

DCHP Dean's Response to the Program Review
Evaluation of the Respiratory Therapy Program
February 19, 2020

The Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions (DCHP) dean received and valued the thorough review of our Respiratory Therapy programs by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) review team on February 22, 2019. Comments from the dean is noted in *purple*.

The external committee member were as follows:

- Charles E. Cowles, Jr., MD, MBA, FASA; Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Division of Anesthesiology and Critical Care, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
- Tom Smalling, PhD, RRT, RPFT, RPSGT, FAARC; Chief Executive Officer, Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
- Kathy F Rye, EdD, RRT, RRT-ACCS, RRT-NPS, FAARC
- Donna D. Gardner, DrPH, RRT, RR-NPS, FAARC, FCC

Program Description: *Agree*

The Respiratory Therapy program (REST) at Weber State University is a state, regional, and national leader in respiratory care curriculum and education. The program maintains continuing accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

Weber State's Respiratory Therapy program prepares students to become a Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) and a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT).

Once certified, graduates find careers in:

- Newborn intensive care
- Adult critical care
- Emergency rooms
- Air and ground transport
- Sleep medicine

Upon graduation, students can transition into Weber State's Master of Science in Respiratory Therapy or enter graduate studies in another medical field.

Standard A: *Agree*

Standard B: *Agree with excellent clinical affiliations with variety of experiences available to students. Also agree with improving clinical competencies evaluations.*

Standard C: *Agree with student success and statement regarding CoARC goals and in the handbook, catalog and website.*

Standard D: *Agree*

Standard E: *Agree with strengths. Additionally, the Provost's office has funded a position to assist with recruitment and coordination.*

Standard F: *Agree*

Standard G: *Agree and improvement upon minutes to the AC*

I also agree with the faculty response: All unmet standards were adequately addressed through various correspondences between the chair, Paul Eberle and representatives of CoARC.

All accreditation thresholds have been met, clinical concerns, objectives and skills addressed by the Director of Clinical Education (Professor Mich Oki) in newly available clinical software program (PEEPity.com) outlined in response to clarify concerns to CoARC, and credentialing outcomes are superior compared to programs throughout the country. Continuing accreditation confirmed through 2029 with annual "Report of Current Status" (RCS) submitted January 2020 reporting three year averages on attrition, retention, job placement, employer satisfaction, student evaluation and credentialing outcomes.

I would like to thank the Review Committee for their evaluation of the Programs in the Respiratory Therapy Department in the Dumke College of Health Professions. I would also like to extend my gratitude to the dedicated and knowledgeable chair, faculty and staff for educating the best Respiratory graduates and healthcare providers of the community.

Respectfully,

*Yasmen Simonian, PhD, MLS(ASCP)CM, FASAHP
Dean and Brady Distinguished Professor
Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions
Weber State University*