

**Bachelor of Science in Athletic Therapy Program**  
*Program Faculty Response to Site Visit Report*

**Commendations:**

degree prior to applying and being admitted to the Athletic Therapy (BS) program. Lastly, the name, Athletic Therapy, has been confusing and sometimes misleading to students and colleagues at WSU. We would like to revise the name so that it better aligns with the mission of the program. Our goal is for these revisions to be approved and implemented in the 2021-2022 catalog. During the 2019-20 academic year, we attempted to partner with a local massage therapist to offer a Licensed Massage Therapy (LMT) route for students within the Athletic Therapy program. However, due to certain accreditation laws, the ability to integrate an LMT route in a timeline that would be both convenient and logical for students in our program was determined to not be possible. However, we are currently looking to offer alternative certifications that are more accessible for students at Weber State University. Both the Phlebotomy certification and Limited Practical Technician (LPT) certification have potential to either be integrated or advertised to students in the Athletic Therapy program. Once the program revisions are submitted and approved this Fall, the faculty will continue exploring these (and other) certifications that have potential to be added to the program.

- c. We will rely on the biennial assessments and our next program review to determine the effectiveness of these revisions to the Athletic Therapy curriculum in terms of the academic outcomes and graduation efficiency of our students. We will also review future alumni surveys to determine if additional certifications would make graduates more marketable to graduate programs and/or employers.
2. Standard C. Student Learning Outcomes and Assessments: Distribute an assessment survey every semester be tailored in a way that asks specific questions regarding the
    - a. We currently have a graduate exit survey that we distribute towards the end of each semester to students who have applied for graduation. This survey is used to -graduate plans, graduate school acceptance rate, and perception of how well they believe the Athletic Therapy program prepared them for graduate school. Additionally, it asks for student feedback on what can be improved about the program. We have also created an alumni survey that we will be distributing to former graduates to track their education and/or employment statuses, which will offer information on graduate success of the Athletic Therapy program. We do see the benefit of creating another survey for current students with the Athletic Therapy major and/or program. It could provide contemporary feedback from students about their current perception of the program and revised curriculum. However, the feasibility and logistics of this survey requires further discussion. The application and graduation timeline of students in our current program is highly variable, which makes the timing and frequency of when this survey should be distributed difficult to determine.
    - b. Once the revised Athletic Therapy program curriculum is officially implemented in the 2021-22 catalog, the faculty will meet during the early Fall 2021 semester to discuss the feasibility and logistics over creating and distributing an assessment

survey to current students in the program/major. We believe that more streamlined curriculum is better suited for a survey of this kind.

- c. A decision regarding the implementation of an assessment survey for current

### **Department/program plans beyond Program Review Team recommendations**

1. Academic advising: Without having an academic advisor in our department, all of the advising responsibility for students within the Athletic Therapy program is placed on the program director. Therefore, we would like to hire at least a part-time staff to serve as our \_\_\_\_\_, who could at least share the advising responsibilities with the program director. We have had recent discussions with the dean of the college about likelihood of adding an academic advisor to our department, and from these discussions, we are hopeful that we will have a position of this kind in the near future.
2. Interdepartmental collaboration: Although we are content with the classroom and office space that are afforded to the Athletic Therapy program, as a new department to the college, we would like to further establish the Athletic Therapy program among our interdepartmental colleagues. This starts with collaborating with faculty in other departments to develop shared lab spaces and interprofessional education courses. Our long-term goal is to relocate our department to be physically closer to other departments within the college. This move would likely require a new building to be built on campus currently.