UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
Feedback to Departments on Assessment Activities Reported in 2004-2005 Annual Reports

DEPARTMENT_____ Physician Assistant (PA) Program_____DATE____8/31/1006_____

COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) CONDUCTING REVIEW: _Cheryl Saunders & Nabil Slueiman_

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS

- Were any goals referenced?   YES__x__   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ___
- If so, were goals well articulated?   YES____   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N _x__
- Do goals address student learning?   YES__x__   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ___

Comments:

    Undergraduate: N/A

    Graduate: The annual report refers to the goals and objectives that are detailed in the PA Program's Assessment Plan. In the PA Program's Assessment Plan, the goals and objectives are clearly articulated and do address student learning.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Were any specific assessment methods referenced?   YES__x__   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ____
- If so, were specifically chosen assessment methods appropriately aligned with individual goals?   YES__x___   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ____
- Were both direct and indirect assessment methods used as components of a "multiple measures" approach?   YES__x___   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ____

Comments:

    Undergraduate: N/A

    Graduate: The methodology used to assess student learning includes a variety of measures including summative testing (objective and clinical testing), written/graded assignments along with preceptors' evaluations, lecturers' feedback and students' (current and former) feedback and the National PA Boards. In addition, students meet with faculty advisor monthly with the exception of March.

ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Were any assessment results reported?   YES____   NO__x__   QUALIFIED Y/N ____
- If so, were the results clear in terms of how they specifically affirm achievement of goals?   YES____   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ____
- If so, were the results clear in terms of how they indicate need for improvement?   YES____   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ____
- Were the results tied to goals for student learning?   YES____   NO____   QUALIFIED Y/N ____

Comments:

    Undergraduate: N/A

    Graduate: There was reference to assessment results, but the results were not documented in the annual report**.**

CLOSING THE LOOP

Were any actions taken on the basis of assessment
results reported? YES___x___ NO____ QUALIFIED Y/N ____
- If so, do curricular or other improvements/
changes arising from assessment results
directly address goals for student learning? YES___x____ NO____ QUALIFIED Y/N ____

Comments:

Undergraduate: N/A

Graduate: Based on student and faculty feedback, a reevaluation of course content and delivery in three courses occurred. As a result, changes were made in course faculty, content, and sequencing of material within the three courses.

SUMMARY

Strengths	*Areas for Improvement*
_ x_ A specific plan for assessment is in place.	____ No specific plan for assessment is in place.
_ x__Student learning goals are well-articulated.	____ Student learning goals are not well-articulated.
_ x__Assessment methods are clearly described.	____ Assessment methods are not clearly described.
_ x__Assessment methods are appropriately selected.	____ Assessment methods are not appropriately selected.
_ x__Assessment methods are well-implemented.	____ Assessment methods are not well-implemented.
_ x__Direct and indirect methods are implemented.	____ A single type of assessment methods predominates.
____Results are reported.	__x__ No results are reported.
_ x__Results are tied to closing the loop.	____ Results are not clearly tied to closing the loop.
(Decision-making is tied to evidence.)	(Decision-making is not directly tied to evidence.)

OVERALL SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
The Physician Assistants (PA) Program has a well-documented assessment plan. However, the goals and objectives of this program are not clearly stated in the annual report. The goals and objectives do address student learning and therefore, should be included in the annual report. Assessment methods are clear and varied in assessing student learning and the evaluation of the program. Nevertheless, these findings and/or results are not documented in the annual report. The actions taken after the results are, but the findings are not reported. The PA Program's assessment plan aligns with student learning outcomes and faculty activities to facilitate student learning. It would be good to see these goals/objectives along with student learning outcomes documented in the annual report.

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Section 1: ___N__   Section 2: _Y__   Section 3: __?___   Section 4: __Y___

Coding Key:
Y	=	yes, this is done appropriately and well
N	=	no, this is not done at all, or it is not done in relationship to student learning
NA	=	no information available
?	=	action or progress is apparent; however, evidence is lacking that this is completely and appropriately done