

**Evaluation of the Radiologic Sciences Education Program
Graduate Degree Program - Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences (MSRS)**

Formal report of the Program Review Committee to the Administration
at Weber State University and the Dumke College of Health Professions Administration

An evaluation of the radiologic sciences program: **Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences** offered by Weber State University was conducted on March 16, 2018 by a committee comprised of:

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

Mr. David R. Broderick, BS, CRA, RT(R)(CT)
Imaging Department Manager
Heber Valley Hospital, Intermountain Medical Center
Heber City UT

Mr. Shaun Caldwell, MSRT (R)(T)
Assistant Professor Radiation Oncology
University of Texas MD Anderson
Houston, Texas
Available via conference call

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

Ms. Donna Long, MSM, RT(R)(M)(QM), FASRT
Director, Health Sciences Education, IU Heath/Methodist Hospital
Radiography Program Director, IU Heath/Methodist Hospital/Ball State University
Indianapolis IN

Mr. Christopher Steelman, MS, RT(R)(CI),RCIS
International Outreach Educator
Program Director, Invasive Cardiovascular Technology
Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut
New Haven CN

University programs are reviewed periodically by peers in relation to predetermined standards to assist the institution in appraising its educational effectiveness and identifying ways in which it could be strengthened. 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.

The review and evaluation of the Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences program was completed March 16, 2018.

The Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences was reviewed and the following responses to the evaluation standards are presented. The degree requirements include a set of core courses 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 statement of "Learn with Purpose, then Lead with Passion" describes the overarching goal of the degree programs in Radiologic Sciences

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 committee anticipates employment placement rates and tracking of graduates' employment settings be presented with outcome measures.

STANDARD B – CURRICULUM

The Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences Program demonstrates a well-planned, career-laddering curriculum 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. The department represents leadership in curriculum design and delivery at all program levels. The curriculum has been revised and expanded in its electives and created a core of courses. The MSRS includes a newly implemented collaborative research agenda to better prepare students for success in their research thesis. There are few Master of Science in Radiologic Sciences programs in the United States. Weber State under Dr. Walker's leadership is to be commended for the vision of this program. Dr. Walker should be personally commended for his outstanding progressive vision, leadership, development and growth of the program.

STANDARD C – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

The expected knowledge, skills and behaviors of graduate student at the program's completion is appropriate and demonstrated at a high level. Assessment measures are being systematically applied throughout the program. The Master's thesis projects demonstrate the high caliber of students in the program. Future plans include an increase of student and faculty publications of thesis projects and research in a variety of professional journals. Additional plans include the creation of MSRS tracks in interventional cardiology and radiology with the exploration of additional certifications through multiple credentialing agencies as well as IPE program development and research with interdisciplinary team collaboration.

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 with good collaboration between faculty and staff on student advising. The new strategy of a rolling application and admission of students in the program is anticipated to increase enrollment and make the program readily available. During the student interviews, students expressed a high level of satisfaction with advising prior to and ongoing during the program.

STANDARD E – FACULTY

The program maintains a group of faculty that provides a high caliber experience for the graduate student. Strengths of the program include the compilation of a knowledgeable faculty group with an interdisciplinary base 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. The faculty fully participate in all aspects of university, college and program through their involvement in many committees at all levels. The program accomplishes a vast amount of work with a very small number of faculty and staff. The program's dedicated faculty expressed confidence in the leadership provided by Dr. Walker. Students expressed that they believe they are supported both academically and personally by the faculty.

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. The availability of 3D printers to augment student learning is unique and very few, if any other programs in the country, have this type of technology available to students. It is of note that classroom meeting and lab space is very limited. *With the anticipated growth in all levels of the program, additional dedicated classroom and lab space must be a priority.*

School of Radiologic Sciences Response:

Although additional dedicated space would be great the school is realistic that it is not likely to happen. However, to meet the schools growth concerns we are currently planning additional course sections, open/evening labs, Lab assistants, additional faculty and lab/clinical instructors and further utilization of lecture capturing for off campus programs. With the completion of the Dumke Inter-professional education building some other classroom space is available.

STANDARD G – RELATIONSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

Relationships that are external to the university have formal affiliation agreements that clearly define their role. Dr. Walker's ability to form relationships with Radiologic Science communities, vendors and medical community to create a strong support for the program is commendable. The cohesive faculty group demonstrates their strong commitment to the program as they embrace the off-campus, outreach students as part of the program's mission and goals. Further, the external advisory committee that serves the program has offers input at its regularly scheduled meetings and throughout the year. The in-kind support to the Radiologic sciences programs is the result of the relationships that Dr. Walker has developed in this community. Other programs across the country should be so fortunate to have this kind of support.

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 educational experiences. The program is highly innovative in its outreach to students who are located in international and national settings. 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. Future plans include expansion of the research agenda. The variety 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. The program is impressive in the number of MSRS graduates, the dedication of the faculty and the vision and leadership of Dr. Walker.

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

Cc: Dr. Robert Walker, Department Chair, WSU Radiologic Sciences

The School of Radiologic Sciences would like to thank the program review committee for their hard work and dedication to the review process. The School has ongoing plans for change and growth over the next five years that are outlined with the program review document.

Robert J Walker PhD
Chair School of Radiologic Sciences
Professor and Dumke Endowed Chair