

PLANNING/OUTCOMES DOCUMENT 2007-2008

Name of person(s) completing form:	Debra Klavohn and Diane Page	Curriculum/Department:	Physical Therapist Assistant
Purpose/Mission Statement:		Vision Statement: (3-5 years)	
<p>The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Curriculum at Southwestern Community College is a comprehensive technical program which endeavors to meet the needs of prospective and existing students and health care professionals as appropriate. The program is directed under principles set forth by the profession's accrediting agency and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.</p> <p>We strive to meet the needs of a constantly evolving profession while contributing to the social and economic development of the area. We achieve this mission through the integration of technical, related and general education.</p> <p>Program Goal: To prepare Southwestern Community College Physical Therapist Assistant graduates to function as competent, ethical Physical Therapist Assistants at the entry level.</p>		<p>The PTA program at SCC attracts academically strong students, for a yearly class of 16, because of it's commitment to continually evolving with the field of PT and by incorporating the most current educational tools. Our commitment to quality is shared with the community of potential students through a strong recruitment program.</p> <p>The program has a strong relationship with local and regional clinics allowing for strong diverse educationally sound placements. Our PTA students have a thorough knowledge of the role of physical therapy in the community through their involvement in community oriented activities such as postural screens, wheel chair assessments and adjustments, and health fairs.</p> <p>The PTA lab closely resembles an actual clinic functioning PT clinic environment.</p> <p>Strong coordinated programs exist with the PT program at Western Carolina University and with other health science curricula at Southwestern.</p>	
Program Strengths:		Program Weaknesses:	
<p>The PTA program is a well established program with stable, qualified full-time faculty. The faculty are dedicated to the profession as evident in their commitment and involvement in their professional association at the local and state level</p> <p>The program has strong policies and procedures in place to insure students who are admitted to the program have the resources to successfully complete the degree and pass their licensure examination on the first attempt.</p> <p>The Program has strong, stable clinical affiliations throughout the college service area and beyond.</p> <p>A final strength is the program's relationship with the PT program at WCU allowing for interaction with students, faculty and the use of costly resources.</p>		<p>An ongoing problem that could lead to a weakness is the lack of qualified part time instructors. At this time the Dean for Health Sciences, who is also the PTA program coordinator is teaching additional PTA courses while searching for qualified instructors. This individual, with administrative responsibilities as their primary college role, is thus limited with time to assist students and work on course enhancements.</p> <p>A second weakness is the limited number of students who complete the program application process and become strong competitive candidates.</p>	
Program Opportunities:		Program Threats:	
<p>Currently market demand for PTA's is increasing significantly and with this our applicant pool should increase.</p>		<p>A serious potential threat is a developing PTA program only 50 miles from SCC. A large portion of our student population comes from this same area and could impact the student applicant pool. This could also impact the number of clinical sites that will continue to affiliate with SCC from that area. An additional concern is the cost of automobile fuel. PTA students have a significant amount of clinical contact hours in this curriculum and could be driving up to 75 miles one way to clinic, daily, during these courses.</p>	

Goal #	Values for Teaching	College Goals	2006–2007 Department Outcomes/Goals	Success Criteria (Method for measuring extent to which outcomes are achieved)	Plan of Action (including resources needed)
1	6 9	1	1.1. Employers will be satisfied with the entry level skills of graduates from this program	1. 95% of employers surveyed will indicate they are satisfied with the entry level skills of graduates in this program	Monitor survey results of employers as conducted as part of the annual review; review results with faculty and advisory committee, revise curriculum to reflect needed entry level proficiency; document and track as part of PTA program master assessment plan
2	1 2 6 9	10	2. 1. Exceed State passage rate for Licensure exam . The goal meets the North Carolina Community College Systems performance measurement.	1. 80% of students taking the state exam during the calendar year of 2007 will pass on first attempt. 2. 80% of students taking exam from the 2007 graduating class will pass on first attempt.	Continue to monitor, evaluate, and update curriculum and program resources on a yearly basis as outlined in PTA Program master assessment Plan in order to maintain a solid education program designed to produce competent entry level PTA Practitioners
3	9	2	3.1. SCC's PTA program exhibits high academic standards	90% of graduates will indicate on the graduate survey they were academically prepared to successfully pass the licensure examination upon graduation. 95% of graduates will indicate on the graduate survey that they felt adequately prepared to join the workforce as a PTA.	Monitor graduate survey to allow evaluation of this information. Monitor survey results; review results with faculty and advisory committee, revise curriculum to reflect needed entry level proficiency; document and track as part of PTA program master assessment plan
4	6 7	4	4.1. SCC's PTA program will graduate enough students to sustain the program and meet community job market needs.	1. Have a minimum of 30 qualified applicants by May 15, 2008 2. 75% of students will successfully complete the program in any cohort 3. 100% of students who pass the licensure exam will attain full time employment within 6 months of graduation or continue their educational pursuits (from the 2007 graduation class)	1. Increase recruitment and marketing activities. Plan and execute a minimum of two recruitment activities per semester. Distribute program brochures to all clinical sites. Send letters each month to new college applicants who indicate PTA as their program of study to try and increase the applicant to qualified applicant numbers. 2. Monitor students for early signs of being at academic risk; signs include absences, failing exams, poor performance in lab and on projects. 3. Track graduate career pursuits via graduate survey

Budget Item Description: (Budget items requested from college funds)	Current Year Budget:	Ongoing Operational Budget:	Expansion Budget:
Supplies-	1500.00	1500.00	
Equipment-	0	0	
Travel-	Clinical-2000.00 Pro. Dev.- 1500.00	Clinical-2000.00 Pro. Dev.- 1500.00	
Program Accreditation-	2950.00	2950.00	
Other-			
TOTALS	7950.00	7950.00	

Criteria Results for 2007-08 Be sure to utilize most current data available	End of Year Analysis (Goals achieved, impact of equipment purchased, Improvements to your program, contingencies, etc.) Describe how you used the results to improve your program