

ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation
Decision
Discussion/Direction
Information

DATE: 25 February 2020

FROM: Undergraduate Studies Committee

SUBJECT: Program Review 18-Month Final Assessment Report – Bachelor of Science in Nursing

COMMITTEE MANDATE:

In accordance with Articles 8.10 (a)(b) of By-law Number 1, the Academic Council “holds delegated authority from the Board to establish academic standards and curricular policies and procedures of the University and to regulate such standards, policies and procedures, including

ii) To determine and regulate the contents and curricula of all courses of study”.

And, “Academic Council may appoint committees and authorize them to exercise its powers under this section”.

Under the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC is to “to approve Final Assessment Reports (FARs) and action plans arising out of the cyclical review of undergraduate programs and report to Academic Council on...the implementation of recommendations from previous reviews”.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

That, pursuant to the recommendation of USC, Academic Council hereby approves the 18-Month Final Assessment Report for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Cyclical Program Review.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

Eighteen months after the completion of a program review the Faculty is asked to report on the progress to date for all items outlined in the Final Assessment Report and Action Plan. The 18-Month Final Assessment Report (18-Month FAR) notes any items which

have been completed and those that are still in progress, and provide a rationale and/or revised timeline for items which may be behind schedule from the timeline noted in the original Action Plan.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

The Faculty's plans to address any remaining resource needs are outlined in the 18-Month FAR. Information and support will be required from various areas of the University in order to implement the plan as originally agreed.

COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY/LEGISLATION:

The Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance (Quality Council), established by the Council of Ontario Universities in July 2010, is responsible for oversight of the Quality Assurance Framework processes for Ontario Universities. The Council operates at arm's length from both Ontario's publicly assisted universities and Ontario's government. Under the Quality Assurance Framework, academic programs must undergo a cyclical review at least every eight years following their implementation. The purpose of the cyclical program review is to critically examine the components of a program with the assistance of outside reviewers with the goal of continuous improvement. A program review's purpose is not solely to demonstrate the positive aspects of the program, but also to outline opportunities that will lead to improvements for the future.

NEXT STEPS:

- Following the approval the 18-Month FAR will be presented to the Board of Governors for information and posted to the University's website

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Program Review 18-Month Final Assessment Report



FINAL ASSESSMENT REPORT
January 6, 2020
Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Nursing (BScN)
18-Month Follow-Up
Interim Dean: Dr. Bernadette Murphy

Under Ontario Tech University's Quality Assurance Framework, all degree programs are subject to a comprehensive review every eight years to ensure that they continue to meet provincial quality assurance requirements and to support their ongoing rigour and coherence. Program reviews involve several stages, including:

1. A comprehensive and analytical self-study brief developed by members of the program under review.
2. A site visit by academic experts who are external to and arm's length from the program who prepare a report and recommendations on ways that it may be improved based on a review of the program's self-study and supporting material, and a two day site visit involving discussions with faculty, staff and students and a tour of the facilities.
3. Development of a plan for improvement by the program and proposed timelines for implementation.

All programs that undergo a review must provide a report eighteen months after the completion of the review to gather information on the progress that has been made implementing the agreed upon plans for improvement.

In 2015-2016 a program review was scheduled for the Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Nursing (BScN), with a site visit on September 28 and 29, 2016. The program has submitted to the Provost's Office a comprehensive chart outlining the progress they have made relative to the action plans resulting from the review. A summary of this progress is provided on the following pages. The summary report is reviewed by the appropriate standing committee of Academic Council, and is subsequently reported to Academic Council and the Board of Governors.

Next Scheduled Program Review: 2022-2024

Action Items	Process Status	Comments
<p>A. Host a one-day strategic planning session with faculty and community stakeholders</p> <p>B. Complete 3-year strategic plan (reflective of Ontario Tech and collaborative partners vision/mission)</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>	<p>The one-day strategic plan session was held in June 2018.</p> <p>Strategic planning began in June 2018. An external facilitator was recruited, a steering committee was formed with representation from leadership, faculty, and students from Ontario Tech, Durham College (DC), and Georgian College (GC) leadership. Faculty were engaged through a working session in June 2018. A draft strategic plan was sent to faculty in August 2018 for feedback, and is set to be formally adopted in December 2018.</p> <p>Next step: draft implementation plan, refine key metrics, and identify responsible individuals. Complete by April 2019</p>
<p>C. Create a research plan for the nursing program</p> <p>D. In order to create and then fulfill this plan: Strike a research committee composed of Ontario Tech, DC and GC faculty members and student representatives</p> <p>E. Identify areas of attention, required for faculty success</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>Meetings between the Faculty of Health Sciences Research Director and Associate Dean of Nursing has taken place to articulate research areas of practice, and to discuss unique needs of the nursing program.</p> <p>Next step: Continue discussion and decide on the best approach to a research committee and ways to support success.</p> <p>Revised Timeline: May 2019</p>
<p>F. Implement CASPer tool into admissions process for September, 2018 intake</p> <p>G. Evaluate effectiveness of CASPer using data and experience for Fall, 2018 intake</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>	<p>CASPer was implemented for the 2018/19 incoming cohort for the 4-year collaborative.</p> <p>Metrics chosen (admission averages, progression, retention, NCLEX pass rates, subjective experience of instructors) chosen to measure effectiveness of CASPer. Running annual reviews, in coordination with the Registrar's office in relation to admission distribution and use of CASper.</p> <p>Timeline: Metrics analyzed yearly, with a goal of 4 years of data and NCLEX success rates to be examined in 2021/22</p>

<p>H. Fill available program seats to expected capacity</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>163 students registered in year 1 for the 18/19 151 students registered in 2019/20, ongoing discussions with the Registrar's office will take place to ensure this continues.</p>
<p>I. Track and develop processes to support out-of-cohort students</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>Develop out-of-cohort tracking and support system. To both support student success, and to improve planning and tracking systems internally. Working with OIRA.</p>
<p>J. Respond to anticipated program growth by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exploring new possibilities and establish clinical relationships for expected program growth along with practicum evaluation processes 2. Assessing and moderating impact on human resources 	<p>Complete</p>	<p>New placements in all four years have been established since October 2018. Ongoing site visits and communication with new and existing sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term care facilities throughout Durham region have been more fully utilized in meeting curriculum goals across the program. • New relationships have been established with WindReach Farms, Sunnybrook Veteran's Centre, Dotsa Bitove Programming at Sunnybrook, Durham Regional Police Services, Durham Region (Senior Safety Advisor), Mackenzie Health (mental health). Most excitingly the program was able to secure pediatric placements at Lakeridge in 2017/18 and this winter were will be expanding our pediatric placements to Mackenzie Health. • Assessment of program growth impact on clinical rotations is being assessed term by term.
<p>K. Create and engage in preceptor education workshops to enhance existing preceptors and attract additional preceptors</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>A preceptor workshop was conducted with Durham Public Health in the Summer of 2018. With the introduction of the new professional development days, clinical instructors are also better positioned to share general program information with potential preceptors they encounter on the unit.</p> <p>Next Steps: Continue to develop new relations and strengthen existing relations through preceptor and site recognition.</p>

<p>3. Work towards identifying means to better engage clinical sessional faculty in meetings and feedback sessions</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>Exploring increasing accessibility to yearly meetings, via technology. Creating a sense of community among clinical sessional. Creation of formal TORs for yearly committees including sessional clinical instructors (June 2019).</p>
<p>O. Hold an annual one-day workshop for Full Time, Part Time and Sessional Instructors focused on knowledge translation and educational/research priorities</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>The first annual professional development meeting was held on Wednesday August 29th 2018. The session was run in conjunction with the Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) and with the support of faculty. Topics focused on clarifying processes and policies, educational priorities. Onboarding sessions were held in September 2019, and a smaller online session is being launched for Jan 2020.</p> <p>An education day on the TRC was held in Winter 2019 for all faculty in Nursing.</p> <p>A faculty development committee has been struck (September 2018), and have conducted a needs analysis of the faculty. Planning is to be announced shortly.</p>
<p>P. Create and publish an annual program research report</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>In discussions with the Faculty of Health Sciences Director of Research. Revised Target Date: Summer 2019.</p>