B.S. Degree in Health Sciences - Cytotechnology Tract
B.S.

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference
The Cytotechnology Program, Department of Medical Laboratory and Radiation Sciences, offers a B.S. degree in Health Sciences. This program offers a high level professional degree that meets or exceeds national level of academic standards of excellence. The faculty supports the Mission of the University to serve a diverse student population and provide opportunities for lifelong learning. The program is dedicated to teaching all aspects of cytology to allow for optimal care for the people of the state of Virginia.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported
The CYTO program contributes to the advancement of knowledge and pursuit of truth as well as to the well being of the public of Virginia by producing competent entry-level cytotechnologists and engaging in research. The program contributes to the quality of educational experience, both on campus and in the cytology community by continuing education workshops and seminars. The CYTO program partners with the local hospitals and laboratories for clinical training. The program is involved in conducting seminars on new emerging technologies in the field. The program is constantly developing new and creative programming for the field of cytology.

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes, Methods for Assessment, Criteria for Success, Assessment Results, and Use of Results

Intended Outcome 1
To provide quality teaching and professional education in the field of cytotechnology so students will become qualified cytotechnologists.

Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: The graduates of the program sit for the American Society of Clinical Pathologists Board of Registry Examination. The scores are sent to each program for each student. Scores are broken down into body sites and educational units. A grade of 400 on this exam is considered passing. All students will pass this examination.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 1: The six students in the 2002 class took the ASCP, Board of Registry examination and passed in all body sites. This indicates a score of over 400 in each body site and examination unit.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: Clinical faculty complete a survey evaluating the program and competencies of the students in key areas of preparation.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 1: The survey of the clinical faculty indicated that theprogram was doing an excellent job in educating the students. All six students were felt to be competent in the key areas of cytology education and preparation. The only suggestion made was possibility increasing the number of slides screened per day.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: Daily microscopic screening grades are recorded. Both a detection and a descrimination grade is given for each case. Students must maintain a minimum grade which increases for each semester. Number of cases that are screened each day are also recorded to allow for monitoring of workloads.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 1: A review of the daily microscopic grades using both the detection grade and the descrimination grade showed that all six students more than met the minimum grade. The minimum grade is 70% for the Spring semester, 80% for the Summer semester, and 90% for the Fall semester. All the students screened an adequate number of microscopic slides to prepare them as an entry level cytotechnologist.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 1 to Improve Academic Program: The number of slides screened per day will be increased each semester up to 50-60 slides by the end of the Fall semester. A new recording form that better reflects the number of slides screened is being developed.

Intended Outcome 2
All students will finish the program as qualified entry-level cytotechnlogists.

Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: All students are asked to complete a Graduate Survey once they are working in the field. These surveys measure how well prepared the graduate feels they were when they finished the program. All students will meet the minimum standards for the worksite.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 2: The survey for the 2002 class will be sent out at the end of the Summer semester. The survey for the 2001 class revieled that the students felt that they were adequately prepared for the workplace. They felt everything to meet the minimum standards for the worksite were met by their educational experience.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: The employers are also asked to complete an Employer Survey to evaluate how well the student was prepared for the worksite by the program. All students should meet the minimum standards. Comments for improvement and/or changes to the program are encouraged.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 2: The survey for the 2002 class will be sent out at the end of the summer. The 2001 class employer survey indicated that the graduates were well prepared for the worksite by the program. The students exceded the minimum standards for the entry level cytotechnologist. The employers would like the graduates to screen a higher number of slides per day.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: Again, Board of Registry scores are reviewed. All students are expected to pass the registry examination. This is imperative for working in the field of cytology.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 2: The ASCP Board of Registry scores confirmed that the entire 2002 class passed the registry examination.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 2 to Improve Academic Program: In response to the employer survey, the number of slides screened per day by the students will be increased each semester up to 50-60 slides by the end of the Fall semester. A new recording form that better reflects the number of slides screened is being developed.

Intended Outcome 3
All students will complete the Internship Courses or clinical rotations with a minimum accuracy level that increases each semester.

Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: Daily microscopic screening grades are kept. A detection and a descrimination grade is given for each case. These are reviewed and recorded by the clinical faculty and sent to the Course Instructor. Minimum passing grades are listed in the course syllabus. Students must be able to screen accurately and in a timely manner.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 3: A review of the daily microscopic grades using both the detection grade and the descrimination grade showed that all six students more than met the required minimum grade. The minimum grade is 70% for the Spring semester, 80% for the Summer semester, and 90% for the Fall semester. All the students screened an adequate number of microscopic slides to prepare them as an entry level cytotechnologist.These grades evaluate both accuracy and timely screening.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: The clinical faculty is asked to complete a Professional Development Evaluation for each student at the end of each clinical rotation. The student must receive a score of average or better on this evaluation. The evaluation covers all clinical aspects of the rotation and the professionalism of the student.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 3: The intensive Professional Development Evaluation was completed for each student at the end of the clinical rotations. All six students received a score of 3.0 or better based on a 1-4 point scale. This evaluates everything concerning a rotation at a clinical laboratory.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: The student is asked to complete a Clinical Site Evaluation for each clinical rotation at the end of the rotation..The clinical site and faculity are evaluated for the clinical experience. Each site must maintain certain standards in order to remain a clinical site.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 3: The students completed a survey at the end of each rotation to evaluate the clinical site. This evaluation comes directly to the Program Director and general feedback is given to the individual sites. Most sites received excellent evaluations and met all the standards for remaining a clinical site. There was one complaint that one of the sites lacked sufficient one-on-one teaching at the microscope.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 3 to Improve Academic Program: Feedback from the students is given to each site. If there are any concerns from the students, they are addressed at this time. In the case of the one complaint above, the clinical site co-ordinator agreed to spend more time at the microscope with the student.

Intended Outcome 4

Students will understand, use, and interpret research methods and designs.

Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: All students will earn a rating of 3 or higher (on a 5-point scale) on a research paper assigned in the Seminar. A committee of program faculty will rate the research papers for assessment purposes.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 4: All 2002 students earned a rating of 3 or higher on a research paper assigned in the Seminar course. These papers were scored by a committee of the program faculty.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 4 to Improve Academic Program: The students are given feedback on their research paper. Suggestions are made as to content and writing ability.The research paper is written according to the form as outlined in the cytology professional journals.

Intended Outcome 5
Students will give clear and effective oral presentations.

Method for Assessing Outcome 5 and Criterion for Success: Students must receive a rating of 3 or higher (on a 5-point scale) on the research paper that is required for the Seminar course. Part of this grade is the oral presentation of their paper. The paper is presented to the Program Faculty and other interested area cytotechnologists who are asked to rate the presentation.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 5: All 2002 students earned a rating of 3 or higher on a research paper assigned in the Seminar course. These papers were presented to and scored by the program faculty and any other cytotechnologists present at the oral presentations.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 5 and Criterion for Success: Students are graded by the faculty on presentations of journal articles that are given through out the year.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 5: All 2002 students earned a rating of 3 or higher on presentations of journal articles assigned throughout the year. These presentations were scored by the program faculty and any other cytotechnologists present at the oral presentations.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 5 to Improve Academic Program: The rating scale has been improved to reflect all aspects of an oral presentation. Feedback was solicited from the students and incorporated into the improved scale.

Intended Outcome 6
Students must be able to communicate effectively in writing.

Method for Assessing Outcome 6 and Criterion for Success: Students must pass the University Exit Examination to graduate from ODU.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 6: All of the 2002 students passed the Exit Writing Examination and were graduated in December 2002.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 6 and Criterion for Success: Students are given examinations with descriptive answer questions that are graded by the faculty. They must maintain a minium of a C average in all the cytology courses.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 6: All of the cytology quizzes and examinations are hand-graded by the faculty. Content and writing are graded. All students maintained a minimum of a C average in all courses.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 6 and Criterion for Success (*NOTE: Alternate methods are optional)*: Students are graded on their research paper by the faculty. Writing ability, as well as content, is graded.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 6: All 2002 students received received above average grades on their research paper. Content and writing ability were graded by the faculty on a scale of

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 6 to Improve Academic Program: The rating scale has been improved to cover all aspects of the written paper.

Intended Outcome 7
The students will demonstrate an interest in lifelong learning in cytotechnology.

Method for Assessing Outcome 7 and Criterion for Success: The students are expected to participate in local and state continuing education seminars. Nationally known speakers are brought in for these meetings. The students receive a grade for class participation for each course. Attendance at these meetings counts for class participation.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 7: The American Society of Ctyopathology met in April in Baltimore MD, with 3 of the 6 students attending. The three students paid their own way to this meeting. The Virginia Society of Cytology met in October with 4 out of the 6 students in attendance.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 7 and Criterion for Success: At least two-thirds of program seniors will indicate that they are satisfied or very satisfied with program emphasis on lifelong learning as reflected in results from the Senior Student Satisfaction Survey.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 7: All 6 of the 2002 students were satisfied or very statified with the program emphasis on lifelong learning. This was reflected in their comments and the results from the Senior Student Satisfaction Survey.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 7 to Improve Academic Program: The program faculty will continue to encourage students to be active in their professional societies. Program faculty hold high offices in the state society and will encourage students to attend the meeting and become active as officers or serve on committees.

Intended Outcome 8
Students are encouraged to participate in recruitment into the field of Cytotechnology.

Method for Assessing Outcome 8 and Criterion for Success: Students participate in university sponsored recruitment activities such as the "Big Blue Fair". All students that take part receive a grade under class participation.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 8: Students help to set up a booth at the recruitment activities. They man the booth and tell prospective students about the field of cytology. Some of the visual aspects of the booth have been improved according to student comments.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 8 and Criterion for Success: Students are encouraged to speak to other students about the Cytotechnology Program. They are asked for suggestions in recruitment. The students are invited to lectures that are given by program faculty on Pap Smears and other related subjects.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 8: Students spoke to prospective new students at the recruitment fairs and in many other situations. Several suggestions that the sudents made have been incorporated into the recruitment material. The students attended several lectures given byt the program faculty to other health care groups.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 8 and Criterion for Success: Students are asked to volunteer for extra recruitment projects such as the High School Scholars days.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 8: The High School Scholars tour was held on Saturday and Sunday with 4 out of the 6 students attending. They talked to the high school group with much enthusiam about the cytotechnology program.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 8 to Improve Academic Program: Several small suggestions were made by the students to help improve the recruitment material and methods. These changes have been incorporated into the recruitment material.