image acquisition and Doppler interrogation of various arteries and veins, equipping students with the practical skills necessary for clinical practice.

During my first year of teaching, I undertook a comprehensive revamp of the lecture PowerPoints to enhance the learning experience. I incorporated novel teaching methods and leveraged my creativity to design engaging educational tools. These included a card game to help students understand anatomy, pathology, and appropriate diagnostic procedures, as well as a crossword puzzle to facilitate comprehension of challenging topics. I also utilized interactive platforms such as Kahoot and Jeopardy to make learning more dynamic and engaging.

To further enrich the educational experience, I introduced innovative methods such as having students design clay models of various parts of the vascular anatomy. Additionally, I utilized artificial intelligence to create QR codes that students could scan to access more information about the specific models they were creating. These initiatives have significantly contributed to a more interactive and effective learning environment for the students

SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION

University/Institutional Service:

Faculty grader for Interprofessional Education (Team Up) 2024-current
SAHP Family Day 2024
Unitech School Visit

LSUHSC (campus) committees

School committees:

Alumni Affairs committee 2023-2024
Diversity Committee 2023-2024
Community Engagement Committee 2024-current
Honors Committee 2024- current
Clinical Coordinators Committee 2023-current

Departmental committees:

CPS Event Planning Committee founded 2024, responsible for planning the inaugural CPS White Coat and Pinning Ceremony
Cardiopulmonary Science Admissions Committee, 2024-present

Special assignments –

LSU Day at the Capitol: April 2024, I helped showcase the role of a cardiovascular sonographer by performing carotid artery screening ultrasounds on lawmakers and staff.

Department of Cardiopulmonary Science social media manager: In my role as the manager of the Department of Cardiopulmonary Science's Instagram page, I have taken on the responsibility of curating and creating content that highlights the dynamic and engaging aspects of our program. My primary focus is to showcase our students, special events, and day-to-day learning activities, providing a comprehensive view of the vibrant community within our department.

To achieve this, I write and design content that captures the essence of our program, celebrating student achievements, highlighting hands-on learning experiences, and promoting special events. By sharing these stories, I aim to create a sense of connection and pride among current students, while also inspiring prospective students to consider a career in cardiopulmonary science.

Recognizing the evolving landscape of social media, I am committed to modernizing our Instagram page to better engage with our younger demographic. This involves staying up-to-date with the latest trends and utilizing innovative strategies to make our content more appealing and interactive. By doing so, I aim to attract and encourage young people to apply for our program and explore the rewarding field of cardiopulmonary science.

Through these efforts, I strive to create a dynamic and engaging social media presence that not only showcases the strengths of our program but also fosters a sense of community and excitement about the opportunities within cardiopulmonary science.

Membership in Professional Organizations: **American Society of Echocardiography 2024**

Administrative Responsibilities:

LSUHSC

School

Departmental: Clinical Coordinator

As the Clinical Coordinator for the Cardiovascular Sonography Program, I play a pivotal role in ensuring the seamless integration of students into their clinical rotations. My responsibilities encompass a range of preparatory and administrative tasks designed to support both students and clinical sites.

Preparation for Clinical Rotations: I am responsible for preparing students to enter their clinical rotations by ensuring they meet all necessary prerequisites. This includes coordinating background and drug testing, ordering scrubs, securing Basic Life Support (BLS) certifications, and arranging liability insurance. These steps are crucial in ensuring that students are fully equipped and compliant with clinical site requirements.

Placement and Coordination: A significant part of my role involves placing students at various clinical sites. This requires close coordination with the supervisors at these sites to ensure a good match between the students' skills and the clinical environment. I work diligently to foster strong relationships with these supervisors, facilitating smooth placements and addressing any logistical challenges that may arise.

Administrative Management: I manage the administrative aspects of the clinical rotations, including tracking timecards, monitoring absences, and recording late occurrences. It is essential that students are aware of and adhere to the policies regarding attendance and punctuality. I provide clear communication and guidance to ensure compliance and address any issues promptly.

Clinical Site Visits: To gauge student performance and progress, I conduct periodic visits to the clinical sites. These visits allow me to observe students in action, assess their development, and gather feedback from supervisors. Additionally, these visits provide an opportunity to strengthen relationships with the staff at each facility, ensuring ongoing collaboration and support.

I also serve as the primary point of contact for students when problems arise in their clinical settings. I work to resolve issues efficiently, advocating for the students' needs while maintaining strong partnerships with the clinical sites. This role is critical in ensuring a positive and productive clinical experience for all parties involved.

Through these responsibilities, I strive to create a supportive and structured environment that enables students to thrive in their clinical rotations and develop the skills necessary for successful careers in cardiovascular sonography.