

Program Viability Committee Summary

September 15, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Zoom

Members present: Garrett Rieck (Noncredit Faculty), Tricia George (Humanities/Interim Curriculum Committee Chair), Jason Burgdorfer (MSHP-MSE), Jesse Vera (Adjunct Counselor & AMSA Faculty Co-Advisor), Julie Hovden (Counseling), Dr. Omar Torres (CIO), Jennifer Paris (SBS), Dr. Rebecca Eikey (MSHP-MSE)

Guests: Marilyn Jimenez (Academic Senate Administrative Assistant), Harriet Happel (Dean of Career Ed and Integrative Learning, CTE), Diane Avery (Dean, Academic Innovation and Continuing Education), & Dr. Kathy Bakhit (Dean, HPPS), Jeff Gregor (Associate VP, Instruction), James Vea (OTA Consultant), Steve Ruys (Dean, KPEA), Anant Desai (Interface Rehab), Justin Hunt (Networking Tech.), David Pevsner (PT Assistant Program Director)

I. Routine Matters

1. Call to order: 10:03 am
2. Approval of 9/1/2022 meeting minutes
 - Year 3 status report for Law Enforcement there was a request to change from “the program took some time” to “the program took some time, but it was approved.”
 - Motion to approve the minutes with the revisions by Jesse Vera, seconded by Julie Hovden. Dr. Torres was absent. Rebecca Eikey abstained. Approved

II. Approval of the Agenda

1. Motion to approve the agenda by Rebecca Eikey, seconded by Tricia George. Dr. Torres was absent. Approved.

III. Discussion

1. Program Initiation: Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) - Kathy Bakhit and Dave Pevsner
 - Thank you to Garrett Rieck, Marilyn Jimenez and Kathy Hernandez to helping with the process for approval for this program.

Introductions:

- *Dr. David Pevsner: He is the new faculty director for the PTA program. David is working on trying to achieve candidacy with the programmatic accreditor. Has been physical therapist for 45 years. Started a company to help out physical therapist in private practice. He later joined a small CTE College in Van Nuys and stated a physical therapy assistant program. Then went back to private practice for a while.*
- *James Vea: is a certified occupational assistant. Has been a therapy practitioner for 32 years. Works in School of Nursing for Older Adults in Geriatrics. Transitioned to education about 9 years, working as adjunct for their OTA program then transitioned as program director for 2 ½ years for a CCC in CA. He later went back into practice. He has been on the roster of accreditors for the Accreditation Council for OT for 7 years and is part of the onsite team for OTA program in US to see if they meet their standards and helps them with the accreditation process.*
- *Dr. Anant Desai: He is a physical therapist by training. Graduated in 1976 and been practicing for 47 years non-stop. He has enjoyed the profession. He is a president and head coach for Interface Rehab which is the contract company that does full service rehabilitation for most acute and medical settings throughout CA and Nevada. There is a second company, Naxem which is the free-standing outpatient clinic specialist in pediatrics and adults in city of Placentia.*

Occupation Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program Proposal Slide Presentation:

- Labor Market Information (LMI)- HealthCare Workforce Demand: OTA is projected to grow nationwide by 16% by 2020-2030.
- O.net Data: OTA is defined as a bright outlook and high demand occupation. In CA the projected growth is at 42%. The economic outlook for SCV and CA, is that all jobs advertised as of September 6th are in the health care area which includes, Cedar Sinai, Kaiser, Sutter and Anthem blue cross.

- Edd.ca.gov Data: In the LA county area the OTA growth rate is project at 32%.
- Center of Excellence (COE) Data: The data focused on AV, Santa Barbara and south-central region, for 2019-2024 and the growth rate is at 16%. Information pulled from the EDD website compared PTA's vs OTA's and there is a higher demand for OTA's. The current job openings, the bright outlook in 91355, in the past 6 weeks, there were 114 jobs offered. The Center of Excellence report highlights the average pay include all of these occupations with do not translate into OTA. In terms of OTA the entry level is at \$35-40 and higher. Dignity health is a major employer.
- Educational Requirements: Most OTA's need at least an AA degree.
- Advisory Board Feedback: All members strongly and unanimously recommend to build this program. There was a robust attendance with 15 members in the community. Four attendees made commitments for clinical training. One member stated they stopped offering the position as they cannot fill the position. Instead they offered the position as a PT's which is costly as you have people over qualified doing the work. One member in the North LA County Regional Center, which is an agency for the Dept. of Development Disabilities focusing on childhood intervention stated that there is a large underserved population in the AV and there is a long waiting list. Children are not receiving early intervention services. In terms of OT program this would be very valuable to reach patients in the North LA County.
- Graduates in the LA Area Do Not Meet Needs: The closest college offering this program is Santa Ana College and LA City College, 35 miles away, is in the process of building this program. There is an insufficient of supply of trained OTA's in the LA area. CBD college is about 30 miles from here at cost 40-45K. It would be good to have an alternative in term of DEI and for those students who cannot afford the 40K. In exploring this program and considering physical therapy assistant program David is working on the great synergy and the potential curriculum along with the current facilities and equipment available for kinesiology that could be used for PTA and OTA.
- What is Occupational Therapy (OT)? OT considers complex relationships between the client and the activity and environment. OTA supports the OT and the OT assistant will do the OT plan and successfully encourage the recovery process, teaching patients to become more independent and to help with the treatment plan.
- How does the OTA Program Align with COC's Mission, Vision and Philosophy? The mission, vision, philosophy and core values have been incorporated into the program for entry level occupation OTA program
- National Exam: once a student graduates from the program they would be eligible to take the national certified occupational exam. They can work then work in various settings.
- Faculty required: According to the ACOTE standard one full-time *Program Director* with a minimum master degree is needed. An *Academic Fieldwork Coordinator* must have a minimum of 2 years of clinical experience. A full-time position will be submitted to ASC committee.
- Core Courses: When developing core courses and curriculum, there are 76 units total. In comparison to the other colleges this is within this range. This is also concurrent with the 79 units in Nursing and 82.6 in the Medical Laboratory Tech. Programs. The Instructional design this is based on clinical competence, based on OT courses such as history, basic and fundamental courses.
- Major Prerequisites: There are 28 units and based on 4 colleges that have accredited programs. The standards are the B standards for ACOTE content standards. The total units is 1394 total hours and 392 lecture hours and 192 lab hours and 810 externship hours and this is non-negotiable. First semester is learning is about the theory of occupational therapy. The next semester is the fundamentals such as the conditions

- and treatments and how to document. Learn the lifespan and how to treat an infant vs. a child or an adult. The functional intervention portion program and they learn and put into practice and based upon evidence base practice.
- Dr. Bakhit, David, Dr. Torres and Steve met to discuss the OTA program KPEA is in support of this program. If someone starts in the OTA program and want to go to OT if this would be a good path and this can also be a jumping off point. The wage is highly livable.
 - Student Educational Pathway: Master's degree programs at CSU and Dominguez hills and the pre-requisite at COC match for the Master's degree. COC's course work is regionally accredited and students would need to go for a BA in something of interest before going to an OT master or doctorate degree but would have a lot experience.
 - Special thanks: To the guest bringing in a team of experts and scholars to help support these efforts and provide guidance for the college and to move forward to a new direction and provide opportunities for our guests. COC is very thankful for your expertise. Santa Ana College choose to have a BA degree and COC one of the colleges chosen. There are 15 colleges piloting a Baccalaureates degree in CE where they do not conflict with the 4-year degrees. COC received approval for baccalaureate Sustainable Architecture degree. ACOTE does approve master programs for OT and the lower division at the CCC or AA level for OT assistant. Santa Ana college has a program as big of a volume as the nursing program at COC. They felt there a gap between bridging students from OTA to OT's. Santa Ana College refers to their program at Occupational Studies.
 - Sequence of Steps for OTA Program to Start at COC: There are 5 steps, with Step #1 is the letter of intent submitted to ACOTE, eligibility application, candidacy application, pre-accreditation review and on-site evaluation. The letter of intent has a timeline, has a Program Director been hired? Need have a date of when this program is going to start at which point need to hire a Clinical Coordinator. A lot of the curriculum is not there and proposal may be for 20 OT classes and by the time COC puts in for accreditation all those courses need to be created with student learning outcomes and assignment. This is up to what the college decides. ACOTE will give a candidacy application and will require information such as has equipment been purchased. It would take more than two years to make sure the program director knows how to run the program.
 - Cohort size for a program: at Sacramento City College from 30-32 and others are up to 35 students. Are they all in the same classes is this 2 cohorts or one? Want to mature the program start program to make sure you are accreditation are in order. Want to get to a point to accept 2 cohorts a year. There are advantages to not dump all students at the same time to all clinical sites. Courses can be scheduled in quarter or semester systems.
 - Implications: For the director and coordinator if there is only 1 cohort there will only be 16 TLS for one cohort. 2 FTF will work 30 TLS's in a semester. However, it was clarified that the clinical lab coordinational doesn't have to be a faculty member that is teaching as they are on re-assign time. There has be documented release time. They're jobs are to run the program. A lot of CC will hire with release time to do those things. They can teach some classes but not the full load. Need to have adjunct for two years since a college may be able to afford a FTF member and also need content experts. Will need administrative help for this and that is something required by CPATE and not sure about ACOTE. This would be 50% time. This is a standard and need to submit documented proof that there is administrative support. What is defined as administrative support is dependent on the college or defines as sufficient
 - Physical Resources: This will depend on how many cohorts there are and the class

size. If a program starts with two cohorts then it will be 4 cohorts. At least 2 classrooms are needed, one for freshmen and one for sophomores. The program can share lab space with PTA. There will be an acute sharing and the nursing lab. Once a student has reached a point they can branch out to a certain direction. The Brown Center at CSUN and supports the entire community and supports PT and OT students.

- Equipment: There is an existing support for facilities as this program is less equipment intensive than the sonography program. A list of equipment was created and a lot of it is shared with the physical therapist program and it is very minimal. This is very analogous to PTA and ACOTE is nice than CPATE. Student needs to be trained before they can do the clinical hours.
- Sharing Lab Space: Can COC realistically run labs in the way they are being run and scheduled with staffing? The lab hours accumulate very fast. It is of caution as COC looks at the capacity and resources to be clear on the hours and lab areas. These are not 5-8-week classes, this will be lecture and 2 hours of lab. There is more opportunity for blending for common use for students and sports and use. It is recommended to have a living space like a mock kitchen and living room such as a hospitality space as many students may work in a patient home.
- **Motion** to approve the proposal by Rebecca Eikey, seconded by Julie Hovden. U.A.

IV. Report

1. Year One Status Report: Rising Scholars Noncredit Vocational Program – Garrett Rieck, Dianne Avery, and Tara Williams
 - This was approved at the 1st meeting of the semester last fall. Justice impacted students have many barriers. The CCC's has taken this very seriously and created the *Rising Scholar Network* to increase access and success. COC stated with offering classes in credit at Pitches in 2015. This was part of the *Back on Track LA project with Kamala Harris*. COC currently offers 36 credit classes and in July of 2020 started offering non-credit to justice impacted students at Pitches and the Center's Regional Detention Facility. These are life skills classes such as, "Cleaning up your record." The focus has been on expanding the vocational classes and start offering career skills, commercial sewing, adult pediatric and green gardener (revised to master gardener program) to give students degrees. The food handler course was moved into to noncredit and credit. The non-credit class had 18 students.
 - The construction, welding, masonry and wood working curriculum is being revised. Welding is working developing some courses for noncredit to offer at Pitches. For Commercial Printing this program is still looking still for someone to develop the curriculum.
 - Garrett shared a video that showcased the justice impacted students that are enrolled at the college and getting trained and certified. An employee event was held to show case what the students have learned and employees bought plants. It is hard to explain the impact this program has on students. Some difficulty has been dealing with the pandemic as it prevents the course to properly function when there is an outbreak. The adjuncts have done well with filming lectures. This is being called blended modality. The two vocational programs with Green Gardner and Commercial Sewing are in person. There will be more support from EDI. Dianne Avery has a background in law enforcement and has made that connection and done so much work with behind the scenes. Special thanks Dr. Torres for his support. There was a request to share the Green Gardner program video in Curriculum Committee for Non-Credit.

V. Adjournment: 11: 25 am