

**College of Health Professions  
Dean's Review of Graduate Programs  
August 15, 2011**

**The CHP Planning and Review Process:**

The WSU College of Health Professions has engaged in four iterations of strategic planning over the past 13 years. The college has been guided by the same vision and mission during this time period. Over the summer, 2011, a new vision, mission, and goals/expectations were drafted, which, when finalized, will guide the college over the next decade. At a two-day retreat, CHP's Executive Council affirmed four strategic initiatives for 2011-12.

Typically, departmental progress on strategic goals is evaluated annually by the dean. When a program is scheduled for KBOR program review, CHP's Academic Affairs Committee reviews department reports and makes recommendations regarding the program. **Note: Because of the new schedule for program review, the Academic Affairs Committee did not have an opportunity to review department reports for this review cycle.**

In fall, 2011, the College of Health Professions will revise its vision, mission, and goals/expectations. A draft version of these statements (August, 2011) is presented below:

**Our Vision**

The College of Health Professions will be recognized for the competence and compassion of its faculty, staff, and graduates as they serve the community by providing leadership which is responsive to the adaptive challenges in health and health care.

**Our Mission**

The mission of the College of Health Professions is to provide education for the development of

3. Exemplify good stewardship and accountability for the resources provided by the citizens of the State of Kansas.
4. Model inter-professional collaboration through

## **CHP Graduate Programs Being Reviewed**

### **Quality of programs as assessed by its curriculum and impact on students**

The School of Nursing and the Department of Physician Assistant have implemented several cycles of their assessment plans. Faculty in these departments are fully engaged in the assessment process and use outcomes from the assessments to make program corrections and revisions. Student outcomes are measured in each program; however, the Department of Physical Therapy has not systematically used outcomes to make program improvements. The recent CAPTE site visit noted that better systematic assessment of the program, including faculty involvement with the assessment process, was needed. The Aging Studies program is new to CHP and will need to create and implement a solid assessment plan.

### **Demonstrated student need and employer demand for the programs**

The College of Health Professions continues to experience great demand for its programs. The Department of Physician Assistant receives between 400-500 applicants for an entering class size of 48. For this year's entering DPT class, there were over 200 applicants for 40 positions in the class. The DPT class size was increased by 25%, beginning with this summer's entering class. In the School of Nursing, both the MSN and DNP programs receive more applicants than can be accommodated in these programs. The Aging Studies program is a KBOR triggered program and the college is committed to growing program enrollment. Virtually all graduates of these programs are employed within six months of graduation. Many students receive job offers before they graduate. Starting salaries are very competitive and is one reason why health professions majors are so popular across the country. The college continually monitors employer demand in our region as well as national trends.

### **Service the programs provide to the discipline, the university, and beyond**

Faculty in these programs are active in their respective national organizations and in many cases serve in a national leadership capacity. We remain exceedingly proud of the service each of our departments provides to the university and community. The College of Health Professions has high participation rates by its faculty and staff in university events and activities, and over the past decade our college has the highest rate of giving to the WSU Foundation of any campus unit.

### **The programs' cost effectiveness**

Clinical programs, with their low faculty-to-student ratios, are expensive. College of Health Professions programs are costly compared to other programs in the university, as documented by the Cost Allocation Model developed through the Office of the Provost. The Office of Institutional Research costs out most CHP programs at over \$200/SCH. There is no differential tuition at Wichita State University; many health professions programs across the country place more of the cost burden on students. The more efficient programs in the college are the open-enrollment undergraduate programs, primarily in the Department of Public Health Sciences. However, the only program reported here where cost effectiveness is a significant issue is the MA in Aging Studies, which is a KBOR triggered program. Note: enrollment in this program is up 30% this fall.

## **Summary Recommendations**

*School of Nursing*- explore strategies to move advanced practice at the MSN level to advanced practice at the DNP level; begin implementation plan for a revised, phased-in MSN degree; plan for a more efficient delivery of nursing graduate programs.