



Commission on Accreditation in  
Physical Therapy Education  
American Physical Therapy Association

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NEXT MEETING DATES:

November 12-17, 2010

April 14-19, 2011

STAFF:

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May 19, 2010

Philip Pumerantz, PhD, LHD (Hon)  
President  
Western University of Health Sciences  
309 East Second Street  
Pomona, CA 91766-6188

Dear Dr Pumerantz:

At its April 23-28, 2010 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) considered the materials submitted by the physical therapist education program at Western University of Health Sciences. Enclosed please find a copy of the Summary of Action describing the results of the Commission's review.

The Summary of Action has two parts. The first part provides general information about the action taken by the Commission, including notices to the program. The second part provides a detailed description of the Commission's findings related to the program's compliance with individual evaluative criteria. In the interest of public disclosure of accreditation actions, the first part of the Summary of Action may be provided to the public on request. Additionally, a list of all actions taken at the April 23-28, 2010 meeting has been posted on CAPTE's web page:  
<http://www.capteonline.org>.

If you have any questions or need further assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact Ellen Price, PT, MEd, Associate Director, or Mary Jane Harris, PT, MS, Director, Department of Accreditation, at the above address.

Best wishes in your endeavors toward a high quality physical therapist education program.

Sincerely,

Karen A Paschal, PT, DPT, MS  
Chair, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education

cc: Ben Cohen, DO, FACOP, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chief Operating Officer  
Stephanie Bowlin, EdD, PA, Dean, College of Allied Health Professions  
✓Denise Schilling, PT, PhD, Chair and Associate Professor



**Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education  
American Physical Therapy Association**

**SUMMARY OF ACTION**

Department of Physical Therapy Education  
Western University of Health Sciences  
309 East Second Street  
Pomona, CA 91766-1854

On April 28, 2010, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education made the following decision regarding the physical therapist education program at Western University of Health Sciences.

**Status:** ACCREDITATION

**Action Taken:** Continue Accreditation

**Effective Date:** April 28, 2010

**Information Used to**

**Make Decisions:** Progress Report received February 12, 2010  
Additional Material received April 06, 2010 via e-mail  
Comments from Team Members

**Reason for Decision:** The Commission's decision to continue accreditation status is based on the program's demonstration of general compliance with the intent of the Evaluative Criteria and on the expectation that the program will, within two years of first being cited, bring itself into compliance with the remaining criteria noted in the Commission's Findings which are attached. That compliance must be appropriately documented in a Compliance Report which will be used by the Commission to determine compliance with the criteria noted in the Findings and to monitor compliance with all the criteria.

The program is reminded that the status of accreditation has been continued based on the program described in the materials reviewed by the Commission. The institution and program are responsible for notifying CAPTE of all substantive changes in the program prior to implementation. Unexpected substantive changes are to be reported immediately after they occur. (See Part 9 of CAPTE's Rules of Practice and Procedure for more information about reporting changes.)

**Next Activity:** Self-study Report and On-site Visit in 2018

**Notices:** The program is advised to heed the following notices which are appended (see page 2):

ACCURATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION BY THE  
INSTITUTION

TWO YEAR LIMITATION ON BEING OUT OF COMPLIANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF DECISIONS BY CAPTE

## NOTICES

### **ACCURATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THIS DECISION BY THE INSTITUTION**

The institution and program must make accurate public disclosure of the accreditation or preaccreditation status awarded to the program. Further, the United States Department of Education (USDE) requires all recognized accrediting agencies to provide for the public correction of incorrect or misleading information an institution or program releases about accreditation or preaccreditation status, contents of reports of on-site reviews, and accreditation or preaccreditation actions with respect to the institution or program. [34 CFR 602.23(d) and 602.23(e)] If the institution or program chooses to disclose any additional information, beyond the accreditation or preaccreditation status that is within the scope of the USDE rule, such disclosure also must be accurate. Any public disclosure of information within the scope of the rule must include the agency's street address, email address and phone number: Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; accreditation@apta.org; (703) 684-2782 or (703) 706-3245. If the Department of Accreditation finds that an institution or program has released incorrect or misleading information within the scope of the USDE rule, then, acting on behalf of CAPTE the Department will make public correction, and reserves the right to disclose this Summary of Action in its entirety for that purpose.

### **TWO YEAR LIMITATION ON BEING OUT OF COMPLIANCE**

CAPTE's recognition by the United States Department of Education requires a limitation of two years for programs to be out of compliance with an evaluative criterion. [34 CFR 602.20(a)(2)(iii)] When, after review of a Compliance Report, the program remains out of compliance with any criterion and sufficient progress toward compliance has not been demonstrated, CAPTE may act to place the program on probationary accreditation and/or shorten the accreditation cycle. If the program remains out of compliance with any criterion at the end of a two year period following the initial finding that a program is out of compliance, CAPTE will withdraw accreditation unless CAPTE judges the program to be making a good faith effort to come into compliance with the evaluative criteria, in which case CAPTE may determine to continue the accreditation cycle and to monitor the program's progress. CAPTE defines a "good faith effort" as 1) a completed comprehensive assessment of the problem/issue under review, 2) an appropriate plan for achieving compliance within a reasonable time frame, 3) a detailed timeline for completion of the plan, 4) evidence that the plan has been implemented according to the established timeline, and 5) reasonable assurance that the program can and will achieve compliance as stated in the plan.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF DECISIONS BY CAPTE**

Following all decisions, including decisions to place a program on probation or show cause, or to deny candidacy, withdraw candidacy, withhold accreditation, or withdraw accreditation, the Department of Accreditation will, within 24 hours of notifying the programs and institutions of the decisions, provide notice to the public by placing notice of the decisions on its web site.

**Commission's Findings:**

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education judged the program to be in compliance with the intent of the following previously cited evaluative criteria: P-4, P-14, F-3, R-4, R-8, R-11, CP-3, CP-4, CO-1 and CO-2.

**Consultative Comment:**

The program may wish to explore alternate methods of data collection to ensure sufficient data upon which to make judgments. The program is encouraged to prioritize the assessment findings and to judge whether these changes are needed and what the timelines will be for these changes. (Criterion P-4)