

Radiologic Sciences Program Review –Graduate Program
Site Visit Report
April 9, 2013

Formal report of the Program Review Committee to the Administration at Weber State University and the Dumke College of Health Professions Administration on the Evaluation of the Radiologic Sciences Education Program; Undergraduate and Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences programs

An evaluation of the radiologic sciences programs offered by Weber State University was conducted on April 8 and 9, 2013 by a committee comprised of:

Ms Donna Thaler Long, MSM RT (R)(M)(QM) FASRT Ball State University Radiography Program Director, Indianapolis IN

Ms Ginger Griffin RT(R), FASRT, HACP, CSHA, Baptist Health Care, Consultant for Compliance and Accreditation, Jacksonville, FL

Mr Darin Day RT (R) BS, Administrative Director of Medical Imaging, Primary Children’s Medical Center, Salt Lake City UT

Ms Natalee Braun RT, ARDMS, BS, Sonography, Ogden Regional Medical Center, Ogden UT

Ms Stephanie Bossenberger RDH, MS, Chair, Radiologic Sciences Program Review Committee Professor and Department Chair, Dental Hygiene Department, Weber State University Ogden UT

To assist the institution in appraising its educational effectiveness and identifying ways in which its endeavors can be strengthened, university programs are reviewed periodically by peers in relation to predetermined standards. This review of the educational process is based on the program’s self-study and conferences with persons involved in the various components of the program.

This report represented the committee’s findings and conclusions in the form of recommendations noted as concerns; that directly relate to the standards for program enhancement. These are found under headings that parallel Weber State University’s Program Review Evaluation criteria.

The Master of Science program was approved for admission of students during the 2010-2011 academic year. The degree requirements include a total of 36 credit hours, academic achievement completed with a grade of “B” or more and a limit of two years as a maximum enrollment period for each student. The program has had one cohort of graduates receiving their degrees in Spring 2012.

STANDARD A- MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Master of Science degree in Radiologic Sciences program is clearly defined and includes a curriculum that enables the graduate student to meet their goals and achieve the mission of the university, college and department. The mission of the program supports and is appropriate to the mission and it’s outlined core values of the university and college.

STANDARD B – CURRICULUM

The Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences Program demonstrates a well-planned, career-laddering that supports the Baccalaureate level graduate to advance in their education. The curriculum is consistent with the mission of the program. The program has appropriate resources to support the delivery of the curriculum, the number of students in the program and the number of graduates. The available resources and innovation of the Radiologic Sciences Department is strength of this program.

STANDARD C – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

The expected knowledge, skills and behaviors of graduate student at the program's completion is appropriate. Assessment measures are being systematically applied throughout the program. However, at this time, there is a history of one graduating class. The Master's thesis projects demonstrate the high caliber of students in the program.

STANDARD C – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

Strength: The goal of professional publication of the Master's thesis projects is laudable. The subject matter in the thesis projects demonstrates a high level of scholarly work. The MSRS Degree has graduated one class, no outcomes available with the exception of the Master's Thesis of the first graduating class. Although the focus is limited to cardiology-related research at this time, future plans include expansion of the research agenda.

STANDARD D – ACADEMIC ADVISING

Academic advisement is structured to facilitate the acceptance, and graduation in a timely fashion. Strategies for advising students are defined, followed and continually assessed for effectiveness. A strength of the program is the ability to manage all aspects of the graduate student experience through the department.

STANDARD D – ACADEMIC ADVISING

Concern: In an effort to assist prospective students to the Department of Radiologic Sciences, a link from the Radiologic Sciences Homepage is recommended.

STANDARD E – FACULTY

The program maintains a group of faculty that provides a high caliber experience for the graduate student. Strength of the program includes the compiling of a faculty group with an interdisciplinary nature and their specific areas of expertise. Faculty are well-prepared with academic degrees and experiences appropriate for their teaching assignment. All faculty members and all courses are evaluated by the students for feedback on the faculty's teaching effectiveness and courses are assessed by students to solicit feedback.

STANDARD E – FACULTY

Strength: The varieties of faculty who teach in the MSRS program are appropriate in their level of education for teaching and possess a variety of experiences that bring the 'real world' to the classroom.

STANDARD F – PROGRAM SUPPORT

The Radiologic Sciences Program has adequate support staff to meet the mission and educational goals of the program and department. The facilities, equipment and classrooms are technologically advanced. It is of note that class meeting space is very limited. The Master's program director has been able to work cooperatively with scheduling to facilitate appropriate meeting spaces.

STANDARD F – PROGRAM SUPPORT

Concern: Space resources for MS program; to grow the program: equipment, classroom and additional faculty.

STANDARD G – RELATIONSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

Relationships that are external to the university have formal affiliation agreements that clearly define their role. Further, the external advisory committee that serves the undergraduate program has offered input at its regularly scheduled meetings and throughout the year.

STANDARD H – PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Master's Degree in Radiologic Sciences is an innovative program that serves traditional and nontraditional students and supports them in experiencing a variety of professional development and professional research experiences. Each individual student is supported through academic advisement, and faculty who serve as mentors for their scholarship related activities. The program need was well-documented and assessed prior to the inception of the program. A full class of students currently exists with more than thirty applicants to begin in fall 2013.

The committee wishes to thank you and the faculty and staff for their cooperation during the program review. If the committee can be of any assistance to you, please contact the committee chair, Professor Stephanie Bossenberger (bossenberger@weber.edu).

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bossenberger RDH, MS
Chair, Radiologic Sciences Program Review Committee