

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2021

GOAL 7 for Occupational Therapy

LEARNING

One UND Strategic Plan Goal 7: Attract support for the University by actively engaging alumni and donors. Goal by 2022, increase alumni contribution participation to 10% and achieve targeted fund raising goals set for each Dean, Vice President, and President.

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Goal 7: The SMHS will achieve the targeted fund raising goals set for the SMHS Dean and Vice President for Health Affairs.

1. Describe if/how your unit has addressed this goal.

To meet the outcomes of Goal 7, the OT department participates as indicated in SMHS strategy to increase alumni funding support. Two methods used to recognize the significant role of alumni to the department are through thank you letters from department scholarship recipients sharing the impact of the scholarship on their educational goals, and through monthly birthday cards signing, which are split among faculty at both campuses. The department also actively works to promote benefits to alumni and has identified methods to maintain contact with alumni in addition to the two above-mentioned actions.

Annually the department hosts an alumni reception at the American Occupational Therapy Association National Conference, although the annual conference was held online in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID. In April 2021, the department hosted an online alumni event, with a solid turnout. This event and format will be examined for future years. Additionally, alumni are highlighted in a twice-yearly department newsletter.

In the 2020-2021 AY, a UND alumnus A UND Alumnus donated funding to establish a fund for students to apply for to support doctoral experiential placement (DEP) projects that serve ND children and their families. These funds have been announced to Year 3 OT students who are in the process of finalizing their DEP projects and applications will be accepted in fall 2021 for this funding opportunity. ● **On Track with existing strategies.**

Need to develop a systematic way to track and achieve the 10% level. Will start with including a request in newsletter and need to coordinate efforts with Alumni Foundation.

One concrete measure of alumni responsiveness to department actions is the establishment of student OT scholarships. The initial goal of establishing one department scholarship every three years has been exceeded, as the department currently has 9 department scholarships, with the most recent addition available for distribution in spring 2021. 13 students were awarded with OT Department scholarships for the 2021-2022 AY.

With regard to the alumnus DEP funding, the student application process is completed, and students have been notified of the opportunity to apply for funding for Spring 2022. At this time, no assessment data on awarding of scholarships is available, as the first application process in this fall.

Anecdotally, alumni frequently contact the department to share stories for the newsletter and offer help with guest speaking, express interest in adjunct instruction, and explore the requirements for fieldwork supervision. The OT department connection to alumni is very strong and results in many benefits to students through networking and financial support.

3. Describe how your unit analyzed these data and what assessments were determined.

Data regarding department scholarship funding and applicant qualifications are provided by the UND financial aid office to the Chair of the OT Scholarship Committee.

4. Describe how your unit will implement any further changes and what barriers may exist.

Future goals are to increase fundraising at the department level and to explore the requirements of an endowed chair/professor inside of the OT department.

PROVIDE A RATING OF YOUR PROGRESS ON THIS GOAL: ● On Track; ● Delayed; ● Behind

(additional space for text is provided on page 3 if needed)

Additional Information on Goal 7 (optional):

Insert any additional information here.