

Kinesiology Department 2012 Annual Assessment Update

1. Kinesiology Mission Statement and Student Learning Outcomes

A. Mission Statement.

The Westmont College Kinesiology Department celebrates the whole person by focusing on an integrated, scientific approach to the study of the ability of the human mind and body to create and understand movement.

B. Student Learning Outcomes.

As a department, we are intentionally involved with majors in a personal manner to encourage their social growth and cognitive learning at Westmont. We strive to produce students who are capable and qualified for graduate studies in the allied health fields as well as other relevant fields. We expect to produce majors who are scientifically knowledgeable about body movement and informed on the connection between the mind and body in the physical, social and psychological realms. We endeavor to inculcate in our classes a scientific foundation, a personal sensitivity to human differences and the ability to teach and lead in a clear and decisive manner. As a Christian college, we want to instill in our students an admiration for the intricacies of the human mind and body and as a result cultivate love and awe toward the one and only Creator God, by whom we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

II. Follow-up on Action Items identified in previous reports

The Kinesiology Six-Year Program Review Report was submitted Fall 2011. The response from the PRC is provided as Appendix A. As noted in the PRC response, there was much to celebrate with this successful submission. As a department, we experienced incredible team work and high ownership to this effort. The department received the 2011 Achievement award from the PRC – the highest award given to departmental 6 year reports. In the PRC response, the committee recommended that we solicit external reviews for our program, examine our course offerings for depth and breadth and increase research and/or internship opportunities for our students.

III. 2012 – 13 Focus

In June 2012 our department hosted a two-day retreat to examine our curriculum with a focus on adding a required internship/research component. In advance of this retreat we surveyed our recent alums (2005 forward) and asked for an evaluation of each of our required courses. The survey also probed the need for an internship/research component in our curriculum. This survey and the results appear in Appendix B.

The June retreat was time/money well spent. The alumni survey was very affirming with respect to our current curriculum. The KNS alums also affirmed the notion of a required internship/research component.

Considerable time was spent discussing the feasibility of requiring an internship/research component to our major. Currently, the Kinesiology department has the largest number of

declared majors of all departments on campus. We average about forty graduates a year, which would be a challenge to place that number of KNS majors in internships/research settings each year.

In our discussions we considered various models for placing interns. In June three faculty members visited Whitworth Costa Rica as a possible internship site. We placed five of our KNS majors at this site and while there, we visited all five students at their placements. This internship site served as an effective model for our students and we are in the process of recruiting and sending twelve to fifteen more of our KNS majors back to this site this coming spring. Professor John Moore has offered to oversee this site for this coming year.

The opportunity to establish additional internship sites is also being considered. And until we have additional sites established, our department is reluctant to make an internship component a curricular requirement.

Our efforts to establish a research component to our curriculum was met with a tragic setback this past May. Dr. Alex Moore was being surgically treated for his Crohn's disease and suffered from a fatal blood clot during recovery. Alex was targeted to head up a research component in our department.

IV. Next Steps

Currently Westmont KNS is searching for the replacement of Dr. Moore's position. This position has a research expectation as part of the job description.

We are also meeting regularly as a department where our assessment agenda is being updated. Part of our agenda will include the suggestions from the PRC's response to the 2011 six year report. Our Multi-Year assessment plan is included as Appendix C.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn P. Town, Chair
Kinesiology Department
October 17, 2012

V. Appendices

- A. Response from the PRC regarding our six year assessment report
- B. The 2012 KNS Alum survey and the results
- C. Multi-Year Assessment Plan 2010 - 2015

Appendix C
MULTI-YEAR ASSESSMENT PLAN
KINESIOLOGY Department

Outcomes	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Means of Assessment
1. Select majors will be able to read and interpret research and/or apply the scientific method.	X					In KNS 198, elective research students will execute and present a poster topic at the annual Science Symposium.
2. Majors will learn to measure the body's ability to adapt to the stress of exercise.	X					In KNS 105, students will conduct graded exercise tests (GXT) and analyze resulting data.
3. Investigate the U.S. News and World Report's 2010 ranking that shows Westmont College having the #1 Kinesiology Department in the nation.	X					Search the larger report for the criteria used.
4. Majors will modify their diets to fall within the ADA guidelines for healthy eating.		X				In KNS 040, students will conduct Pre/Post course nutrition analysis. 80% of the students will fall within standards established by ADA.
5. Investigate internship sites and determine the feasibility of requiring an internship component to the KNS major			X			Conduct on-site visits to three potential sites – a fitness center, a rehab facility and an international site. Develop a checklist to determine appropriate fit.
6. Investigate research sites and determine the feasibility of requiring a research component to the KNS major				X		Assign our next hire to establish a research agenda that includes undergraduate student participation.