

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, March 12, 2010

DECISION ITEM A-4:

Doctor of Physical Therapy To Be Offered by Indiana State University at Terre Haute

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission for Higher Education approve the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) to be offered by Indiana State University at Terre Haute, in accordance with the background discussion in this agenda item and the *Abstract*, February 26, 2010; and

That the Commission recommend no new state funds, in accordance with the supporting document, *New Academic Degree Program Proposal Summary*, February 26, 2010.

Background

Indiana University is the only public institution that offers the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.). IUPUI, which had been one of the last campuses in the country to offer an accredited B.S. in Physical Therapy, was authorized by the Commission for Higher Education to offer the D.P.T. in November 2001. In FY2008, IUPUI enrolled 103 headcount or 144 FTE students in its D.P.T. program, which also graduated 32 students that same year. In the independent sector, the University of Indianapolis and the University of Evansville also offer D.P.T. programs.

ISU reports that Physical Therapy is listed within the top ten of the Hot 50 Jobs in Indiana in eight of the eleven workforce regions of the state. The Indiana Department of Workforce Development also reports that there should be approximately 144 new positions annually throughout the state, while Indiana's three D.P.T. programs are producing an average of 116 new D.P.T.s each year. The differential of 28 more annual openings than new D.P.T. produced in state assumes that all graduates of Indiana programs will not leave the state. Data gathered by ISU suggests that an average of 60-80 percent of the three graduating classes stay in Indiana. It is not known how many D.P.T.s from other states enter Indiana each year.

Indiana falls slightly above the national average with respect to licensed Physical Therapists per 100,000 (77.1 v. 75.69) and slightly below on licensed Physical Therapists per 100,000 residing in the state (55.39 v. 57.71). In the MHEC region, six states are higher on the first of these measures, five below, while seven states are higher on the second measure, four below.

Rural Emphasis One way ISU intends to distinguish its program from the three existing D.P.T. programs is to place special emphasis on preparing Physical Therapists for rural settings, which is something the University has emphasized in other health programs. Building on many previous efforts in the preceding years, ISU was a founding member of the Rural Health Innovation Collaborative (the RHIC), whose other members include the IU School of Medicine, Union Hospital and its Richard G. Lugar Center for Rural Health, the Terre Haute Economic Development Corporation, the City of Terre Haute, and Ivy Tech Wabash Valley.

Priorities and Resources Indiana State University is not requesting any new state funds to launch this program. Instead, the University is reallocating funds that have become available, in large part, as a result of a *Program Prioritization* exercise, which was launched in 2005 and discussed at the Commission's June 2008 meeting. By the University's calculation, this initiative resulted in eliminating 23 percent of its program inventory.

Corollary to this effort, the University concluded that it needed to place greater strategic emphasis on health-related programs, which led to two developments. In a move that was discussed at the Commission's March 2007 meeting, ISU consolidated units from two existing colleges (Health and Human Performance, Nursing) into a new college (Nursing, Health, and Human Services). The University began an ambitious campaign to launch new degree programs through the newly established College. At its February 2010 meeting, the Commission approved a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies for ISU. On the present agenda for action are the Doctor of Physical Therapy and the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The University has also signaled its intent to bring forward four additional health and human services related program proposals by this time next year: a Master of Social Work and doctoral programs in Pharmacy, Health Science, and Podiatry. Quite aside from any consideration of the potential merits or concerns associated with the individual proposals themselves, the prospect of the ISU launching, in the space of little more than a year, seven new graduate programs – the four just referenced, the one last month, and the two on this month's agenda – does raise a serious question about the strain this would put on University resources, especially given the complexity and expense of these programs, as well as the stringent accreditation standards that all will be required to meet.

Supporting Documents

- (1) *Abstract - Doctor of Physical Therapy to be offered by Indiana State University at Terre Haute, February 26, 2010*
- (2) *New Academic Degree Program Proposal Summary – Doctor of Physical Therapy, February 26, 2010.*

Abstract

Doctor of Physical Therapy
To Be Offered by
Indiana State University at Terre Haute

February 26, 2010

Objectives: To provide competent health care providers who are skillfully able to examine, evaluate, diagnose, and provide appropriate interventions within the scope and practice of physical therapy for clients with physical impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities across the lifespan; to decrease the physical therapist shortage in Terre Haute, rural communities, and the nation; and to improve the patient access and quality care for rural and underserved populations.

Clientele to be Served: Post-baccalaureate students who desire a professional career as a physical therapist.

Curriculum: A total of 102 post-baccalaureate semester credit hours is required to complete the program, distributed as follows:

Clinical Courses (29 credit hours)

- Fourteen clinical rotations with physical therapy receptors
 - 1 clinical credit hour = three actual clinical contact hours per week or 45 hours per semester
- Physical therapy preceptors must be licensed practitioners

Didactic and Theory Courses (72 credit hours)

- Intro to Physical Therapy (2)
- Advanced Human Anatomy (8)
- Advanced Pathology (3)
- Health Behavior Theory (3)
- Advanced Physiology of Exercise (3)
- Musculoskeletal I, II, & III (9)
- Biomechanics (3)
- Lifespan Development (3)
- Physical Therapy Examination (3)
- Applied Neuroscience I, II, & III (9)
- Research (3)
- Pharmacology (3)
- Imaging and Diagnostics (3)
- Administration and Teaching (3)
- Health Care Systems (3)
- Applied Research (2)
- Differential Diagnosis (3)
- Special Populations (3)
- Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation (3)

Culminating Scholarly Project (3 credit hours)

Employment Possibilities: Practice settings for physical therapists includes acute care, pediatrics, geriatrics, short and long-term rehabilitation, cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, sports medicine and orthopedics, and fitness centers.

NEW ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM PROPOSAL SUMMARY

February 26, 2010

I. Prepared by Institution

Institution/Location: Indiana State University to be offered at Terre Haute

Program: Doctor of Physical Therapy

	Year 1 FY2010	Year 2 FY2011	Year 3 FY2012	Year 4 FY2013	Year 5 FY2014
Enrollment Projections (Headcount)					
Full-Time	30	60	90	90	90
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0
Total	30	60	90	90	90
Enrollment Projections (FTE)					
Full-Time	30	60	90	90	90
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0
Total	30	60	90	90	90
Degree Completions Projection	0	0	30	30	30
New State Funds Requested (Actual) *	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
New State Funds Requested (Increases) *	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

II. Prepared by CHE

New State Funds To Be Considered For Recommendation (Actual) *	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
New State Funds To Be Considered For Recommendation (Increases) *	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CHE Code: 10-01

Campus Code: 9563

County: Vigo

Degree Level: 09

CIP Code: Federal – 512308; State – 512308

* Excludes new state dollars that may be provided through enrollment change funding.