

AY20 Expedited Program Review – Optional Program Response to the Dean’s Findings Form

Date: February 28, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: Bridgett Mayorga, Committee Chair & Term Assistant Professor of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Cc: Jeff Jessee, Dean of the College of Health and Vice Provost of Health Programs
Kathryn Slagle, Term Assistant Professor of Medical Imaging Science

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review: Optional Program Response to Dean’s Recommendation

Program/s in this review: Limited Radiography OEC & Diagnostic Medical Sonography AAS & Radiologic Technology AAS

Program response to Dean’s findings:

Medical imaging faculty support the recommendation of the COH Dean’s office to suspend/delete the Limited Radiography OEC, with plans for the program to be redesigned as a continuing education program. Faculty could begin curriculum development in the summer or early fall, with a targeted implementation date of spring 2021.

Faculty support and are encouraged by the recommendation of the Dean's office to continue the Radiologic Technology AAS program with future proposed plans of program improvement, enhancement and recruitment.

Medical imaging faculty support the recommendation of the COH Dean’s office for revision of the current Diagnostic Medical Sonography AAS degree through transition to a baccalaureate degree. This will increase demand for the program as well as meet workforce expectations. With the development of the bachelor’s degree, upper division electives could be offered in specialty sonography areas like cardiac and vascular to further support our communities of interest by providing our graduates with additional skills as they enter the workforce. With the curriculum revision, and the goal of program expansion, a hybrid face-to-face/distance delivery could be developed by program faculty to better serve the needs of the students. The redesigned delivery model would allow greater access to the program from students outside of the current campus location, and potentially enable them to complete most of the program from their home communities. Faculty could begin curriculum development this summer.

The Medical imaging faculty support seeking external accreditation. The DMS program would like to seek CAAHEP accreditation through the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS). According to the JRC-DMS, the CAAHEP accreditation is for the specialized sonography portion of the program, not the terminal degree offered so there is no "penalty" for seeking accreditation now under the current AAS while then transitioning to a bachelor’s degree. CAAHEP accreditation is a priority for the program; it allows immediate access to American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography certification examinations for students in the program prior to graduation. This early access would position program graduates to enter the

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workforce already possessing the necessary credentials employers are seeking. The specialized program accreditation has been identified by the program advisory board and community healthcare organizations as essential to the program’s future development. In addition to student advancement, a successful external accreditation would also allow the program to offer 16 continuing education credits to clinical site instructors at no cost to the university or the clinical site. This is a significant benefit to our clinical sites and would be favorable to program expansion and the addition of new clinical affiliates. The external accreditation would require development and submission of a program self-study. Once the self-study is submitted, the program would undergo an external review and site visit. The program self-study could be written this summer.