2006-2007 Assessment Report

Name: Susan M. McGinty, PT, EdD, Director

Department: Physical Therapy

Contact: mcgintys@csus.edu

1. **What goals or learning objectives/outcomes were assessed in AYs 2006-2007?**

We assess all 4 of our major learning objectives/outcomes every year according to the assessment plan established in addition to assessing our mission, philosophy, goals, curriculum plan, students (admission requirements, progress, successful retention, success on the national licensure examination, outcomes), faculty, and clinical faculty. We established our assessment plan with the development and accreditation of our Master’s curriculum in compliance with our accrediting requirements from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

2. **How did you assess these learning outcomes?**

   a. **Describe the measures you used and the information gathered? (Description, date administered, results)**

Multiple methods were used to assess all of the outcomes including:

1. Portfolio review (our culminating project for our students is a portfolio and these are reviewed and evaluated by our Community Advisory Committee every August to determine whether or not students’ work included in the portfolios demonstrate the program learning objectives. Written grading rubrics completed by the Community Advisory Committee demonstrated that our graduates have met the educational learning objectives set by the program.

2. Graduate and alumni surveys that assess graduates and alumni perceptions of the preparation to practice they receive in the curriculum. Graduate surveys are completed the week prior to graduation in December each year and alumni surveys are completed ~6 months after graduation each summer. Graduate and alumni surveys reveal uniform agreement with statements of good to excellent preparation across all clinical areas except for two. In the two, integumentary and pelvic floor dysfunction, graduates reported adequate preparation for entry-level practice.

3. Clinical competencies were assessed through the Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI) completed by all clinical faculty after supervising students in clinical rotations (30 weeks of full-time internships—4 different rotations with 4 different clinical supervisors) that establish performance benchmarks of all of our graduates across multiple measures (24 criteria). Our graduates exceed entry-level competencies across the board.

4. National licensure examination results from our graduates. Our graduates all passed the licensure examination—exceeding the state and national averages which are ~77%.
b. As a result of these assessments what did you learn about the program’s success in helping its students achieve these learning outcomes?

The multiple measures used revealed success on all levels. The graduate surveys demonstrated strong agreement with good to excellent preparation in all critical areas of clinical competence. The portfolios adequately demonstrate to outside communities of interest our students’ competencies. The CPIs demonstrate our students are exceeding entry-level competencies on their clinical and professional skills across the board. Student success with the national licensure examination continues to exceed state and national averages. Our 3-year pass rate for the examination is 100%.

c. In what areas are students doing well and achieving expectations?

Students are doing well and achieving across all of our assessments.

d. What areas are seen as needing improvement within your program?

No areas identified at this time.

3. As a result of faculty reflection on these results, are there any program changes anticipated?

No

4. Did your department engage in any other assessment activities such as the development of rubrics, course alignment?

Every fall we must file an Annual Report with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education to reassure the Commission of our continued compliance with all accreditation criteria. We have been reviewing curricular content in the fall semester due to the rigor and intensity of that first fall semester in the curriculum as reported by students. We have had 2-4 students on academic probation at the end of each fall semester the last two years.

5. What assessment activities are planned for the upcoming academic year?

We will continue to follow our assessment plan. We will continue to track student performance, especially in the first fall semester of the curriculum to see whether or not we need to rearrange the curriculum to lighten the semester. We have put in place some student tutoring to be available to assist students early in the semester, if needed. Any student receiving a “C” grade on an early test in a course will be advised of the availability of tutoring and the student’s advisor will be notified by the course instructor.