

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, 11/16/10

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Marlon Alaan, Winston Biltz, Mary Ellen Barkman, Teresa Dean, David Erickson, Ernesto Monroy, David Pingol, Shamsah Shidi, Maryellen Sullivan, Tricia Trinque

GUESTS PRESENT: Gary Graham (Outreach Coordinator)

PTA STUDENTS PRESENT: Stephen Miller (Sophomore class President)
Lisa Zaun (Sophomore Class Vice-President)

PROGRAM FACULTY: Rebecca Kramer (Program Director)
Marja Beaufait, Mary Hanlon, Barb Heier

MEETING TIME: 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM

I. Introductions

Committee members and others introduced themselves and indicated their current place of employment.

II. Program Update

R. Kramer reported the following:

- On May 8, 2010 the PTA Program graduated 24 students. Two other students finished the PTA curriculum but still had general education/support courses to finish. One graduated in July 2010 and one anticipates graduation in December 2010. This class initially began in the fall of 2008 with 46 students.
- There are 34 sophomores. This class initially began with 46 in the fall of 2009.
- There are 38 freshmen. This class began with 47 students in August of 2010. There were 207 applicants for this class, 150 of them met the admissions requirements.

- The program has 104 applicants for August 2011, 40 of whom have been admitted to the program. There are 40 students who have been admitted for 2012, applicants are currently being admitted into the August 2013 class (there are 24 admitted at the present time).
- The Program has seen 3 patients this fall, a 34 y/o male with knee flexion tightness secondary to surgery for blood clots and two 19 y/o female volleyball players with back injuries.

III. Review of PTA Program Viability Report

R. Kramer reviewed the PTA Program 2009-10 Viability Measures Report which looks at Program Graduates, Actual Course Enrollment, Unduplicated Headcount and Total Employment Placement over a three year period. The status of the 2009-10 action plan items were discussed, two having been completed (exploring possibility of placing some PTA courses on-line and revision of Program re-entry requirements) and one not completed (exploring increasing program enrollment). Increasing program enrollment is not being pursued at this time due to a decrease in affiliating agencies being willing to take students.

Action plan items for 2010-11 include: exploring the possibility of implementing a full time physical therapy clinic to decrease reliance on outside affiliating agencies, implementation of a new admissions process with selective criteria to do away with the current three year waiting list and increasing the number of PTA information sessions held at HEC with the possibility of requiring attendance at these sessions being a program admission requirement.

Committee discussion focused on recommendations for better retention rates, ideas generated:

- Have a graduate and/or current student at the information sessions to speak about the rigors of the program and the need to limit employment hours for program success.
- Add testimonials to the program website from current student/graduates regarding the rigors and time demands of the curriculum.
- Consider group interviews for program seats with rubrics for interviewers to grade critical thinking and communication skills.

IV. Program Pass Rate Scores

R. Kramer distributed the Program's national licensure exam school report from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. The report is for graduation years 2008, 2009 and 2010. SPC Program graduates over the three year period consistently scored higher than other graduates in the state as well as all US accredited graduates. Overall pass rates for 2008 and 2009 were 100% and for 2010 is 95.45%.

V. Use of Technology in the Program

B. Heier, M. Hanlon and R. Kramer gave presentations on how they are using technology to enhance student teaching and learning in their courses. R. Kramer engaged the advisory committee using a turning point presentation (presentation using individual polling devices). The committee was polled on their knowledge of new Medicare laws regarding the use of therapy students and patient treatment. R. Kramer explained this program's use as an interactive means of assessing how students, as a class, are grasping new material. She also uses Turning Point at the beginning of class to see if students have completed reading assignments prior to lecture.

M. Hanlon displayed an interactive program she created: "who wants to be a PTA" a teaching and learning tool based on the TV show Who Wants To Be A Millionaire. B. Heier presented an interactive program she created using a template based on the show Jeopardy that students use to test their knowledge of Anatomy and Kinesiology concepts. Ms. Heier also showed the Committee links to several interactive videos she has in the ANGEL (on-line management system) component of her course to assist students with key material concepts.

VI. New MDS 3.0: Use of Therapy Students

R. Kramer reviewed with Committee members an APTA document outlining new Medicare regulations regarding how facilities document and utilize therapy students for patients billed under Medicare Part A and Part B. One of the points being under Medicare A the clinical instructor cannot be treating or supervising other individuals and must be able to immediately intervene or assist the student as needed while the student and resident are both within line of sight supervision but could be attending to

paperwork. Under Part B the clinical instructor cannot engage in any other activity or treatment when the resident is receiving treatment.

VII. Announcements

R. Kramer announced the College was in the process of purchasing the Juvenile Welfare Board building just south of the Health Center on 66th St. This building will be used for Health Program expansion although it has not been decided which health programs will stay at the current site or be relocated to the new building. Regardless of location, the PTA Program will be gaining more space with the anticipated time frame being within two years.