

Appendix B: Full Template

Cover/Signature Page – Full Template

Institution Submitting Request: University of Utah

Proposed Title: Recreational Therapy BA/BS

School or Division or Location: College of Health/ Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies

Department(s) or Area(s) Location: 520 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ : 51.2309

Proposed Beginning Date: Fall 2016

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

Regents' Agenda Items	
<i>R401-4 and R401-5 Approval by Committee of the Whole</i>	
SECTION NO.	ITEM
4.1.1 <input type="checkbox"/>	(AAS) Associate of Applied Science Degree
4.1.2 <input type="checkbox"/>	(AA) Associate of Arts Degree
	(AS) Associate of Science Degree
4.1.3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Specialized Associate Degree
4.1.4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Baccalaureate Degree
4.1.5 <input type="checkbox"/>	K-12 School Personnel Programs
4.1.6 <input type="checkbox"/>	Master's Degree
4.1.7 <input type="checkbox"/>	Doctoral Degree
5.2.2 <input type="checkbox"/>	(CER C) Certificate of Completion
5.2.4 <input type="checkbox"/>	Fast Tracked Certificate

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date:

Printed Name: Ruth V. Watkins, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Executive Summary – Full Template
University of Utah
Recreational Therapy BA/BS
10/9/2015

Program Description

Since the 1972 establishment of a bachelor's degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT), (former titles: Leisure Studies & Recreation, Recreation & Leisure), the Department of Recreation, in the College of Health (COH), has awarded a bachelor's degree with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation (henceforth Recreational Therapy or RT). Subsequently, the profession has continued to emerge into a vital health and human service profession with 75% of all recreational therapists currently working in medical/clinical settings (NCTRC, 2014), creating a need for a more intense health and clinical curricular content. The realignment of the COH has provided an opportunity to reposition RT from the prior PRT Department to the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies (OTRT) (previously the Division of Occupational Therapy). This change necessitates a move for the RT program from an emphasis within the bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT housed within the Department of OTRT. This realignment also allows for modification of the RT curriculum that is responsive to the varying skill sets needed for recreational therapists. For the purpose of this document the bachelor's degree includes the Bachelor's of Art (BA) and the Bachelor's of Science (BS) with requirements specified by the university. The new curriculum reflects a reduction in parks and recreation credits and an increase in health and clinically-oriented credits. Students can enter the Recreational Therapy program at any time in the pursuit of their bachelor's degree. However, typically, the introduction of coursework is in the students' junior year, with RT-specific coursework completed over the students' junior and senior semesters.

The new OTRT department has been previously described and approved in the realignment proposal for the College of Health.

Role and Mission Fit

The University of Utah's (the U) mission is to serve the state's and world's citizens through application and dissemination of knowledge to advance interdisciplinary inquiry, international involvement, and social responsibility. The U's current Recreational Therapy (RT) emphasis is one of only two RT programs in Utah and the only program at a public university. It has been one of only five emphasis programs in the Intermountain West. The RT program's move from being an emphasis within a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT within the Department of OTRT will make this program the only RT degree program in the state. Recreational therapists trained at the U play an important role in meeting the health care needs of Utah citizens. Sixty-five percent of all licensed Master Therapeutic Recreation Specialists and 53% of all licensed Therapeutic Recreation Specialists are U RT graduates. U graduates supervise or direct 85-90% of the RT clinical programs in Utah Medicare-approved long-term care facilities (State of Utah, Department of Professional Licensing, Oct. 31, 2011). This reflects the enormous social responsibility the UU-RT graduates have in assisting individuals with disabling conditions in prevention, habilitation, restoration and rehabilitation. The move of this program from an emphasis to a RT degree, and the alignment with other traditional health care professions will advance interdisciplinary inquiry and progress the academic preparation of this vital health care profession.

Faculty

1) Steven A. Bell Ph.D., TRS, CTRS, Assistant Professor (lecturer) has been with the PRT Department for 23 years, is the former Coordinator of the TR Emphasis and will be reallocated full time (1 FTE) to the

OTRT Department Fall, 2016; and 2) Sandra K. Negley MS., MTRS, CTRS, FDRT, Assistant Professor (lecturer) is a full-time career-line faculty who serves as the Coordinator of the Therapeutic Recreation Emphasis. Professor Negley has instructed in the PRT Department for 30 years, been a full time faculty member for 18 years, and will be reallocated to the Department of OTRT Fall, 2016. Ms. Negley will continue to coordinate Recreational Therapy Program as the Program Director.

Hiring an additional tenure-track faculty member is the first priority. This faculty member will be hired within two years of the program's approval (search initiated Fall, 2015). One additional career-line faculty member is also needed for teaching and to assist in the internship and field placement programs.

Market Demand

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that, in 2012, there were 19,800 jobs in RT. They predict a 13% job growth in this profession through 2022 as the growing elderly population develops a greater need for health care providers to assist them in staying healthy and independent. As noted above, 53% of all licensed Therapeutic Recreation Specialists in Utah are graduates of the U's RT emphasis. Approximately 85% of all new U graduates seeking a job in the profession are employed within six months of graduation. The U's RT students are well prepared and highly competitive nationally. According to the statics provided by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC), the U's RT students score 12.9% higher than the national average (U = 88.2%—National Average = 75.3%). Many U graduates hold administrative positions, clinical appointments and academic positions across the country. In addition, approximately 35% of all U's RT students seek advanced degrees in RT and other health and human service fields that require graduate training, such as Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Work, and Special Education.

Student Demand

Currently, the Recreational Therapy emphasis is the largest emphasis in the PRT Department's bachelor's degree, with just over 50 enrolled students that declare RT as an emphasis. Increased enrollment is expected with the increased visibility through the move to a bachelor's degree in RT in the Department of OTRT. Prior to the re-alignment of the COH, the Dean of the COH solicited feedback from the PRT Student Advisory Council (SAC) regarding the proposed changes. SAC conducted focus groups with the PRT students, and specifically targeted the RT students regarding the move of the RT Program. Student response was overwhelmingly positive in support of the realignment of the COH and the move of the RT Program. Students reinforced the need for a reduction in parks and recreation, with subsequent increase in health and clinically-oriented, credits. The students felt that the restricted number of RT classes was limiting their knowledge and understanding of the minimal competencies noted in the national job analysis in order to provide best practice to individuals with disabilities.

Statement of Financial Support

Appropriated Fund.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Special Legislative Appropriation.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grants and Contracts.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Fees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Differential Tuition (must be approved by the Regents).....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (student credit hours).....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Similar Programs Already Offered in the USHE

There are no other RT or Therapeutic Recreation degree programs within the USHE system. The only other RT program in the state of Utah is an emphasis within another degree program. Other Intermountain West region RT programs are also emphases areas within other degree programs.

Program Description – Full Template
University of Utah
Recreational Therapy BA/BS
10/9/2015

Section I: The Request

The University of Utah (UU) requests approval to offer a bachelor's degree in Recreational Therapy (RT) effective Fall semester 2016, housed in the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies (OTRT). For the purpose of this document the bachelor's degree includes the Bachelor's of Art (BA) and the Bachelor's of Science (BS) with requirements specified by the university. This program was previously offered as an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation under a bachelor's degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT). According to the College of Health (COH) May, 1972 minutes, the Division of Recreation was established in 1972 with the restructuring of the College of Health. In an interview with past PRT Chair, L. Dale Cruse, (1973- 1997), recreational therapy was one of 11 existing emphasis areas and has remained an emphasis throughout the following 43 years. The realignment of the COH has provided an opportunity to reposition recreational therapy from the prior PRT Department to the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies (OTRT) (previously the Division of Occupational Therapy). This realignment allows the RT program to be more closely associated with other traditional health care professions. There are both philosophical and pragmatic justifications for this realignment. Both Occupational Therapy and RT are professional education programs that train students as clinicians in the health care field. The commonalities in clinical training needs, administration, and accreditation make this transfer logical. This realignment will allow for greater efficiency and improved services and outcomes for students. However, it necessitates the move of the RT program from an emphasis area under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in Recreational Therapy within the Department of OTRT. This move facilitates the modification of the RT curriculum to be responsive to the increased and varying skill needs of recreational therapists.

Section II: Program Description

Complete Program Description

B.A or B.S. Degree in Recreational Therapy

RT is a health and human service profession that uses activity-based interventions as a part of the systematic RT process to improve the physical, social, emotional, cognitive and spiritual functioning and well-being of individuals with injury, illness, and/or disability to enable greater health, community engagement, and a greater quality of life. Individual and group counseling techniques are implemented through prescribed play, recreation, experiential activity and psycho-education processes. Recreational therapists also work with the individual and his/her support systems to develop specific leisure skills and the necessary resources to promote overall well-being and life satisfaction. Students in the bachelor's degree in Recreational Therapy program will take courses in recreational therapy theory, recreational therapy assessment and intervention techniques for individuals with varying disabling conditions, management and professionalism in recreational therapy, and a clinical internship to solidify real-world recreational therapy skills. Students engage in client-based experiences in order to develop an understanding of consumer health needs within community-based programs as well as treatment-based services.

The bachelor's degree in RT is designed to address all requirements of the NCTRC National Job Analysis, the American Therapeutic Recreation Association's (ATRA) curriculum guidelines, and CARTE standards.

The bachelor's degree in Recreational Therapy will prepare students to take the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification certification examination and become a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, a requirement in most states to practice as a recreational therapist.

Program and Course Offerings

College of Health

Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies

Mailing Address: 520 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

Phone: 801-585-9135

Website: www.health.utah.edu/ (New Department and RT Program web sites will be created)

Department Chairperson: Lorie Gage Richards, Ph.D., OTR/L

Program Director of RT: Sandra K. Negley, M.S., MTRS, CTRS, FDRT

Undergraduate Major

Recreational Therapy B.A or B.S.

Courses

Undergraduate Major

REC TH 3330	Foundations of Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
REC TH 3360	Assessment, Documentation and Evaluation in Recreational Therapy	4 Credits
REC TH 4300	Recreational Therapy and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities	3 Credits
REC TH 4310	Recreational Therapy and the Elderly	
Population/Lab		3 Credits
REC TH 4320	Recreational Therapy and Physical Medicine/Lab	3 Credits
REC TH 4330	Recreational Therapy and Mental Health Services/Lab	3 Credits
REC TH 5300	Management in Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
REC TH 5350	Advancement of Recreational Therapy Clinical and Professional Analysis	3 Credits
REC TH 5360	Techniques and Facilitation in Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
REC TH 5828	Recreational Therapy	
Internship		12 Credits

Purpose of Degree

Prior to the establishment of the Division of Recreation's bachelor's degree in 1972, an emphasis in RT has been awarded by the University of Utah. Throughout the years the profession has continued to emerge into a vital health profession with 75% of all recreational therapists currently working in medical/clinical settings (NCTRC, 2014). The realignment of the COH has provided an opportunity to reposition Recreational Therapy from the prior PRT Department to the Department of OTRT (previously the Division of Occupational Therapy). This change necessitates the move of the RT program from its current status as an emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree within the Department of OTRT. The realignment also allows for the development of an enhanced RT curriculum that is responsive to the varying skill-set needs of recreational therapists. The new curriculum reflects a reduction in parks and recreation credits and an increase in health and clinically-oriented credits. Currently, there are just over 50 enrolled students in the emphasis area and between 25-30 seek the emphasis each year. Increased enrollment is expected with the health-related visibility through the creation of a RT Degree in the Department of OTRT.

The U's RT emphasis has been one of only two RT Programs in the State of Utah and the only program at a public university. It has been one of only five emphasis programs in the Intermountain West and will be the sole RT degree granting program. Recreational Therapy is a licensed health care profession in the State of Utah and the U is the primary academic institution in the preparation of these professionals. This program is critical in providing Utah and the entire region with sufficient numbers of recreational therapists to meet its health care needs. In addition, the RT undergraduate degree serves as an excellent bachelor's degree for students who aim to seek advanced RT education or training in other professional degrees in the health and human service fields that require graduate training, such as Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Work, Special Education, and Medicine. Approximately 35% of all U's RT students seek such advanced degrees.

Institutional Readiness

Because the proposal is for a move of an existing educational offering (RT emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT), it is not expected that additional administrative structures or supports will be needed. The new structure has already been accomplished by the COH realignment and the change of the Division of Occupational Therapy to the Department of OTRT. The Department of OTRT has a chair and support staff (2.9 FTE) who can easily absorb the work required by adding this program. The departmental structure already consists of the chair with program directors for each of its current program offerings. The addition of the RT Degree will add an additional program director to the department. The current RT faculty members will be reallocated to the OTRT Department. One of the current RT faculty members will continue to direct the RT program. The new centralized undergraduate Center for Student Success in the COH will take on most of the advising for the program, therefore limiting the work to existing department staff. There is a need for two additional faculty members for this degree, a tenure-track faculty to support the educational program and an RT research agenda. An additional career-line faculty member is needed to assist in teaching and in the internship and field placement components of the program. The plan is to hire the tenure-track faculty member within two years of the program's approval (search initiated Fall, 2015) with current existing funds. The career-line faculty will be hired within the first year and will be supported by funds generated by increased enrollment and SCH dollars.

Moving the RT program from a RT emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT is not anticipated to negatively impact, in any way, the delivery of the undergraduate education. Rather, students are likely to be positively impacted by an enhanced curriculum and greater interdisciplinary experiences with other traditional health care professionals. The creation of the degree will result in greater visibility for the RT Program and is likely to serve a greater number of students in the future.

The faculty discussed the bachelor's degree in RT program in a faculty meeting on 9/29/2015 and faculty comments were positive. A formal vote for the program occurred on 10/9/2015 with the following outcome: 5 approve, 0 negative, 0 abstain, 6 absent.

Departmental Faculty

Department Faculty Category	Dpt Faculty Headcount – Prior to Program Implementation	Faculty Additions to Support Program	Dpt Faculty Headcount at Full Program Implementation
With Doctoral Degrees (Including MFA and other terminal degrees, as specified by the institution)			
Full-time Tenured	0	1	5
Full-time Non-Tenured	0.5	0.5	6
Part-time Tenured	0	0	0
Part-time Non-Tenured	0	0	0
With Master's Degrees			
Full-time Tenured	0	0	0
Full-time Non-Tenured	1	1	2
Part-time Tenured	0	0	0
Part-time Non-Tenured	0	0	0
With Bachelor's Degrees			
Full-time Tenured	0	0	0
Full-time Non-Tenured	0	0	0
Part-time Tenured	0	0	0
Part-time Non-Tenured	0	0	0
Other			
Full-time Tenured			
Full-time Non-Tenured			
Part-time Tenured			
Part-time Non-Tenured			
Total Headcount Faculty in the Department			
Full-time Tenured	0	1	5
Full-time Non-Tenured	1.5	1.5	8
Part-time Tenured	0	0	0
Part-time Non-Tenured			
Total Department Faculty FTE <i>(As reported in the most recent A-1/S-11 Institutional Cost Study for "prior to program implementation" and using the A-1/S-11 Cost Study Definition for the projected "at full program implementation.")</i>	1.5	2.5	13

The Department Faculty Headcount – Prior to Program Implementation information accounts for the RT program only. It does not include data for the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department in which the RT program is currently housed. Future data includes RT and its new departmental information from Occupational Therapy (total count of faculty in the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies).

Staff

No additional staff are expected to be needed with the addition of this program.

Library and Information Resources

Library resources are already sufficient to meet the needs of this program. No changes in resources will be necessary as the program moves from an emphasis to a degree program.

Admission Requirements

There are no specific admission requirements for the bachelor's degree in RT. Students can enter the program at any time in the pursuit of their bachelor's degree. However, typically the introduction of coursework has been, and it is expected to continue to be, in the students' junior year and the recreational therapy-specific coursework completed over the student's junior and senior semesters.

Student Advisement

The majority of the student advising will occur in the COH's new Center for Student Success (CSS), a centralized undergraduate advising center for the College. While this center has multiple advisors to assist RT students, the center will have one advisor specifically assigned to the RT degree program. The program director will advise students who are in the RT program regarding program requirements for graduation. The administrative assistant in the OTRT department will also assist the CSS and program director in advising pre-RT students regarding admissions and graduation requirements as she does with pre-occupational therapy and admitted occupational therapy students.

Justification for Graduation Standards and Number of Credits

Recreational Therapy Major Requirements-Credits 69-71

Computer proficiency

First Aid/CPR

Professional Membership: URTA and/or ATRA

Core Courses: Credits 40

RT 3300	Foundations of Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
RT 3360	Assessment, Documentation, and Evaluation in Recreational Therapy	4 Credits
RT 4300	Recreational Therapy and Mental Health Services/Lab	3 Credits
RT 4310	Recreational Therapy and Physical Medicine/Lab	3 Credits
RT 4320	Recreational Therapy and the Elderly Population/Lab	3 Credits
RT 4330	Recreational Therapy and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities	3 Credits
RT 4360	Techniques and Facilitation in Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
RT 5300	Management in Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
RT 5350	Advancement of Recreational Therapy Clinical and Professional Analysis	3 Credits
RT 5828	Recreational Therapy Practicum	12 Credits

Supportive Course Work: Credits 26

BIOL 2325	Human Anatomy	4 Credits
BIOL 2420	Human Physiology (AS)	4 Credits
	Or	
HEDU 4650	Anatomy and Physiology for Health (on-line)	
ESS 3092	Kinesiology	3 Credits
PSY 3400	Psychology of Abnormal Behavior	3 Credits
FCS 1500	Human Development/Lifespan	3 Credits
	Or	
NURS 2100	Lifespan Growth and Development	
SOC 3112	Social Stats (QB & QI)	3 Credits
PRT 5395	Financial Management (QI)	3 Credits

HEDU 5100	Health Care in the USA	3 Credits
	Or	
HEDU 3050	Community Health Issues	
	Or	
SOC 3671	Sociology of Health	
	Or	
FCS 5430	Families, Consumers and Health	
	Or	
POLS 5324	Disabilities Studies	

Electives: Credits 3

A minimum of one three credit class will be taken as an elective. Students may choose from the social sciences or humanities. The class will need to contribute to understanding of health and human services and/or reinforce the students' areas of specialization. If supportive course work is less than 26 credits, additional electives will be added to enhance supportive coursework hours.

The RT degree will seek accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)-Committee on Accreditation of Recreational Therapy Education (CARTE). All standards have been reviewed as a part of the development of the RT degree program should be able to seek accreditation within the first year. The cost of the accreditation process will be approximately \$5000 initial accreditation process with a subsequent \$450.00 annual fee. The Therapeutic Recreation Emphasis in the PRT Department is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (COAPRT) and has been for over 20 years. The more stringent CARTE accreditation will highlight the progression of the RT degree, at the U.

Faculty Consultation: Faculty in the COH have had multiple opportunities to provide feedback on the COH realignment and subsequent program moves. A re-alignment Committee, consisting of two faculty from each existing department or division, was created Fall 2014. The committee members sought feedback about five possible models from their respective department/division faculty. The Dean met with the entire COH faculty and staff as an additional opportunity to provide feedback. Existing PRT and Occupational Therapy faculty have been supportive of the move. Faculty expressed the need to maintain a tie with recreation and the need to clearly communicate to students the difference between the professions. Both concerns have been addressed in the curricular revision. The RT faculty held a meeting with the RT Advisory Board to discuss the possible move from an emphasis program to a degree-granting program. The Advisory Board was overwhelming supportive of the change and several provided feedback in focus meetings and in writing.

Prior to the re-alignment of the COH the Dean of the COH also solicited feedback from the PRT Student Advisory Council regarding the proposed changes. The council conducted focus groups with the PRT students and specifically solicited student feedback from the RT students regarding the move of the RT Program. The RT student responses was overwhelmingly positive in support of the realignment and the development of a bachelor's degree in RT.

Projected Program Enrollment and Graduates; Projected Departmental Faculty/Students

Data Category	Current – Prior to New Program Implementation	PROJ YR 1	PROJ YR 2	PROJ YR 3	PROJ YR 4	PROJ YR 5
Data for Proposed Program						
Number of Graduates in Proposed Program	23	23	27	27	30	30
Total # of Declared Majors in Proposed Program	53	53	60	60	65	65
Departmental Data – For All Programs Within the Department						
Total Department Faculty FTE (<i>as reported in Faculty table above</i>)	1.5	12	13	13	13	13
Total Department Student FTE (<i>Based on Fall Third Week</i>)	49	155	162	162	167	167
Student FTE per Faculty FTE (<i>ratio of Total Department Faculty FTE and Total Department Student FTE above</i>)	33	13	12	12	13	13
Program accreditation-required ratio of Student FTE/Faculty FTE, if applicable: (Provide ratio here: _____)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Current-Prior to New Program Implementation information accounts for the RT program only. It does not include data for the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism department in which the RT program is currently housed. Projected data includes RT and its new departmental information from Occupational Therapy (total count of faculty and students in the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies).

Expansion of Existing Program

This is not an expansion, but a move from an emphasis area to a degree granting status as a part of the COH realignment. Gradual increased enrollment is expected with the increased visibility through the creation of a RT degree in the Department of OTRT.

Section III: Need

Program Need

This is not an initiation of a new offering at the U but a realignment in the COH, moving the RT program from an emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT within the Department of OTRT. It is the only RT program at a public institution in Utah and continues to have high student demand. Currently, there are 53 declared students in the emphasis area and just over 60 involved in the emphasis, with 25-30 seeking the emphasis each year. Increased enrollment is expected with the health-related visibility through the creation of the RT degree. Recreational Therapy is a licensed health care profession in Utah and the U is the primary academic institution in the preparation of these professionals. Statistics from the State of Utah, Department of Professional Licensing (Oct. 31, 2011) demonstrate the role recreational therapists trained at the U play in meeting the health care needs of Utah citizens. Sixty-five percent (65%) of all licensed Master Therapeutic Recreation Specialists and 53% of all licensed Therapeutic Recreation

Specialists are U RT graduates. University of Utah graduates supervise or direct 85-90% of the RT clinical programs in the Medicare approved long term care facilities in Utah. The move to a bachelor's degree in RT and alignment with other traditional health care professional programs will advance interdisciplinary inquiry and progress the academic preparation of this vital health and human service profession. This program is critical in providing the State of Utah and the Intermountain West Region with sufficient numbers of recreational therapists.

The merging of RT and Occupational Therapy into a single department is logical both philosophically and pragmatically. Both Occupational Therapy and RT are professional education programs that train students as clinicians in the health care field. The professions share a philosophical view of the importance of engagement in meaningful activities to health. The commonalities in clinical training needs, administration, and accreditation make this administrative transfer logical. This realignment will allow for greater efficiency and improved services and outcomes for students. This realignment requires that RT be an independent degree program as it will no longer reside within the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department.

Labor Market Demand

The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that the job growth for recreational therapists will grow by 13% through the year 2022, especially as the population ages and there is greater need for health care professionals to assist people in prevention and independent functioning to maintain and improve quality of life. The recreational therapist, as part of a health care team or a human service team accomplishes these goals through the strategic use of recreational activities and programs.

Alumni are employed in long term care, inpatient-hospitals, outpatient programs, substance abuse treatment, residential treatment, adult day care centers, school systems, and community-based recreation and human service programs. In addition, approximately 35% of all UU-RT students seek advanced degrees in RT and other health and human service fields that require graduate training, such as Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Work, and Special Education.

The move of the RT program from an emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT within the Department of OTRT will contribute to the 66% by 2020 campaign by continuing to offer a health and human service profession that is growing in demand, is predominately female (82%, NCTRC professional profile), is a highly marketable professional education to undergraduate students, and provides a professional practice (career) with a bachelor's degree. In addition, this degree serves as a gateway undergraduate degree to multiple advanced degrees in Recreational Therapy and other health and human service professions. It is important to note that some of the students who obtain graduate degrees in Recreational Therapy, themselves, contribute to the 66% by 2020 campaign by becoming educators of Recreational Therapy Technicians (TRT), a post-secondary certification.

Student Demand

Currently, the RT emphasis in the PRT bachelor's degree has 53 students who declare RT as their emphasis. The RT emphasis is the largest emphasis area in the PRT degree. Increased enrollment is expected with the increased visibility through the move to a bachelor's degree in RT, in the Department of OTRT. Recreational Therapy students have communicated overwhelmingly in support of the move of the RT program. Students reinforced the need for a reduction in parks and recreation credits and an increase in health and clinically-oriented credits in order to meet the professions minimal competencies noted in the national job analysis and for advanced practice.

Similar Programs

The current RT Program is the only RT or Therapeutic Recreation degree-granting program at a public university in Utah. It is one of only two programs in the state and one of only 5 programs in the Intermountain West. The bachelor's degree in RT will be the only RT bachelor's degree in the state of Utah. The consistent student demand speaks to the importance of keeping a RT program at the U and the inability of other regional programs to adequately meet student demand. Rather than the creation of an entirely new program at the U, this application is for a move of the existing program from an emphasis area under a bachelor's degree in PRT to a bachelor's degree in RT within the Department of OTRT.

Collaboration with and Impact on Other USHE Institutions

At this time no collaboration has taken place with other USHE institutions regarding a bachelor's degree in RT. There has been prior discussion with other USHE institutions that offer Degrees in Recreation of creative ways to assist students in rural areas in transferring to complete a degree or emphasis in RT. These opportunities along with an on-line or hybrid bachelor's degree in RT will be considered at a future time.

Benefits

The U has been recognized as one of the leading institutions in RT preparation for the past twenty years. The RT faculty have been recognized at both state and national levels for their contributions to the profession and their academic preparation of students. Utah is one of four states in the country that require licensing to practice RT and over 50% of all licensed therapists in Utah are U graduates. These statistics contribute to the U's reputation as an outstanding academic degree granting institution.

The benefits to the students seeking a bachelor's degree in RT, rather than a RT emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT, are enormous. The reduction of recreation and park focused courses to more health and clinically-driven courses will better prepare students for the continuous changes in the health care sector, where the majority of RT graduates are employed. It will also prepare the students who seek employment in more community-based settings with greater knowledge and experience with specific populations and advanced leadership skills, opening up a wider job market. The move to the Department of OTRT will allow the RT students increased opportunities for interdisciplinary education and experiences with other traditional health care professional students, such as the future involvement of the RT students in the Health Science Center's Interprofessional Education experiences. Currently these experiences are completed by Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Nutrition, Speech Language Pathology, and Audiology students in the College of Health. Students in the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department, RT's current home, have been excluded from these experiences. The move to the OTRT Department will facilitate the inclusion of RT students in these experiences. This interdisciplinary approach will allow the RT student to interact and collaborate with those they will clinically practice with upon graduation.

The Greater Salt Lake area looks to the U's RT program and the RT students to lead in community involvement and to help serve specialty programs serving individuals with disabilities. Programs like: Special Olympics, National Ability Center, Utah School for the Deaf and Blind, University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute, Veterans Administration, Maple Lake Academy, Vista Adolescent Treatment Centers, numerous long term care facilities, etc. count on the support of the RT faculty and students. This change will increase the opportunities to expand community engagement through academic lab experiences and service learning coursework.

USHE benefits as there is not another RT or Therapeutic Recreation program in the USHE system. The State of Utah needs well-trained recreational therapists to meet the state's health care needs. USHE and the UU reputations will be enhanced by students who graduate from this program who are highly trained as innovative and effective health and human service providers.

It is anticipated that the realignment of RT with Occupational Therapy will enhance the visibility of the Department of OTRT's current academic programs and facilitate the recruitment of new students to the University of Utah. Administrative efficiencies will be gained through the combination of the units.

Consistency with Institutional Mission

The mission of the U reflects the responsibility to serve the citizens of the state and world through application and dissemination of knowledge in the quest to advance interdisciplinary inquiry, international involvement, and social responsibility. The U has the following 4 core goals: promote student success to transform lives, develop and transfer new knowledge, engage communities to improve health and quality of life, and ensure long-term viability of the U. The bachelor's RT degree addresses each of these core goals. The U's RT emphasis has been one of only two RT programs in the State of Utah and the only program at a public university. It has been one of only five emphasis programs in the Intermountain West and will be the sole bachelor's degree in RT. The educational experience in RT transforms the lives of the students in the program by providing a solid education in a marketable profession. Recreational therapists assist individuals with disabling conditions, and illnesses, in developing knowledge, skills, and behaviors to improve functioning for greater health and community engagement. A qualified recreational therapist must have both academic and applied training and this is the primary mission and of the COH and the UU. The expansion of the RT program, with the additional faculty hires, will allow for the development of a research platform in RT that will generate new evidence for the practice of RT. The re-alignment of the COH which created the merging of RT and Occupational Therapy, increases the efficiency of the College, contributing to the sustainability of the U.

66% by 2020

The creation of the Department of OTRT make it possible to move a well-subscribed undergraduate program, a RT emphasis under a bachelor's degree in PRT, into a more visible location as a bachelor's degree in RT with the Department of OTRT that currently does not house an undergraduate degree offering. This increased visibility may encourage additional enrollment as students begin to see this as a viable undergraduate degree to pursue on their path toward graduate education. In addition, this undergraduate program produces frontline healthcare providers at the bachelor's degree level: Certified Recreational Therapists.

Section IV: Program and Student Assessment

Program Assessment

1. To support students in completing recreational therapy coursework with a C or better in order to successfully graduate.
 - o Prior to the completion of the students' first semester in the RT program, a documented degree plan will be completed and placed in student file.
 - o Maintain an 85% retention rate of students in RT program by the 3rd graduating class.
 - o Maintain an 85% graduation rate of RT students as documented each spring in graduation records.

- Ninety percent (90%) of students will graduate within five semesters upon declaring a major in RT major.
- 2. To prepare students to meet the requirements for Utah professional licensing and national certification.
 - Recreational Therapy students will successfully complete a clinical internship from an approved best practice site that addresses all job tasks on the NCTRC Job Analysis with a C or better on first attempt (target = 98%).
 - The RT Program will maintain an 82% pass rate or better on the First-time Candidate report provided by NCTRC.
 - RT Program will complete an annual curriculum review that will entail: measurement of program objectives, compliance with accreditation standards, review of each class's curriculum guidelines and objectives. Review will be documented in program annual report and submitted to department chair.
- 3. To provide quality internship placements to assist in learning the critical clinical job skills.
 - Develop and maintain a minimum of 30 sites that meet at least minimal standards of the RT internship best practices standards (U's RT Best Practice Manual) to ensure availability of internships.
 - Clinical internship supervisors will submit a minimum of one mid-evaluation and one final student evaluation to student and RT Program. This evaluation will document students' abilities according to the NCTRC Job Analysis (target=100%).
 - Clinical internship supervisors will meet or have direct contact a minimum of one time with academic supervisor during each student placement to discuss student progress, student's knowledge base and ability to perform clinical services.
- 4. To prepare students to understand and assume the role as advocates for individuals with disabilities as well as for the profession.
 - Recreational Therapy students will volunteer a minimum of 10 hours a semester with individuals with disabilities as recorded through student records (target = 90%).
 - Recreational Therapy students will join a minimum of one professional organization in order to encourage involvement in professional activities and to support professional networking (target = 100%).
- 5. To support students in securing jobs in the profession or seeking advanced graduate education.
 - Provide routine advising by program director or other RT faculty as appointed a minimum of one time per year, as noted in student record.
 - Job announcements will be placed on social media sites, RT bulletin boards, and announced through internship classes.
 - Students will be required to join a minimum of one professional organization in order to encourage professional networking.
 - Recreational Therapy graduates who seek acceptance into graduate programs will be accepted into such programs within 1 year of graduation (target = 85%).
 - Recreational Therapy graduates who seek RT-related employment will obtain such employment within six months of graduation (target = 80%).

Expected Standards of Performance

The following is the link to the Standards and Guidelines of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs-Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Recreational Therapy. These standards and guidelines were established in a joint effort of the CAAHEP, CARTE and ATRA and were used in the development of curriculum and evaluation procedures for the UU-

RT Degree and also includes in Appendix B the Curriculum Competency Requirements. Each of these competencies have been assigned to one or more of the RT core classes. Each syllabus will identify the competencies to be addressed and the form of evaluation for the competency.

Link: <http://www.caahep.org/carte>

Section V: Finance

Three-Year Budget Projection								
Departmental Data	Current Recreational Therapy Budget – Prior to New Program Implementation	Current Occupational Therapy Budget – Prior to New Program Implementation	Departmental Budget					
			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3	
			Addition to Budget	Total Budget	Addition to Budget	Total Budget	Addition to Budget	Total Budget
Personnel Expense								
Salaries and Wages	\$136,560	\$1,039,671	\$68,000	\$1,244,231	\$56,000	\$1,300,231		\$1,300,231
Benefits	\$56,567	\$214,313	\$23,000	\$293,880	\$1,900	\$295,780		\$295,780
Total Personnel Expense	\$193,127	\$1,253,984	\$91,000	\$1,538,111	\$57,900	\$1,596,011	\$0	\$1,596,011
Non-Personnel Expense								
Travel	\$6,000	\$39,700	\$6,000	\$51,700	\$2,000	\$53,700		\$53,700
Capital	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0
Library	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0
Current Expense	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0
Total Non-Personnel Expense	\$0	\$224,905	\$0	\$224,905		\$224,905		\$224,905
Total Expense (Personnel + Current)	\$6,000	\$264,605	\$6,000	\$276,605	\$2,000	\$278,605	\$0	\$278,605
	\$199,127	\$1,518,589	\$97,000	\$1,814,716	\$59,900	\$1,874,616	\$0	\$1,874,616
Departmental Funding								
Appropriated Fund		\$510,571	\$290,000	\$800,571	\$60,000	\$860,571		\$860,571
Other: SCH, Productivity	\$59,500	\$308,135	\$27,300	\$335,435	\$56,700	\$392,135		\$392,135
Special Legislative Appopr.				\$0		\$0		\$0
				\$0		\$0		\$0
Grants and Contracts		\$23,000	\$23,000	\$46,000		\$46,000		\$46,000
Special Fees / Differential Tuition	\$0	\$700,520	\$100	\$700,620	\$100	\$700,720	\$100	\$700,820
Total Revenue	\$59,500	\$1,542,226	\$340,400	\$1,882,626	\$116,800	\$1,999,426	\$100	\$1,999,526
Difference								

Revenue-Expense	-\$139,627	\$23,637	\$243,400	\$67,910	\$56,900	\$124,810	\$100	\$124,910
Dept Instruct Cost / Student Credit Hour* (as reported in inst Cost Study for "current" and using the same Cost Study Definition for "projected")	\$59,500	\$306,503	\$27,300	\$333,803	\$56,700	\$390,503	\$	\$390,503

The Current-Prior information accounts for the RT program only. It does not include data for the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department in which the RT program is currently housed. Project data includes RT and its new departmental information from Occupational Therapy (Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies).

Funding Sources

This program will be funded via existing state appropriation (reallocated from current department to the new department) and student tuition (SCH). Funds for the new tenure line RT faculty will come initially from existing funds within the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies, but on-going financial support will come from new monies allocated to the Department from the College of Health Dean's office. The additional part-time career-line faculty member will be funded from the additional student credit hours and productivity funds generated by the enhanced RT curriculum.

Reallocation

Funds will be reallocated from the current COH, Department of PRT budget.

Impact on Existing Budgets

The impact to the College of Health is expected to be minimal from the move of the RT program to a bachelor's degree in RT within the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies as students will continue to take the same number of credits within the College as they did prior to the move.

The impact on the existing Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies budget is minimal. There is no change expected in the numbers of students and the funds covering the two existing faculty are being transferred from the existing PRT budget. Funds for the new tenure line RT faculty member is being added to the Department's budget from College of Health funds. Funds for the career line faculty member will be covered by student credit hour funds generated from the RT program. As the enrollment is expected to grow with the increased exposure this program will bring, the increased student credit hour funding will have a positive impact on the department's budget.

Initially, the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department is expecting a loss of \$30,372 of student credit hour-generated funds due to the reduction in PRT coursework taken by RT students. The reduction in PRT coursework was necessary to obtain credit hours to provide increased educational content in clinical topics

needed to meet future employment expectations and accreditation standards. This is likely to be offset somewhat by the number of PRT courses taken as electives by students in the RT program.

Faculty Consultation

In September 2014, the Dean of the College of Health appointed a Realignment Task Force comprised of junior and senior tenure-line and career-line faculty, representing each of the seven Departments/Divisions in the College. The Task Force met every other week throughout the fall semester. During the process, Task Force members communicated with their own faculty to gather input. Initially, the work focused on research of peer institutions nationally to gain insight into varied organizational structures. Examples of peer institutions reviewed included, but were not limited to: Arizona State University, Boston University, Ohio State University, Penn State, Purdue University, Texas A&M University, University of Delaware, and University of Florida. As a supplement to this research, information regarding the statistics for each current College of Health Department/Division in terms of SCH production, numbers of faculty, faculty to student ratios, and research expenditures were gathered and shared with the Task Force. Based on this research, five models were created and discussed. Subsequent discussions centered on characterizing the relative merits of the different models in comparison to our existing structure and in their ability to meet the objectives outlined above. The culmination of the committee's work was the College of Health Realignment Task Force Final Report. The merger of RT and Occupational Therapy to become the Department of OTRT was a recommendation in the Task Force Report.

College Review

A College of Health Faculty and Staff meeting was held on December 17, 2014 to discuss the Realignment Task Force Final Report. In addition, the College of Health Council, comprised of faculty, staff, and students, met on January 23, 2015 to discuss the report. The Dean of the College also met with the Dean's Student Advisory Council, which included undergraduate and graduate students from each Department/Division, on January 23, 2015 to solicit student feedback and recommendations relative to the Report. Ongoing conversations regarding the realignment process with the Dean and the Dean's Advisory Council continued throughout the fall and spring semesters. Finally, the Dean hosted meetings in February 2015 that brought together faculty and staff in the proposed Department of OTRT. This meeting addressed the resources that would be crucial to the success of the program transfer. In addition, the Dean convened a meeting of all of the staff in the College to ensure an opportunity for input. All meetings were facilitated by Mary Anne Berzins, Assistant Vice President, Human Resources.

In general, faculty responses to the proposed merger of RT and Occupational Therapy as the Department of OTRT have been positive. There is excitement about increased opportunities for collaboration around research and teaching, interprofessional education, and educational and administrative efficiencies. The staff proposed a number of potential ideas for administrative realignment. Students were consulted and their feedback was incorporated into the final proposals. There have not been substantive concerns expressed relative to fair treatment of students, staff, or faculty.

Section VI: Bachelor's Program Curriculum

All Program Courses (with New Courses in Bold)

Course Prefix and Number	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
REC TH 3330	Foundations of Recreational Therapy	3
REC TH 3360	Assessment, Documentation and evaluation in Recreational Therapy	4
REC TH 4300	Recreational Therapy and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities/Lab	3
REC TH 4310	Recreational Therapy and the Elderly Population/Lab	3
REC TH 4320	Recreational Therapy and Physical Medicine/Lab	3
REC TH 4330	Recreational Therapy and Mental Health Services/Lab	3
REC TH 5300	Management in Recreational Therapy	3
REC TH 5350	Advancement of Recreational Therapy Clinical and Professional Analysis	3
REC TH 5360	Techniques and Facilitation in Recreational Therapy	3
REC TH 5828	Recreational Therapy Internship	12
Sub-Total		40
Supportive Courses		
BIOL 2325	Human Anatomy	4
BIOL 2420 or HEDU 4650	Human Physiology (AS) or Anatomy and Physiology for Health	4
ESS 3092	Kinesiology	3
PSY 3400	Psychology of Abnormal Behavior	3
FCS 1500 or NURS 2100	Human Development/Lifespan or Lifespan Growth and Development	3
SOC 3112	Social Stats (QB & QI)	3
PRT 5395	Financial Management (OI)	3
HEDU 5100 or HEDU 5300	Health Care in the USA or Alternate health care class from approved list	3
Sub		26
Elective Courses		
	Open to a Social Science or Humanities Course	3
Sub-Total		3
Track/Options	(if applicable)	
Sub-Total		
Total Number of Credits		69

A minimum of one three credit class will be needed for elective courses. Students may choose from social sciences or humanities. The class(es) will need to contribute to understanding of health, human services and/or student specialization. If supportive coursework is less than 26 credit hours additional electives will be added to enhance supportive coursework.

Program Schedule

University of Utah
Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies
Recreational Therapy Degree Plan

Fall 2016-16 credits

REC TH 3330	Foundations of Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
REC TH 4300	Recreational Therapy and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities/Lab	3 Credits
BIOL 2325	Human Anatomy	4 Credits
SOC 3112	Social Stats (QB & QI)	3 Credits
HEDU 5100	Health Care in the USA	3 Credits
	Or	
	Alternate health care class on approved list	
	HEDU 3050 Community Health Issues	
	SOC 3671 Sociology of Health	
	FCS 5430 Families, Consumers and Health	
	POLS 5324 Disabilities Studies	

Spring 2017-14 credits

REC TH 3360	Assessment, Documentation and Evaluation in Recreational Therapy	4 Credits
REC TH 4310	Recreational Therapy and the Elderly Population/Lab	3 Credits
BIOL 2420	Human Physiology (AS)	4 Credits
FCS 500	Human Development/Lifespan	3 Credits
	Or	
NURS 2100	Lifespan Growth and Development	

Summer 2017 None

Fall 2017-15 Credits

ESS 3092	Kinesiology	3 Credits
PRT 5395	Financial Management (QI)	3 Credits
REC TH 5360	Techniques and Facilitation in Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
REC TH 4320	Recreational Therapy and Physical Medicine/Lab	3 Credits
PSY 3400	Psychology of Abnormal Behavior	3 Credits

Spring 2018-12 Credits

REC TH 5350	Advancement of Recreational Therapy Clinical and Professional Analysis	3 Credits
REC TH 4330	Recreational Therapy and Mental Health Services/Lab	3 Credits
REC TH 5300	Management in Recreational Therapy	3 Credits
	Elective	3 Credits

Summer 2018-12 Credits

REC TH 5828	Recreational Therapy Internship	12 Credits
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Section VII: Faculty

Sandra K. Negley, M.S., MTRS, CTRS, FDRT

Steven A. Bell, Ph.D., TRS, CTRS
TBA, new tenure-track faculty member
TBA, new career-line faculty member



COMMUNICATION SCIENCES
AND DISORDERS

EXERCISE AND
SPORT SCIENCE

HEALTH PROMOTION
AND EDUCATION

NUTRITION

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PARKS, RECREATION
AND TOURISM

PHYSICAL THERAPY

October 5, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

In July, the College of Health received all necessary approvals to engage in an administrative realignment. Part of our new structure involved the creation of the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies. This Department was created to capitalize on the synergies between Occupational Therapy and Recreational Therapy and to create a space for these programs to coexist (as they currently reside in two departments).

With this letter I convey my full endorsement for transferring the Recreational Therapy program from the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism into the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies in the College of Health, effective fall 2016. This transfer will build upon existing collaboration between these two fields of study in both classroom instruction and clinical practice.

A priority within the health care professions is the development of new initiatives around interprofessional practice (IPP) and interprofessional education (IPE). The Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies will create new opportunities for faculty and staff to work together on IPP and IPE programs and will foster new interdisciplinary research efforts.

The Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies will also strengthen and support important collaborations with the College of Health and Health Sciences. I also anticipate allocating additional resources in support of this new department. By way of example, we are currently searching for a senior tenure line faculty member in Recreational Therapies to join the College of Health fall 2016.

I would be pleased to provide any additional information or justification in support of the transfer of the Recreational Therapy program to the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies. Thank you for your consideration of this important academic realignment.

Sincerely,

David H. Perrin, PhD
Dean and Professor



August 27, 2015

Lorie Gage Richards PhD, OTR/L, FAHA
Chair and Associate Professor
Division of Occupational Therapy
College of Health
University of Utah
520 Wakara Way
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Re: BA/BS Degree in Recreational Therapy

Dear Lorie:

I fully support a BS/BA degree in Recreational Therapy as part of the new Division of Occupational and Recreational Therapies. The Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library is committed to fostering the growth and development of students through the provision of information, teaching life-long learning strategies, and encouraging discovery.

Eccles Library faculty and staff provide access to a wealth of information resources and tools designed to support learners, researchers, and educators in health professions, and we will continue to partner with the Marriott Library to provide access to key journals, books, and databases to support your learners and your faculty. We are also available to provide course-integrated learning opportunities for your students, particularly those aligned with health information seeking and understanding, as well as individual consultations for faculty, staff, and students.

Again, I am delighted to have this opportunity to express my support for your BS/BA program in Recreational Therapy, and I look forward to its success and many rewarding partnerships.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jean P. Shipman'.

Jean P. Shipman, MSLS, AHIP, FMLA
Director



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Utah Department of Health

Joseph K. Miner, M.D., MSPH, FACPM
Executive Director

Division of Family Health and Preparedness

Marc E. Babitz, M.D.
Division Director

Children with Special Health Care Needs Bureau

Noël Taxin, M.S.
Bureau Director

September 1, 2015

Dear Professor Negley:

It is my pleasure, as the Chair of the Therapeutic Recreation Emphasis Area Advisory Board to provide this letter of support for the Recreational Therapy Degree program.

On November 14, 2014, the Therapeutic Recreation Advisory Board held their annual meeting. The agenda included discussion regarding the realignment of the College of Health. You introduced the idea of the Therapeutic Recreation Emphasis, in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) being moved to be more aligned with other health care and clinically oriented professions. The Board voiced support for this realignment.

Majority of the Advisory Board members are either Bachelor's or Master's degree University of Utah graduates in the Therapeutic Recreation emphasis area, spanning 35 years of experience in the program. The Board supports the increased focus in health with an expanded clinically-oriented curriculum in order to meet the professions current demands.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support for a Bachelor's Degree in Recreational Therapy, at the University of Utah. Moving from an emphasis area to a degree program will increase and elevate the student's level of knowledge and preparation to practice, which in turn will advance health care, prevention and wellness services that clients receive by therapeutic recreational therapists.

Sincerely,

Noël Taxin, M.S., MTRS, CTRS
Chair, Advisory Board Therapeutic Recreation Emphasis
University of Utah



CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS
Street Address: 44 North Mario Capecchi Drive • Salt Lake City, UT 84113
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 144610 • Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4610
Telephone (801) 584-8284 • Facsimile (801) 584-8488

August 17, 2015

Sandra K. Negley M.S., MTRS, CTRS, FDRT
Assistant Professor
Coordinator of Therapeutic Recreation
University of Utah College of Health
Annex Building, Wing C, Room 1085
1901 E. South Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112

Re: BA/BS Degree in Recreational Therapy

Dear Professor Negley:

This letter is in support of the Recreational Therapy program within the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies.

The Marriott Library has provided strong support to this program for nearly forty years by purchasing requisite journals, books, films and databases.

In this discipline, the Marriott Library maintains extensive holdings of scholarly journals, including *The Annual of Therapeutic Recreation* and *Therapeutic Recreation Journal*, as well as other similar publications. Moreover, as the scholarly communication landscape evolves, new options may exist beyond subscriptions for providing access to journal literature, and we would like to work with faculty to evaluate the most workable preferences for providing periodical literature to support the program.

The Marriott Library has an approval plan which automatically provides for the acquisition of English language scholarly books published on adventure therapy, play therapy, aging, exercise programming, leisure and recreation, kinesiology, and other relevant topics. The Library also encourages faculty to work with librarians to strengthen book collections in subject areas where it may be necessary.

We feel that our collection is very strong in indexes, abstracts, and databases supporting the program. The University of Utah maintains subscriptions to the following databases:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. PubMed | 8. PsycINFO |
| 2. Scopus | 9. Social Services Abstracts |
| 3. Web of Science | 10. Social Work Abstracts |
| 4. Physical Education Index | 11. Sociological Abstracts |
| 5. SportDiscus | 12. Oregon PDF |
| 6. Academic Search Premier | 13. ERIC |
| 7. Dissertations & Theses: Full Text | 14. Leisure Tourism |

Student difficulties in locating materials often do not arise from collection weaknesses, but from the complexities of using a large research library. The Marriott Library offers class presentations and one-to-one consultations to students find the most relevant works and suggest the most appropriate search strategies.

The Library is committed to continuing its support for the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies.

Sincerely,



Rick Anderson, Associate Dean
Scholarly Resources and Collections
J. Willard Marriott Library



Catherine Soehner, Associate Dean
Research and Learning Services
J. Willard Marriott Library



October 12, 2015

To Whom It May Concern;

I am excited to have this Recreational Therapy BS/BA program in the new merged department that will be the Department of Occupational and Recreational Therapies in the Fall of 2016. While the Recreational Therapy emphasis of the BS/BA in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department has always been a strong Recreational Therapy program, the re-alignment of the College of Health, moving Recreational Therapy into a department with Occupational Therapy, has facilitated the development of a new curriculum that allows for the inclusion of more clinically-oriented educational content that recreational therapists are finding critical to their jobs and fulfills recreational therapy student requests for more education in these topics.

I fully support the establishment of this new BS/BA in Recreational Therapy and look forward to working with the Recreational Therapy faculty as they implement the program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorie Gage Richards".

Lorie Gage Richards, PhD, OTR/L
Chair and Associate Professor



College of Health

October 2, 2015

Lorie Richards, PhD, OTR/L, FAHA
Chair and Associate Professor, Division of Occupational Therapy
College of Health, University of Utah

Dear Dr. Richards,

As Chair of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, I am pleased to offer a letter of support concerning the move of our Recreational Therapy Emphasis Area to Occupational Therapy, forming the new Department of Occupational Therapy and Recreational Therapy, and subsequent new degree in Recreational Therapy.

To begin, as a Department, we fully understand that Recreational Therapy professional certification demands have created an increased need for clinical content by recreational therapy students, which necessitates the substitution of some of the core recreation content with more clinically focused content, resulting in the development of this new degree. The Recreation Therapy profession is changing, and to meet the demands placed on training and educating new professionals, there remains the need to closely align with allied health education. The move of the RT emphasis enables the RT faculty to accommodate these changing demands placed on students, and to move forward with new accreditation processes. Uniquely situated in the intermountain west, we believe this move fosters new and exciting opportunities, situating the University of Utah's Recreational Therapy program in a position to thrive and prosper in ways we have yet to imagine.

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism has been home to the Recreation Therapy program since its inception. As with all changes, the move of RT will be an adjustment, programmatically, culturally, and concerning content areas within PRT. However, the Department is supportive of this move within the College of Health and will continue to collaborate with the new degree program with enthusiasm and in consideration of student interests and creative research collaboration within our graduate program.

We wish all the faculty, your new department, and the student body of the new department great success!

Sincerely,

Kelly S. Bricker, Professor and Chair
Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism