

Review of MFA Results and Report on Curricular Change  
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Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders

May 7, 2002

Results of the 2001-2002 MFA assessment activities indicate several areas of strength within the program. The perceived areas of strength include the following:

- a) the scores of students on positive opinion of the broad knowledge base provided by the program.
  1. Eighty-one percent of the students were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the effectiveness of beginning courses when compared to 50% of the students who were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the effectiveness during the last reporting period.
  2. Ninety-five percent of the students were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the quality of instruction in the advanced courses when compared to 62.5% of the students who were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the quality during the last reporting period.
  
- b) the scores of students on preparation of students for entry into master's program in terms of their GPA.
  1. Ninety percent of the students had cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher when compared to 53% percent of the students who had cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher during the last reporting period.
  
- c) the scores of students on positive pre-professional identity and life-long learning in terms of satisfaction of the students with pre-professional activities.
  1. Approximately 95% of the students were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the experience outside of the classroom when compared to approximately 88% of the students who were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the experience during the last reporting period.
  2. Seventy-five percent of the program's courses contained pre-professional activities when compared to 72% of the program's courses during the last reporting period.
  3. Approximately 67% of the students were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with professional activities and associations this reporting period when compared to approximately 38% of the students who were "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the professional activities during the last reporting period.
  
- d) the students' demonstration of competency in clinical skills.

1. One hundred percent of the students completed the clinical practicum when compared to 100% of the students who completed the practicum during the last reporting period.
2. One hundred percent of the students completed 100 clinical contact hours when compared to 97% of the students who completed the hours during the last reporting period.
3. One hundred percent of the students completed the observation prior to SLH 300 course when compared to 100% of the students who completed the observation during the last reporting period.
4. One hundred percent of the students achieved a grade of "C" or better on the CBS Evaluation when compared to 100% of the students who achieved the grade during the last reporting period.
5. One hundred percent of the students completed the ASHA Clinical Summary Form when compared to 97% of the students who completed the Form during the last reporting period.

e) the students' preparation for entry into master's program in terms of percentage of students passing the PRAXIS I exam.

1. One hundred percent of the students passed the PPST and 100% of the students also passed the C-S PPST when compared to the same percentage scores for the exams during the last reporting period.

There is a significant improvement in the percentage scores of the areas that were mentioned as weaknesses in the last report such as the scores of students on positive opinion of the broad knowledge base provided by the program, the scores of students on preparation of the students for entry into master's program in terms of their GPA, and the scores of students on positive pre-professional identity and life-long learning in terms of satisfaction of the students with professional activities. The improvement in the scores could be due to an increase in the number of respondents completing the surveys and their responses being representative of the majority of students' opinions. Since no major perceived areas of weaknesses are noted, it is believed that there are no sufficient data to warrant a change in the program at this time. However, the Department is currently revising the undergraduate curricula and the survey questions. Future results will be monitored and the outcomes will be continually evaluated. Appropriate program modifications will also be continually made based on the obtained data.