

Department of Occupational Therapy

Academic Affairs

Administrative Unit Assessment

FY 18 (July 2017-July 2018)

Department and Assessment Report Information

Prepared on:11/13/2018 11:13:54 AM	By:betsy.mcdaniel@mga.edu
For which department or area are you reporting?	Department of Occupational Therapy
What is the name and MGA email address of the person responsible for this report?	Betsy McDaniel betsy.mcdaniel@mga.edu

Departmental Mission and Goals

The mission and goals of the department should be consistent over a 5 year period, although some institutional changes may necessitate and prompt a change in mission or goals for specific departments. In this section, you will report the mission statement for your department as well as the long term goals (5 year range) for the department.

What is the mission statement for this department/area? Your mission should explain why the department/area exists and who it serves.	The mission of the OTA Program is to educate a diverse student body of critical thinkers to become competent entry-level occupational therapy assistant generalists who are well prepared to enter the evolving healthcare environment and workforce in traditional and emerging practice areas. The OTA Program is committed to graduating students who will engage in life-long learning, professional leadership, and community service to enhance the Middle Georgia and surrounding regions through the delivery of competent occupational therapy services.
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What are the goals for this department? These should be the "big things" the department/area intends to accomplish within 5 years.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) 85% of MGA OTA graduates will pass the national certification exam administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).2) The OTA Program will implement changes as needed to comply with revised and/or new ACOTE standards.3) The OTA Program will acquire the necessary resources and technology to continue to offer innovative interdisciplinary learning experiences.4) The OTA Program will successfully complete the ACOTE on-site re-accreditation process.
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Objectives

Each year, every department should identify objectives the department hopes to accomplish in the next year. These should align with departmental goals and the MGA strategic plan. In the next section you will be reporting on the objectives you set and whether or not you achieved them in FY 18. Later in the document you will report on objectives you hope to accomplish in the coming fiscal year, FY19.

Objective 1

Objective 1: What was this department's first objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	Within 1 year, 85% of students admitted to the OTA Program will complete all curriculum requirements and graduate within 2 years of entering the program.
Objective 1: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Graduation rate
Objective 1: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	85%
Objective 1: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	85%
Objective 1: Did your department meet this objective?	The department met this objective.
Objective 1: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	We discovered that several things affect graduation rates, including students who change their major and withdraw from the program prior to completion, student failure of a course resulting in delay of graduation, and students who withdraw from the program for personal reasons. We are investigating a student mentorship program as well as faculty lead study sessions to promote student success in the program and to assist students in graduating on time.

Objective 2

Objective 2: What was this department's second objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	Within 1 year, 85% of MGA OTA first-time test takers will pass the national certification exam administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) to achieve state licensure.
Objective 2: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	NBCOT Pass Rate
Objective 2: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	85%
Objective 2: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	96%
Objective 2: Did your department meet this objective?	The department exceeded this objective.
Objective 2: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	In 2017, we implemented a certification exam review course with our graduates following graduation. OTA faculty volunteer to return to campus to work with any students who wish to attend the review course at no cost. We increased our pass-rate from 88% to 96%, which indicates the review course was a great success. We intend to continue offering this review course.

Objective 3

Objective 3: What was this department's third objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	95% of MGA OTA graduates who obtain state licensure will be working as certified occupational therapy assistants within 1 year of passing the NBCOT exam.
Objective 3: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Graduate survey
Objective 3: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	95%
Objective 3: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	98%
Objective 3: Did your department meet this objective?	The department exceeded this objective.
Objective 3: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	This data shows that our students are finding jobs in the field of OT. Those that report not working either did not pass the NBCOT exam or reported that they decided they did not want to pursue a career in occupational therapy.

Objective 4

Objective 4: What was this department's fourth objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	4) Within 1 year, the OTA Program will retain 90% of students formally admitted to the program.
Objective 4: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Retention rate
Objective 4: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	90%
Objective 4: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	70%
Objective 4: Did your department meet this objective?	The department did not meet this objective.
Objective 4: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	We learned that several students are entering the program without fully understanding what occupational therapy is. Those students are very likely to withdraw from the program before completing it. We are researching the feasibility of a multiple-mini interview as part of our application process and plan to present this as a minor program change to ACOTE for approval in AY 2018-2019. This will help to ensure that students understand some of the basic elements of the profession before they are admitted to the program.

Future Plans

<p>Please identify at least four measurable objectives for the next fiscal year. In listing the objectives, please use the format shown in these examples.1) The Department of X will improve services levels by 5% as measured by our satisfaction survey. 2) The department to X will provide training in ABC for at least 73 MGA faculty and staff.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The Department of OT will increase retention rate to 75% within 1 year.2) The Department of OT will offer at least 2 interdisciplinary learning experiences for each cohort admitted to the program within 1 year.3) Within 1 year, the Department of OT will provide training for at least 30 fieldwork educators on the new Fieldwork Performance Evaluation developed by ACOTE.4) The Department of OT will revise the OTA Program's application process to include a multiple mini interview and submit to ACOTE for approval within 1 year.
<p>Based on this assessment, please share your thoughts on the current status and future direction of this department or area.</p>	<p>The OTA Program is in a strong position and maintains an excellent reputation with fieldwork educators and employers. We have replaced two full-time faculty members since Spring 2017, and were able to increase our overall pass-rate on the NBCOT exam beyond our expectation. We have developed new community out-reach programs, including a parent resource group for families of children with special needs. We have also incorporated interdisciplinary experiences into the curriculum and are looking for more ways to provide interdisciplinary interactions in the community for our students. We have had 100% participation in the Experiential Learning program at MGA. The Department of OT has also submitted a proposal to the BOR for a B.S. in Rehabilitation Science and we anticipate approval of that new program at the August meeting and will prepare to offer the program beginning January 2019. The Department of OT also plans to submit a proposal to MGA Academic Affairs for a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Bridge Program in fall 2018 which will provide local occupational therapy assistants the opportunity to return to school at a local institution and further their careers by achieving this advanced degree in OT.</p>

Form run:

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

