SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Annual Program Review
Physical Therapist Assistant

Survey Results

2011-12 Program Graduates:
Number of Graduates: 10
Number of Completers Surveyed: 9
Number of Graduate Responses: 6
Completers Response Rate: 66.7%

Employers of 2011-12 Program Graduates:
Number of Surveys Mailed: 8
Number of Employer Responses: 5
Employer Survey Response Rate: 62.5%

Certification/License Exam Pass Rate:
Number Tested: 9
Percent Passing: 100%

Advisory Committee Meetings:
Did committee meet last year? Yes
Are minutes of file? Yes

Report Year: 2011-12
Annual Unduplicated Headcount 26
Annual FTE (Fall/Spring) 35.19
Physical Therapist Assistant Program Graduates

STUDENT GOAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. My goal(s) for attending Southwestern Community College were: (Check all that apply)

   - 6(100%) Receiving a degree, diploma, or certificate from Southwestern Community College
   - 6(100%) Preparing for /getting a new job
   - 1(17%) Improving existing job skills
   - Transferring to a four year college/university
   - Personal interest
   - Other (specify)

2. I accomplished my goal(s) for attending Southwestern Community College: (Check one)

   - 6(100%) Yes, completely
   - Yes, partially
   - No

3. If you did not accomplish your goal(s) for attending Southwestern Community College, which of the following describes why you did not achieve that goal(s)?

   - Job conflict
   - New employment
   - Financial Hardship
   - Family circumstances
   - Joined the military
   - Child care problems
   - Medical problems
   - Moved to a new area
   - Lack of interest in pursuing course of study
   - Dissatisfied with the services offered by the college
   - Dissatisfied with the quality of instruction
   - Other (specify)

4. Are you currently employed?

   - 6(100%) Yes
   - No

   A. If yes, 3(50%) full-time (40 hours or more per week)
   - 3(50%) part-time (less than 40 hours per week)

   B. If no, unemployed and looking for work
   - unemployed and not looking for work
   - continuing education
   - homemaker
   - other, specify
5. Is your present job your first after completing the program?
   Yes 5 (83%)
   No 1 (17%)

If no, check reason(s) why you changed jobs
   Opportunity for Advancement 1
   Better Pay 1
   Better Working Conditions
   Other, specify:

6. Are you currently enrolled in a college or university?
   Yes 6 (100%)
   No
   No Response

7. Who helped you get your first job?
   SCC Instructor
   SCC Placement Office
   Private Employment Agency
   Relative or Friend
   Other Program/Clinical Personnel 1
   Want Ads
   On My Own 6
   Other, Specify:

8. Beginning Salary/Hour: $30.17 (mean)
   Present Salary/Hour: $28.5 (mean)
   * Typical salary = $25 per hour (PT or FT) and $35 per hour with PRN status

9. How well do you feel this program prepared you for entry-level work as a PTA?
   Well Prepared 5 (83%)
   Satisfactorily Prepared 1 (17%)
   Inadequately Prepared
   No Response

10. Would you recommend this program to others?
    Yes 6 (100%)
    No

11. Are you currently enrolled in any additional education program?
    Yes
    No 6 (100%)

If yes, please specify:

12. Is the program related to your physical therapy training?
    Yes
    No 6 (100%)

13. Do you wish to be relocated or find other employment?
    Yes 1 (17%)
    No 5 (83%)
    No Response
If yes, specify type of employment preferred:

*PTA Charlotte, NC

14. Did your PTA Program prepare you to interact professionally with other members of the health care
   5(83%)  Agree
   1(17%)  Tend to Agree
   _______ Tend to Disagree
   _______ Disagree
   _______ No Response

15. Did your PTA Program prepare you to recognize your responsibilities, potentialities and limitations as an individual, citizen, and professional PTA?
   6(100%)  Agree
   1(17%)  Tend to Agree
   1(17%)  Tend to Disagree
   _______ Disagree

16. Did your PTA Program prepare you to find and review research for evidence based practice as a PTA?
   5(83%)  Agree
   1(17%)  Tend to Agree
   _______ Tend to Disagree
   _______ Disagree

17. Have you continued your education in any of the following areas?
   _______ Orthopedics
   _______ Neurology
   _______ Cardiology
   _______ Pediatrics
   _______ Quality Assurance
   _______ Geriatrics
   _______ Management Skills
   1 Application Modalities (e.g. new equipment) specify *PENS
   2 Specialized treatment technique, specify: *using Neurs re-ed LE Triphasil to increase quad strength with patients demonstrating difficulty performing exercises; Not yet, will be pursuing geriatrics & ortho
   _______ Other, Specify: *Not yet but will continue especially in geriatrics

18. Are you a member of any of the following professional organizations?
   5(83%)  APTA
   1(17%)  Special section of APTA, specify:
19. Do you participate in any continuing education activities, such as?
   - Continuing education offerings at your own facility.  
     12 Number per year
   - Continuing education offerings outside of your facility.  
     1 Number per year
   - Attendance at APTA meetings (Number per year)
     1,3,1 Local (District)  1,1 State
     1 National  1 Special Sections

20. I successfully passed the licensure (registry) examination for the state in which I practice which is:
   NC (4), yes (1), blank (1)
   - 6(100%) 1st attempt
   - to date, have not passed
   - 2nd attempt
   - have not taken exam (reason)-
   - 3rd attempt

21. Do you feel SCC's PTA program adequately prepared you to take and pass the licensure (registry) examination?
   - 6(100%) Yes
   - No
   - No Response

22. The best thing about my experience in SCC's PTA Program was:
   *Instructors that had practical knowledge and were committed to helping us become the best therapist we could be. The small class size (10) was conducive to the way I learned so I appreciated that. I've made close friends through the program that I'm grateful for.
   *Instructors, small class size (don't go over 15), variety of projects, lots of talking in front of class by the students, learning to research
   *Great CI's, great instructors - prepared to do my job
   *Lab Practicals
   *Excellent clinical preparation, instructor knowledge
   *Just how much I've learned, especially neuro. The teachers are incredible. Very awesome experience.

23. The worst thing about my experience in SCC's PTA Program was:
   *There was no worst thing. I felt like even the things I didn't enjoy (i.e. commuting/exams and traveling to conference) were necessary for my education.
   *Nothing outstanding.
   *3rd clinical + surrounding events: life, medical, lack of clinical hours, ACCE clinical notebook, review, midterm
   *Poster projects
   *I could have done without some of the "art" projects intended to help us learn but really just took up unnecessary valuable time.
   *I had to study every day and did not workout to keep myself with an energetic spirit & toned
24. To improve the quality of the program, I recommend the following:
   
   * Remove some of the non-program courses. Offer students option to test out of some courses to lessen load on students in the PTA program.
   * More 8-12 page research papers utilizing peer-reviewed articles
   * Revize clinical notebook, more orthopedic training
   * As much hands on as possible, students should work on explaining what they’re doing - helps them not just the patient
   * Try getting more up to date video/movies and articles. Keep the class size small. Get a sink in the treatment area.

25. Other comments:
   
   * Really glad for the opportunity, thanks.
   * Instructors are excellent!
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<th></th>
<th>Don't Know/ No Response</th>
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<th>Dissatisfied</th>
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<td>Quality of instruction in program area courses</td>
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<td>Quality of instruction in other courses</td>
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<td>35.</td>
<td>If you were to begin again (i.e., you had it to do over again) would you choose to attend Southwestern Community College?</td>
<td>6(100%)</td>
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**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

**EMPLOYER SATISFACTION**

**Specific job-related skills**

**Specific job-related knowledge**

**Interventions**

**Documentation**

**Professional Behavior**

**Problem solving skills**

**Organization and planning**

**Quality of Work**

**OVERALL JOB PREPARATION**
Please provide any comments you have on the following areas as related to this graduate's ability to perform entry level within the P.T. Plan of Care:

Clinical Skills:

* Above average for new grad.
* _____ joined our team ready and willing to be an active team member. Her clinical skills and knowledge have been very beneficial to this therapy department.

* Creative & thorough
* Only one time did _____ use questionable judgement. Otherwise, she has been excellent. A patient got order to resume WBAT after 3 months on bedrest after a wound on buttocks. _____ tried to stand her up from EOB. Woman was obese & LE’s were very weak. Would have been better to start off in standing frame or parallel base. Patient was not injured or did not fall & _____ did ask a nurse to assist her.

* More manual therapy exposure/training

Documentation:

* Good
* _____ started with a solid foundation of documentation skills. However, her documentation skills have progressed to above average due to her willingness to learn and expand her professional knowledge.

* Excellent
* EMR exposure/training

Professional Behavior:

* exemplary

* _____ professional behavior has far exceeded my expectations as a Rehab Director. She has good communications skills and is a great asset to this interdisciplinary team.

* Timely and appropriate

* Excellent. Always dressed professionally.

Theoretical Background:

* Good
* _____ possesses a strong theoretical background. She is able to utilize the patient's plan of care and determine appropriate interventions to help the patient achieve the goals set forth on the plan of care.

* Sounds. Assisted Program Director in an inservice/lunch & learn for discharge planners @ the hospital.

Please list any suggestions you may have regarding additional training which may be useful for new graduates:

* The graduates that have had prior work experience seem to be very prepared for the clinic & working with people.

* Additional training that may benefit new graduates would be more knowledge of Medicare and Medicaid. A solid foundation of rules and regulations for Medicare and Medicaid and how it applies to a PTA, would be beneficial as a new graduate entering the workforce.