

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2020

GOAL 1 for **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES**

LEARNING

One UND Strategic Plan Goal 1: Provide a strong undergraduate liberal arts foundation
UND SMHS Strategic Plan Goal 1: SMHS Units that offer educational programs will expand their curricula to include learning outcomes that align with UND's Essential Studies goals.

- *Critical Inquiry and Analysis*
- *Quantitative Reasoning*
- *Written Communication*
- *Oral Communication*
- *Information Literacy*
- *Intercultural Knowledge and Skills*

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

DPAS has added multiple learning activities/assessments to our curriculum that address oral communication and critical inquiry and analysis.

1. Augmented a peer-learning, clinical reasoning lab to include:
 - a. The addition of an oral report of the encounter.
 - b. The addition of diagnostic studies interpretation and further clinical decision making.
2. Added additional written assignments that allow students the opportunity to practice medical note writing.

2. Describe how your efforts are measured/assessed.

From an individual perspective, all of the activities are assessed by faculty either in real-time or asynchronously. Feedback is provided to students immediately or after the asynchronous assignments are graded. Students requiring remediation are counseled further assessments are required. Clinical preceptors also rate how well each student performs in both clinical decision-making and oral presentation.

3. How were the data analyzed and what were the outcomes?

Data from these activities are analyzed by predetermined rubrics and percentage grading applied. Data from clinical preceptors are based on a Likert-type scale and analyzed individually and as a cohort and reported to the faculty which discuss and analyzed the data at weekly meetings or yearly planning sessions. Modifications to the activities/assessments are made if a gap is found in the curriculum. An example of one outcome is that students were found to be better prepared for oral reports of patient encounters by faculty with each new simulated patient event. Further data analysis will be performed once students return to clinical settings.

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

With the recent issues brought on by the COVID pandemic, further plans on hosting more simulated patient encounters before students go into actual clinical settings are being developed. Even though the UND PA curriculum was already had a blended type of delivery, we have found more ways to use standardized patients when students are not physically on campus. These new activities will offer opportunities for students to apply clinical history taking skills in a timelier fashion and likely improve their communication skills as a whole. The only barriers to that may exist would be budgetary (standardized patient reimbursement), but currently is feasible.

PROVIDE A RATING OF YOUR PROGRESS ON THIS GOAL: ● **On Track;** ● **Delayed;** ● **Behind**
(additional space for text is provided on page 2 if needed)

Additional Information on Goal 1 (optional):

Insert any additional information here.