

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

1/12/2024

OTC 117

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am

II. Determination of Quorum

A quorum was determined.

Voting Members

Krista Sutton proxy for Dusty Baker

Ron Flury proxy for Caleb Cain

Lynne Cary

Nick Macaluso

Eric Mann

Tory Norris

Cassandra Solis

Edna Yokum

Non-Voting Members

Griselda Aubert - Absent

Chris Meeks

Andrea Warton

Guests:

Vanessa Stroman

III. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting

- I. The minutes will be completed from 01/09/2024 and sent out at a later date.

IV. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair asked for a motion and a second to approve the agenda. Cassandra moved to approve the agenda and Nick seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

V. Informational Items

- a. None

VII. Old Business

- a. None

VII. New Business

A. Health Sciences

i. Edit Program:

AAS_Occupational Therapy Asst. Vanessa Stroman stated that OTA is struggling with pass rates, and she wants to increase the rigor of the pre-admission test. Students who do not pass a

course in the program will have to start from the beginning and retake all of the courses. The GPA requirement will be raised from 2.5 to 2.75 to make sure this is a rigorous application process. The reason for the changes is the students are not retaining the information from the courses. Financial Aid will not cover the courses if a student has to start over. They will have to pay out of pocket approximately \$5,000 for the program. The program's current students are aware of this. This should motivate students to study and do what they are supposed to do to pass the courses. At other OTA programs, if you fail you cannot re-take the classes, and students have to go to another institution. In contrast to other OTA programs where failing results in the inability to retake classes, our program offered the opportunity for students to re-enroll in the course when it is offered again. However, this approach raises concerns about potential knowledge loss, particularly since our program's courses are offered one time through the fiscal year and we are a fall entry program. Students might struggle to retain information from previously passed courses if they have to wait until the next offered term to retake a failed course. An analysis was completed on ESL students and returning students who previously failed. It is not any certain class they are failing – they are failing different classes. ESL students said it wasn't a lack of knowledge when they took their NBCOT test, but they ran out of time because they had to translate questions from English to Spanish. The NBCOT test is not offered in Spanish. The students require extended time to code-switch the NBCOT questions and answers meaning instead of taking 1 minute to answer per question, it takes twice as long and they run out of time as the NBCOT is timed. The TEAS test for ALIED Health would be another requirement to see where they stand and see what they need to work on. There are also other resources such as Adult Basic Education. Vanessa contacted Puerto Rico to network and see how their ESL students perform on their NBCOT pass rates and they have a 50% fail rate. Ron mentioned Aviation requires that you be proficient in English and the FAA requires that as a prereq to get an A&P license. Tory said the nursing program currently uses the TEAS test for Nursing. English, science, and math are embedded in the TEAS exam. OTA went through a self-study review and the program isn't compliant with their pass rates. We did not meet that threshold. They applied for an extension for good cause, changed the rigor of A&P, and reviewed and altered their curriculum according to NBCOT program data results. The extension for the good cause letter was approved, an action plan was proposed, and progress reports were written. Unfortunately, the program did not make it during COVID (2020) with 50% pass rates, year 2021 had 87%, and year 2022 had 85% pass. In the most recent report, some students scored high nationally, but the ESL and re-entry students did not pass. After contacting the students from the class of 2023 and learning information, the plan is to apply for another extension for good cause (if needed) with these new proposed guidelines and/or input in the February progress report. If the extension for good cause is not approved or the students do not pass with 80% or higher from the 3 most recent years, the program will continue to be non-compliant and potentially dissolve. Angie asked if there would be a grace period/grandfather clause for the GPA requirement. Vanessa said students have the fall to bring their GPA up to 2.75. Chris said there would need to be a discussion with the entrance committee, the program director, and the Dean so that all agree as to when these changes go into effect, and what the grace time will be. With health programs, you start in a new catalog and as long as all is discussed and approved there shouldn't be an issue. A memo would be written detailing how to create an artifact for the accrediting body for the progress report and/or extension for good cause letter. Vanessa is drafting potential ways to start in spring, and possibly go through summer as shifting the graduation date to December streamlines the program's data reporting process. Instead of presenting results from two cohorts, the program data will reflect outcomes from a single cohort. This simplifies data analysis when program data results are reported from

January 1 to December 31st. Graduating in December ensures that the program's annual report encompasses the performance of a single cohort, providing a more accurate and consolidated reflection of the program's success and areas for improvement.

VIII. Vanessa will consult the Curriculum Committee for ideas and for a memo for reports. There were no other questions or concerns. Ron made a motion to accept the changes as presented and Tory seconded. There was no further discussion, and the motion carried unanimously. Edna will contact the Curriculum Committee to vote on the changes in Coursedog.

IX. Comments/Questions

- a. Open to Group Discussion. Edna suggested that Tory or Dusty be voted in as temporary Chair of the Curriculum Committee. Edna will step down from her position due to accepting the Interim Dean of Arts & Sciences Education. The position is open to any member of the committee. Tory made a motion to nominate herself as Interim Chair until fall 2024, Nick seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

IX. Adjournment. The Chair asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting. Ron motioned to adjourn, Nick seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 am.

Next Meeting: TBD