

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR THE Bachelor of Science in Education in Health and Physical Education

Major Findings of the Program's Quality and Productivity

The B.S.Ed. in Health and Physical Education prepares highly qualified health and physical education teachers who have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to help all students learn. This is demonstrated by GACE II pass rates of 90% or above, consistent ratings of meets or exceeds expectations on performance evaluations.

The overall quality of the program is evident in each of the areas of teaching, scholarship, and professionalism. In the area of teaching, faculty in the program are appropriately credentialed and have developed a program that shows a strong relationship between the program curriculum and its outcomes. There is evidence that the program utilizes multidisciplinary approaches and multicultural perspectives. Additionally, there is evidence of good teaching along with good advising in the program, and use of part-time faculty is kept to a minimum with only well-credentialed part-time faculty being employed. In the area of scholarship, the faculty engage in numerous research and scholarship activities throughout the year and have noteworthy achievements as a result of this engagement. There is evidence that the faculty actively engage in professional service that enhances their program at all levels (program, department, college, institution, and in the community).

Weaknesses noted in the area of program quality are manifest in the number of degrees awarded over the past 5 years. Additionally, the quality of student achievements is a weakness for this program.

Strengths in the overall productivity of the program include strong enrollment numbers over the last five years with a diverse student population evident. The quality of the facilities and equipment that have been added are also considered strengths that contribute to program productivity. Finally, the cost effectiveness of instructional delivery allows this program to be productive.

Weaknesses in the area of productivity are its retention and graduation rates. While enrollment in the program is strong, retaining students in the program is a serious issue that results in low graduation rates. Overall, the program has the potential to be a very strong program. Some concentrated effort is needed in the area of retention and graduation of students who enroll in the program. Because this area of quality and productivity is of such concern, the overall rating of the program is classified as below average.

List of Recommendations for Improving Program Quality

- Continue to make program changes based on participation in edTPA.
- Continue to encourage and support undergraduate student participation at regional conferences and workshops with various program faculty members.
- Begin efforts to combine program with Kinesiology to provide candidates options for career path upon graduation.
- Develop critical, common assignments and assessments that are aligned with the program and course student learning outcomes as well as state and national standards. The critical assessment supported by its rationale statement will provide a thread of consistency for our accrediting agencies with the same course over the years regardless of who teaches the course and what venue is used.

List of Recommendations for Improving Program Productivity

- Continue the collaborative partnership with the SAFE Office concerning student advising and ensuring students are aware of program admission requirements and the importance of taking the GACE Program Admission Test in a timely manner.
- Continue “Campaign of Information” so that students are aware of the requirements for admission into teacher education to help with student retention in the program.
- Require declared HPE majors to participate in GACE Program Admission Test study sessions beginning 2 semesters prior to the anticipated admission to the program.
- Develop a plan to alleviate obstacles to degree completion based on analysis of results from fall 2013 survey of students.
- Continue to introduce admission to teacher education requirements in freshman, sophomore level courses, and to transfer students.
- Begin efforts to combine program with Kinesiology to provide candidates options for career path upon graduation.
- Create and follow a retention and graduation plan for your program.

Conclusion about the Program's Viability at CSU

The B.S.Ed. Health and Physical Education program at CSU is a viable one. As indicated by the evaluation of the NCATE/PSC Board of Examiners in February 2013, the quality of the program is very strong. All NCATE/PSC standards were judged met for all initial and advanced health and physical education programs. The viability of the program is also ensured by the collaborative relationship that exists between the College of Education and Health Professions, Health Science, Exercise Science, and teachers in P-12 schools. Representatives from each of the groups work together to make improvements to the health and physical education program at CSU and to the health status of students in our region. Students in the B.S.Ed. program take what they learn and apply it in their classrooms to help their students learn. The B.S.Ed. program in health and physical education is a valuable resource for schools in the region who want to hire proficient teachers in the field of health and physical education.

Program Improvement Plan

The focus of program improvement for the BSEd in Health and Physical Education must be on strategies to improve retention and graduation while maintaining quality. In order for the program to remain viable, faculty in the program will need to begin working on the following strategies:

- Require declared HPE majors to participate in GACE Program Admission Test study sessions beginning 2 semesters prior to the anticipated admission to the program.
- Develop a plan to alleviate obstacles to degree completion based on analysis of results from fall 2013 survey of students.
- Continue to introduce admission to teacher education requirements in freshman, sophomore level courses, and to transfer students.
- Begin efforts to combine program with Kinesiology to provide candidates options for career path upon graduation.
- Create and follow a retention and graduation plan for the program.

Support for these efforts will be provided through the Dean’s Office.

Summary Recommendation and Supporting Rationale

Recommendation: *Maintain the Program at the Current Level.*

The program quality is above average but program productivity is below average. Retention and graduation rates are the factors that most significantly affect the viability of this program and should be addressed swiftly and strongly using the strategies outlined in the program improvement plan.