

**BIENNIAL PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT REPORT FORM –  
ASSESSMENT COMPLETED IN AY2023-2024 (Due to the dean on November 15)****Submission date:** 11/15/2024**Assessment Plan covered in this report:** Surgical Technology AAS**College:** College of Health**Campuses where the program(s) is delivered:** ☒ Anchorage ☐ KOD ☐ KPC ☐ MSC ☐ PWSC**Submitted by:** NICOLE CLEMENTI, PROGRAM DIRECTOR (SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY) NCLEMENTI@ALASKA.EDU

- 1. Please list and number the Program Student Learning Outcomes your program assessed in the past academic year. For each outcome, indicate one of the following: Exceeded faculty expectations, Met faculty expectations, or Did not meet faculty expectations.**

Apply knowledge and skills of biological sciences in the perioperative setting. Met Faculty Expectations

Communicate effectively with surgical team members, patients and their families. Met Faculty Expectations

Apply the principles of aseptic. Exceeded Faculty Expectations

Organize routine instrumentation and supplies within the perioperative environment. Exceeded Faculty Expectations

Demonstrate knowledge of pharmacology and math calculation principles related to the surgical environment. Met Faculty Expectations

Collaborate with members of the surgical team to deliver quality patient care with consideration of the unique psychological and social needs of each patient. Exceeded Faculty Expectations

Demonstrate skills and behaviors necessary to function as a member of a surgical team. Exceeded Faculty Expectations

- 2. Describe what your assessment process was last year for these Program Student Learning Outcomes, including the collection of data, analysis of data, and faculty (and other, e.g., advisory board) conversations around the findings. (1000 words or less)**

The surgical technology program utilizes several methods to gauge success of the program as well as to determine any changes that may be necessary. We receive feedback from our advisory board made up of professionals from the community, student feedback, exit surveys, employer and graduate surveys. The advisory board reviews programmatic data annually to determine if changes are necessary to promote student success, or for the growing and changing needs of the employers/stakeholders. We review enrollment capacity, resources, books, budget, retention, placement rates, working relationships, student professionalism, and job entry readiness, certification

pass rates and areas for growth.

**3. What are the findings and what do they tell the faculty about student learning in your program? (1000 words or less)**

We are currently teaching our eighth cohort and to date all feedback has been very positive. The data all supports the idea that students are meeting PSLOs and are receiving excellent entry-level education. The feedback of the students was positive, but they would like to have more usable lab supplies which was addressed with increased supplies purchased and TVEP funding. The program utilizes open labs for students who would like to participate beyond their required lab times. The findings also show that we have 100% positive placement for graduates in their field of study, 66.6 % pass rate for the national certification, and a 100% retention rate for the program. The findings also show that we still have not met workforce needs as there is still a shortage of surgical technologists in Alaska.

**4. Based on the findings, did the faculty make any recommendations for changes to improve student achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes? Yes**

- i. **Please describe the recommended action(s), what improvements in student learning the program hopes to see, the proposed timeline, and how the program will know if the change(s) has worked. If no recommendations for changes were made, please explain that decision. (1000 words or less)**

Based on the findings, there were 2 recommendations for changes.

1. Students requested more usable lab supplies.
2. Our community stakeholders were very encouraged in the response to the possibility of an increase in the enrollment capacity. We were initially allowed to accept twelve (12) students at the start of the program in 2017 and since then received approval from ARC/STSA - the Accreditation Review Committee for Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting to increase from the current fifteen (15) to eighteen (18) students.
3. Implementing open lab hours has been a success and the program can see the positive benefit in the skill sets of the students. Thus far, students are anecdotally more focused, more prepared, more confident, and more knowledgeable because of more time in the lab to practice needed skills.

**5. In the past academic year, how did your program use the results of previous assessment cycles to make changes intended to improve student achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes? Please check all that apply.**

- ☒ Course curriculum changes
- ☒ Course prerequisite changes
- ☒ Changes in teaching methods

- ☐ Changes in advising
- ☐ Degree requirement changes
- ☒ Degree course sequencing
- ☒ Course enrollment changes (e.g., course capacity, grading structure [pass/fail, A-F])
- ☐ Changes in program policies/procedures
- ☐ Changes to Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)
- ☐ College-wide initiatives (e.g., High-Impact Practices)
- ☐ Faculty, staff, student development
- ☐ Other
- ☐ No changes were implemented last year. *(If no options above were selected)*

**If you checked “Other” above, please describe. (100 words or less)**

- 6. Do you have any information about how well these or other past improvements are working? Are they achieving their intended goals? Please include any data or assessment results that help you demonstrate this. (1000 words or less)**

The curriculum and course changes were made in 2023-2024 however have only just been implemented beginning with the Fall 2024 semester. The program will actively monitor student achievement of PSLO's as well as national exam pass rates over the next two years to document the effectiveness of the curriculum changes and course revisions as well as the incorporation of previous pre-requisite courses into formal program curriculum. Data will be collected and reported in the next assessment report.

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### **DEAN SECTION (Due to the program on January 15)**

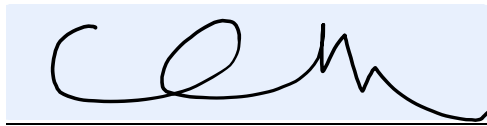
- 1. Based on the program's responses above, what guidance and support do you have for the program moving forward? (200 words or less)**

The program is commended for engaging in a comprehensive assessment of student learning outcomes. Multiple sources of input and metrics inform this process and the student “voice”, i.e. feedback, is prioritized. Continued monitoring of PSLO's is recommended based on curricular changes, enrollment increase, and program sequencing. This program experiences a high workforce demand for graduates and continued inclusion of community partners and employers in programmatic decisions is immensely valuable. With the increase in cohort size, the program may also find it beneficial to explore and possibly revise student recruitment strategies in order to continue to meet or exceed faculty expectations of student learning outcomes.

2. Discuss what the program is doing particularly well in terms of its processes for the assessment and improvement of student learning, for example, the use of a common rubric or prompt, a signature assignment, etc. (200 words or less)

The Surgical Technology program in the School of Allied Health offers a valuable degree track in a field with high workforce demand. The program has cultivated and invested significant effort in maintaining strong community partnerships and ensuring that students are prepared for entry-level practice. The program is commended for pursuing alternate sources of funding to outfit newly constructed classroom space and in response to student requests for additional lab consumables. The program also implemented significant curricular changes aimed to support students in an expedient and supported path to degree completion. COH appreciates the program's commitment to ongoing program assessment and evaluation.

**Dean's signature:**

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue rectangular background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'C. Moore'.

Cary Moore, Associate Dean for Clinical Health Sciences

**Date:** 1/15/2025