

Administrative and Educational Support Report*

Coordinated Programs in Dietetics

Annual Action Plan Annual Assessment Report

June 2004 – May 2005

***Student Learning Outcomes for this department are available at
<http://ie.panam.edu/CoHSHSLearningOutcomes.htm>**



Annual Action Plan: June 1, 2004–May 31, 2005

Unit: Coordinated Program in Dietetics

UTPA Mission: The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) serves the higher education needs of a rapidly growing, international, multicultural population in the South Texas Region. The University preserves, transmits and creates knowledge to serve the cultural, civic, and economic advancement of the region and the state. The University provides students advanced instruction in academic programs offered through innovative delivery systems that lead to professional certification, and baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees. Through teaching, research, creative activity and public service, UTPA prepares students for lifelong learning and leadership roles in the state, nation and world community.

Division: Academic Affairs **Unit Head:** Dr. Esperanza Briones

Unit Mission: The Coordinated Program in Dietetics supports the mission of the University of Texas Pan American and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. Graduates of the program will be qualified for entry-level positions in administrative, clinical or community dietetics. Graduates will possess additional knowledge and skills which will enable them to work with the specific and unique needs of the local community which is 87% Mexican-American, as well as other areas of the country with large Hispanic population.

Unit Goal: Provide a quality Dietetics Program that promotes excellence in learning, critical thinking skills and interdisciplinary perspectives

Link to UTPA Goal(s): 1: Ensure undergraduate student access and success

Unit Objective (Action Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome for Unit Objective (AA-Measurable Objective)	Strategy(ies) to Achieve Expected Outcomes	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods for Expected Outcome	New Resources Needed in FY05
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment (1)	2	Assess student learning outcomes in all Practicum Dietetics courses.	Assess learning outcomes for all Dietetics courses. Analyze results and initiate any necessary improvements.	The Dietetics Program will conduct student learning outcomes assessment by evaluations of students’ knowledge and skills in May 2005.	None
Student Success (2)	2	Eighty percent (80%) of graduated Dietetics students will pass the	Monitor program pass rate yearly.	The Program Coordinator will report students’ pass rates to	None

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Unit Objective (Action Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome for Unit Objective (AA-Measurable Objective)	Strategy(ies) to Achieve Expected Outcomes	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods for Expected Outcome	New Resources Needed in FY05
		RD national exam on the first try (a benchmark for the Coordinated Programs in the U.S.)	Quality improvement plans will be developed when the benchmark is not attained for two consecutive years.	the Dean's office in May 2005.	
		Eighty-five percent (85%) of employers of Dietetics graduates will express satisfaction with the graduates' professional preparation each year.	The Dietetics Program will monitor employer satisfaction with graduates yearly. The Dietetics Program will develop a quality improvement plan if the target has not been reached.	The Program Coordinator will collect information from surveys mailed to employers one year post graduation to determine the overall percentage of employers expressing satisfaction with graduates' professional preparation.	Additional funds for postage.
		Ninety five percent (95%) of those enrolled in the Dietetics Program will finish on time.	Students who enter the program will finish in two years.	The Program Coordinator will calculate the percentage of students graduating on time in May 2005.	None
Student Placement (3)	2	Ninety percent (90%) of program graduates will find discipline related employment within six months of graduation.	Promote student participation in employment and graduate recruitment fairs. Utilize student bulletin boards to disseminate information about employment or graduate opportunities.	The Coordinator will collect information from the students' surveys and calculate the number of graduates who obtained professional employment within six months of graduation and who enrolled in graduate school (November).	None



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Unit Goal: Provide a quality Dietetics Program that promotes excellence in learning, critical thinking skills and interdisciplinary perspectives

Link to UTPA Goal(s): 1: Ensure Undergraduate Student Access and Success

Unit Objective (Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods	Assessment Results (Use actual data to describe annual performance)	Use of Results (What change was made?)
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment (1)	2	Assess student learning outcomes in all Practicum Dietetics courses.	The Dietetics Program will conduct student learning outcomes assessment by evaluations of students’ knowledge and skills in May 2005.	Student learning outcomes were assessed for all practicum dietetics courses. Expected outcome met.	Results were reviewed by the Dean’s office.
Student Success (2)	2	Eighty percent (80%) of graduated Dietetics	The Program Coordinator will report	2004 graduates: 50% pass rate on the first try	Results were reviewed by faculty and the

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Unit Objective (Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods	Assessment Results (Use actual data to describe annual performance)	Use of Results (What change was made?)
		students will pass the RD national exam on the first try (a benchmark for the Coordinated Programs in the U.S.)	students' pass rates to the Dean's office in May 2005.	for those who took the national exam. Expected outcome not met.	Dean's office. Enhancement funding was provided in 2005 for a web based review and computerized practice exam in order to better prepare the graduates for the licensing exam.
		Eighty-five percent (85%) of employers of Dietetics graduates will express satisfaction with the graduates' professional preparation each year.	The Program Coordinator will collect information from surveys mailed to employers one year post graduation to determine the overall percentage of employers expressing satisfaction with graduates' professional preparation.	Employers of the 2003 graduating class were surveyed with a 20% return rate from employers. 100% of the returned surveys expressed overall satisfaction with the graduates' professional preparation. Employers scored alumni performance from above average to exceptional. Expected outcome achieved.	Results were reviewed and submitted to the Dean's office. Discussed methods to increase return rate.
		Ninety five percent (95%) of those enrolled in the Dietetics Program will finish on time.	The Program Coordinator will calculate the percentage of students graduating on time in May 2005.	Two of 17 students took a leave of absence after completion of the junior year due to illness. 15 continued and graduated on time (88%). Expected outcome not achieved.	Reasons for delay were evaluated and goal modified for next year.

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Student Placement (3)	2	Ninety percent (90%) of program graduates will find discipline related employment within six months of graduation.	The Coordinator will collect information from the students' surveys and calculate the number of graduates who obtained professional employment within six months of graduation and who enrolled in graduate school (November).	2004 graduates: Ten out of 12 graduates (83%) were employed within 6 months of graduation. Expected outcome not met.	Created job referral area on classroom bulletin board.

Additional Resources Needed (if any) that were requested for FY06 during the budget cycle: Institutional Enhancement funding was requested for 2006 so senior students can have access to a web site review to improve pass rate of students in the national registration exam. Additional funding requested for operating budget and one new faculty position requested.