

Evaluation of the Radiologic Sciences Education Program
Undergraduate degrees: AAS, AS, BS

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 programs offered by Weber State University was conducted on March 15, 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, RT(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.

This report represents the committee's findings and conclusions. The report format that presents Program Review Elements and Standards parallels Weber State University's Program Review Evaluation criteria.

STANDARD A- MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Radiologic Sciences program is clearly articulated and includes a curriculum that enables the graduate to achieve the mission. The mission highlights a commitment to professionalism, clinical quality and the highest standards of patient care. It supports and is appropriate to the mission of the university and college.

STANDARD B – CURRICULUM

The Radiologic Sciences Program demonstrates that for every level of each degree/specialty offered is well planned and has an ongoing process for continuous review. The curriculum is consistent with the mission of the program. The program has resources to support the delivery of the curriculum, the number of students in the program and the number of graduates. The available resources and support from the program and college administration is a strength of the program. Courses are offered annually to allow for the students to advance and prepare for graduation, national examination and practice. The lock-step approach of the curriculum allows for timely degree completion with clear career mapping for student advisement. With the inclusion of Global Competencies, the curriculum will continue to be on the forefront in the education arena. The program faculty is commended for the number of career tracks that include international and interprofessional education opportunities as well as opportunities in multiple states. Dr. Walker is to be commended for his vision and leadership in the growth of the Radiologic Sciences Department. The career tracks available to the students far exceeds other programs across the country.

STANDARD C – STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

The expected knowledge, skills and behaviors of students at graduation is appropriate. These outcomes are directly linked and applied to the curriculum in all courses. Assessment measures are systematically applied and mapped to student and programmatic learning outcomes. The assessment processes include measureable outcomes for all laboratory, clinic and classroom settings. A curriculum grid that illustrates course alignment and expected learning outcomes is available. Reporting outcome changes and planning to enhance program is identified as a strength in the assessment process. Since reported data demonstrates excellent achievement of benchmarks, the committee recommends that the program consider establishing benchmarks higher than 75% . A trending analysis might be helpful to further identify any possible areas for improvement.

STANDARD D – ACADEMIC ADVISING

The program has a well-organized strategy for advising students. All faculty and staff participate with their roles defined, followed, and continuously assessed for their effectiveness. As students complete their basic skills, advisement is readily available to direct the student to the appropriate specialty advisor. Faculty and staff are readily available and are an effective team committed to student success. Students expressed a high level of satisfaction with advising prior to and ongoing through the duration of their program.

STANDARD E – FACULTY

The program maintains a group of faculty that provides stability and a high quality education for all programs offered. Mentoring of newer faculty is one of the strengths of the senior faculty. All courses use a module format, however, the faculty have the freedom to update coursework, as appropriate. The compilation of faculty members mimics national settings in its diversity of faculty, degrees, credentials, and expertise in their respective imaging specialty areas. There is evidence of ongoing assessment of teaching effectiveness and evaluation of faculty members, including contract, tenure-track, adjunct and clinical instructors. A formal, ongoing, annual review of faculty is in place. Program 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 Science Program has support staff to meet the mission and educational goals of the program. The laboratory facilities and specialized equipment are to be commended. The laboratory and classrooms are technologically advanced. The availability of 3D printers to augment radiologic sciences 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 large classroom space is very limited. With the growth of the Department of Radiologic Sciences being only second to nursing in number of students and graduates, classroom space is at a premium. It is recommended that dedicated classroom and lab space be made available for the program.

STANDARD G – RELATIONSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

Relationships that are external to the university have formal affiliation agreements that clearly define their role. The dedicated staff is commended for the ability to maintain more than 150 affiliation agreements across the country.

Further, the external advisory committee provides input to the program at its regularly scheduled meetings and offers input periodically throughout the year. The program plan includes continuing to strengthen alumni relations.

Dr. Walker has formed numerous relationships outside of the college which have enabled him to acquire many resources and grants to the department and the college. The expansion of the program to incorporate opportunities for international studies is commendable. Dr. Walker is also to be highly

commended for his vision and leadership in developing a relationship with the military community to utilize Weber State to further their education. The strategic implementation of this vision has already enabled some of our military service men and women the opportunity to be eligible for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists certification examination.

STANDARD H – PROGRAM SUMMARY

The program has implemented changes to the program in consideration of the recommendations since the last site visit/program review. The program has implemented many computer-based technologies and offers undergraduate and graduate hybrid courses. An organized, systematic curriculum review of courses to assure relevancy is ongoing. Assessment processes are in place to monitor students' progress through the program, graduation and entry into the profession.

Standard B Curriculum

With constant change in the radiologic sciences profession, it is commendable that advancements in technology have a prominent place in the curriculum. With exceptional strategic planning and management of resources, the department has been able to embrace visionary opportunities for curriculum and growth of the radiologic science in “transition into practice.”

Standard F Program Support

CONCERN: It is of note that large classroom and lab space is very limited. With the growth of the Radiologic Sciences program the acquisition of more dedicated 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.

The program accomplishes a vast amount of work with a very small number of dedicated faculty. The program has collaborated with the military national training programs to provide education and degrees to active duty individuals who want to pursue credentials that allow for employment and careers in the private sector. The program is impressive in the numerous career tracks available to students, the equipment and labs and the dedication of the faculty and staff. The program is indeed fortunate to have the exemplary 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