Notification of Accreditation

Decision:

That the Rehabilitation Counselor Education Program at Western Oregon University be recognized for accreditation for eight years, said accreditation commencing with academic year 2008/2009 and continuing through the end of academic year 2015/2016. This decision assumes that the level of compliance with the standards for Rehabilitation Counselor Education Programs is maintained or enhanced through this period.

Summary:

Western Oregon University's Rehabilitation Counseling Program is a comprehensive, well-managed, and responsive program that meets the instructional needs of its students. The program has a well-defined mission and is clearly committed to meeting the rehabilitation needs of persons with disabilities. The program maintains strong partnerships with the Oregon Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and the Washington Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. It takes part in ongoing evaluation to ensure its continued quality and communicates well with those charged with the program's oversight including the Advisory Council, the Western Oregon University College of Education, CORE, and the Rehabilitation Services Administration. The program's curriculum addresses all of the required CORE competencies and employers and internship supervisors generally believe the program's students are well prepared to undertake rehabilitation counseling practice. Program faculty members are well qualified and committed to ensuring the proper preparation of their students to deliver high quality services to persons with disabilities. The program is well recognized and supported by members of the Western Oregon University administration. The university also provides great instructional support to the program's students to ensure their highest potential for academic and career success.

It is not clear if the university website meets national accessibility standards. The program objectives listed in the Western Oregon University catalog and the university website do not match. Finally, a first floor restroom in the College of Education building is not fully accessible to persons using wheelchairs.

This term of recognition is subject to the following conditions and recommendations:

Conditions:

None
Western Oregon University
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**Recommendations:**

1. The program is encouraged to review accessibility standards as listed in the "World Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) Web Accessibility Initiative" to guide their review. Also, the program should ensure that the objectives listed in the university catalog and website match. (A.1)

2. The program is encouraged to support and follow-up regarding the redesign of the first floor restroom in the College of Education to allow for full use by persons using wheelchairs. (F.3)

This decision reached in official session on July 17, 2008.

[Signature]

Linda R. Shaw, Ph.D., CRC
President

[Date]

July 17, 2008