**Progress Report**

**Pittsburg State University**

The Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism, and Related Professions (COAPRT), at its meeting on October 13, 2014 in Charlotte, NC acted to extend the current accreditation and defer action with conditions below (in bold) for Pittsburg State University. The Pittsburg State University’s Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation has made the following progress on the conditions identified by the Council:

**A faculty member shall attend COAPRT training at the 2015 NRPA Congress. (Standard 1.06)**

Dr. John Oppliger, Chair and Dr. Bill Stobart, Coordinator will attend the COAPRT training session at the 2015 NRPA Congress.

**A Council approved learning outcomes assessment trainer shall consult with the faculty on site by February 1, 2015 (Standard 2.05). Contact Dr. Candace Vick at cvick@ncsu.edu for a suggested list of possible trainers.**

Dr. Candace Vick was contacted for a suggested list of possible assessment trainers. Dr. Glenn Bishop of Arkansas Tech University came to campus on January 6 for a training session with the faculty.

**The program shall provide evidence of the updated departmental mission, vision and values by August 1, 2015. (Standard 2.01:01)**

Missions, visions, and values were reviewed from other universities and discussed by the faculty.

**Mission –** The Pittsburg State University Mission Statement focuses on the structures and processes that encourage our students ***to engage*** in academic and co-curricular opportunities, ***to learn*** the knowledge, skills, and values within a broad liberal arts foundation and within a chosen discipline, and ***to succeed*** in preparing for a career or further higher education. In addition, the Mission stipulates our commitment to the highest quality of structures and processes for student outcomes through fostering a campus***culture of assessment and accountability***that supports strategic planning and the continuous improvement of general education, degree programs, and co-curricular activities*.*

**The mission of the recreation program** at Pittsburg State University is to enhance the knowledge and professional development of our students via active participation, engagement, and leadership.

**Vision of the recreation department–** To educate and engage our students in a quality experience through a high quality of instruction and experiential learning including:

* Academics
* Service
* Research
* Experiential knowledge
* Professional ethics
* Individual achievement
* Institutional achievement

(The vision of the recreation department will be in coordination with the vision statement of the University)

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| Vision statement of the University |  |
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| Pittsburg State University will be a learning-centered institution while it pursues excellence in teaching and learning, discovery, and engagement.  **Vision Elements**  Learning Centered  This means that Pittsburg State University strives to become a fully committed learning organization where all constituents are partners in learning. Learning becomes an active endeavor and focused on learning outcomes. This means focusing on assessing what is learned and improving learning by using the assessment results to make improvements. Decisions are guided by the question “How does this improve learning?”  Excellence  Excellence means we focus on setting high standards and striving to achieve them. We continually assess and evaluate all aspects of the institution and use what we learn to make improvements.  Teaching and Learning  Teaching and learning are central to all that we do. It means that we recognize that we are all learners and we continually strive to acquire, apply and impart knowledge. This means that the old model of teaching being active, learning being passive, and faculty transferring knowledge to students, gives way to an active learning environment where all constituents are teachers and learners.  Discovery  This means that Pittsburg State University will promote learning for all of its constituents by maintaining and supporting a culture of inquiry and creativity based on the tenant of academic freedom. In the case of Pittsburg State University this also means the application of what is learned (by doing learn) and using discovery to solve problems as well as to advance knowledge.  Engagement  Pittsburg State University engages all of its constituents in mutually beneficial relationships to advance teaching and learning, and discovery. | |

**Values**

The University’s values statement enhances:

Student-Focused- Continue a campus environment where students feel a connection to the university and its faculty and staff by making students and their success the driving force behind institutional decisions at all levels.

Excellence- Ensure the university strives for outcomes that are exemplary by demanding quality in all aspects of the institution’s operations.

By Doing Learn - Perpetuate the university’s founding principal of “By doing learn,” through the creation of academic programs and opportunities that engage students in real world activities.

Diversity Foster a diverse and international campus culture among faculty, staff, and students that supports an understanding and acceptance of a variety of ideas, beliefs, and cultures, thereby creating opportunity for all.

Community - Enhance the university’s strong relationship with the region and the Pittsburg community by maintaining a welcoming campus and creating big university opportunities in a small campus atmosphere.

Innovation - Encourage faculty, staff, and students to take informed, calculated, and strategic risks to build upon their success, start new ventures, utilize new technologies, and forge an entrepreneurial path forward.

Sustainability - Recognize there are limited and finite resources in the world, and, therefore, commit ourselves to establishing best practices to conserve resources as well as decrease the university's carbon footprint.

Value statement:

The recreation program values:

Academic Excellence – including our faculty, staff, and students

Service – to the community, state, country, and internationally

Integrity – respect, justice, honesty and civility in the classroom.

Professional Development – adhere to the standards of excellence established by the professionals in the field of recreation and therapeutic recreation.

**The program shall provide an updated departmental strategic plan by August 1, 2015. (Standard 2.02:02)**

The University has initiated a new strategic plan starting August 10, 2015 [opening session for the 2015-2016 academic year] titled “Pathway to Prominence.” The strategic goals for the campus are academic excellent, student success, partnerships, and a responsive and innovation campus culture.

Based on the University’s new strategic plan, our department strategic goals are:

* To provide courses to meet the needs of a changing society and a changing and diverse student population
* To continue to deliver a curriculum that enables and engages successful student outcomes
* To develop faculty and student leadership within the department
* To develop partnerships with the alumni, friends, and organizations related to the department in the past and future
* To provide the faculty with the means to develop partnerships with a variety of professionals and professional institutions
* To increase student awareness and engagement of a responsive and innovated campus culture

**The program shall submit an updated assessment plan conforming to the 7.00 series standards for the Recreation Program and the Therapeutic** **Program by August 1, 2015 (Standard 2.05)**

Dr. Candace Vick was contacted for a suggested list of possible assessment trainers. Dr. Glenn Bishop of Arkansas Tech University came to campus on January 6 for a training session with the faculty.

Dr. Glen Bishop, representing COAPRT as an assessment trainer, helped the faculty with the assessment plan to conform to the 7.00 series standards for the Recreation Program and the Therapeutic Program.

Highlights to Dr. Bishop’s advice to improve our assessment plan included:

1. Use the “vertical” templates instead of the “horizontal” templates.

2. Give more detail to the “Course Specific Learning Outcome.”

3. The items we listed under “Performance Measure” should be listed under “Evidence of Learning Opportunity.”

4. Dr. Bishop explained Direct and Indirect measures.

5. Dr. Bishop expressed a need for two indirect measures and one direct measure but can have 5 or 6 measures.

6. Dr. Bishop stated many assessment plans follow the Cal State-Long Beach example.

7. Results for 2.05.5 should be posted annually and could be posted anytime during the year.

8. There is no best way to assess learning outcomes but he suggested staying away from multiple choice tests.

9. For the timeframe, show where you are in meeting outcomes; follow the process.

10. It may be better to do the learning outcomes first and work backways.

11. “Completed” is not a good descriptor for assessment results.

12. Dr. Bishop suggested reading sources for Bloom’s Taxonomy for further information and Wiggin’s Understanding by Design.