



At its October 10, 2017 meeting, the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) reviewed the Report of On-Site Evaluation (ROSE) regarding the Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Indiana. All Standards were found to be compliant and ACOTE voted to Grant a Status of Accreditation for a period of 7 years. The Report of the Accreditation Council (RAC) cited the following major strengths of the program:

1. The administration is commended for their outward vision, which identified a need in the community and led to the development of the occupational therapy program. Their commitment has been returned by the community through engagement with the program in a variety of roles such as guest speakers, fieldwork educators, residency mentors and research collaborators. Students cite those interactions as being formative in their development as scholar-practitioners.
2. The program director has led the faculty through the complexities of building a quality occupational therapy program. Working collaboratively with the administration and faculty he has been instrumental in each aspect, including the design of the teaching spaces, the development of curriculum, and the care and advisement of the students. He provides the students an authentic model of the occupational therapist as a practitioner, researcher and advocate.
3. The academic fieldwork coordinator is recognized for the quality of communication with clinical educators, especially with non-occupational therapy clinicians. Clinical educators report the quality of their communication with the clinical educator is a key strength of their relationship with the occupational therapy program. This enhances the student learning experience for Level I and Level II fieldwork.
4. The faculty are commended for their development of multiple authentic learning opportunities utilizing the numerous and varied community partnerships they have developed in the greater Marion/Grant County area. These learning experiences enrich student learning and provide opportunities for students to develop critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills, appreciate the impact of health disparities on community health, develop skills for working with individuals from diverse backgrounds, and meet the needs of underserved populations.
5. The fieldwork educators are recognized for their enthusiasm and commitment to clinical education. They have created strong partnership with the academic program and created learning environments where students feel comfortable to ask questions and to take ownership of their learning. Fieldwork educators who are not occupational therapy professionals have been open to learning about occupational therapy education and their contributions to student education. Fieldwork education provides students opportunities to meet learning outcomes, particularly in the areas of advocacy, occupational therapy theory and evidence based practice.

6. Many students cited the trans-cultural experience as a reason they chose to attend the OTD program. This experience is designed to embrace the teaching philosophy of active learning while contributing to learning outcomes such as servant leadership, advocacy, and building a global perspective. The unique nature of the experience within the context of the overall curriculum has resulted in the development of residency experiences that have global reach.

Additionally, the Report of the Accreditation Council recommended the following suggestion to enhance the program:

1. **C.1.2 Criteria and process for selecting fieldwork** The program has established criteria and a process for selecting fieldwork sites, to include maintaining memoranda of understanding, complying with all site requirements, maintaining site objectives and site data and communicating this information to the students. It is suggested that the program develop a more centralized way for the students to access information about current fieldwork sites. This will inform the students about the range of sites available and allow them to make more informed choices.