

**School of Allied Health Sciences
Unit Plan
1990 - 1993**

VISION STATEMENT

The School of Allied Health Sciences, in collaboration with the other units of the Health Sciences Division, is committed to providing education and training at the baccalaureate and master's degree level in eight different health professions: clinical laboratory sciences, community health education, environmental health, medical record administration, occupational therapy, physical therapy, rehabilitation studies, and speech, language & auditory pathology. Each of these professional disciplines is committed to the development of new knowledge in their fields, continuing support of their practicing colleagues, and improvement of health care in eastern North Carolina.

During the planning period, the School will endeavor to expand class sizes to meet national shortages of manpower, expand curricular offerings to meet new practice needs, and expand involvement in the delivery of clinical services.

ELEMENTS OF DISTINCTION

◆ Status as an exclusive resource in North Carolina for the education of professionals in eight health disciplines, most of which have state and national, current and projected, critical shortages of manpower

◆ An historically low attrition rate of no more than 5 percent and a better than 95 percent rate of success by its graduates on state and national licensing, registration, and certification examinations

◆ A national and international network of clinical education affiliation sites which provide a broad range of types of experiences

◆ Accreditation in the seven programs of the school which have national accreditation programs available to them

◆ An outstanding biostatistics and epidemiology unit, the only one of its kind in the country in an allied health school, which provides both service courses and extensive consultation on research to both faculty and students

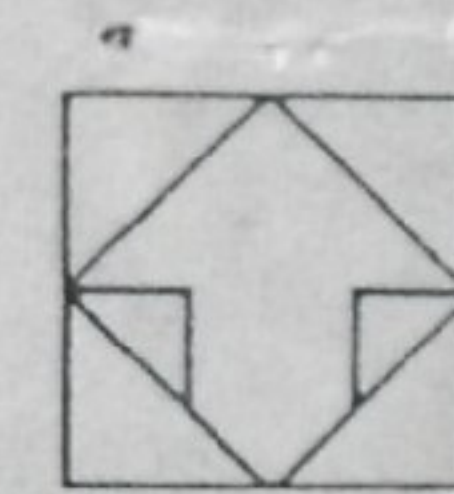
PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

1. Achieve distinction in undergraduate education

- a. Implement the recently approved cytotechnology track in clinical laboratory sciences
- b. Develop an undergraduate minor in community health education
- c. Develop a reorganized undergraduate minor in rehabilitation studies
- d. Explore the development of an undergraduate degree in biostatistics
- e. Expand the undergraduate speech, language, and auditory pathology multidisciplinary course work and opportunities for broader liberal arts education
- f. Unify the biostatistics and epidemiology course work offerings across the units of the Health Sciences Division
- g. Review at regular intervals the cognate courses and the school courses taught in-common to several disciplines to assure the adequacy and appropriateness of their content

2. Strengthen the commitment to excellence in teaching

- a. Use new technology, such as computer assisted instruction, to assist and improve teaching
- b. Explore additional methods of evaluating teaching effectiveness in addition to the student opinion survey



Strategies for Distinction

3. Develop a university culture based on respect for individual rights and human diversity

- a. Increase international opportunities and involvements through clinical education arrangements, faculty and student exchanges, collaborative research efforts, and greater professional involvements
- b. Expand School recruitment efforts aimed at racial, gender, nontraditional students, and handicapped minorities by focusing on these groups, expanding cooperation with the Center for Student Opportunities, and supporting the development of personal counseling services
- c. Coordinate all school recruitment efforts and cooperate with the admissions office

4. Expand doctoral programs

- a. Explore the development of a doctoral program in speech, language, and auditory pathology
- b. Cooperate with developing doctoral programs in the provision of biostatistical services
- c. Complete planning of the physical therapy entry level master's degree program and implement the program when approval is granted
- d. Explore the development of a master's degree program in occupational therapy
- e. Explore the development of a proposal for an interdisciplinary master's degree concentration in behavioral sciences and community health
- f. Explore interdisciplinary efforts with graduate programs in other units to develop a certificate program in health services administration

5. Strengthen the commitment to research, scholarship, and creative activity

- a. Promote the concept that research and creative activity is an expectation of every faculty member

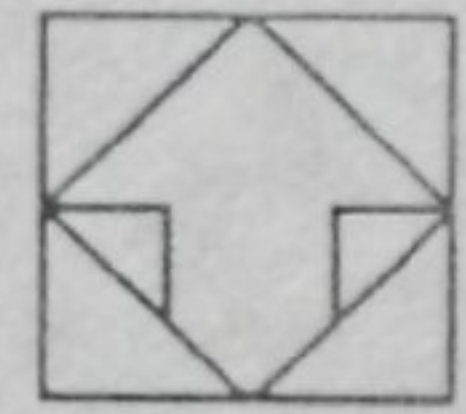
- b. Provide for training in grantsmanship, assistance with training in research tools, help with manuscript preparation, assistance for opportunities for additional study, and required administrative support for research
- c. Initiate and support mechanisms for faculty collaborative efforts in the School, Division, and University
- d. Explore methods to provide faculty periodic research semesters
- e. Provide mechanisms by which time consuming non-teaching activities can be reduced to provide more research time and clinical education and service activities can be utilized as expanded research and creative activity opportunities

6. Improve teacher education and stimulate improvement in public schooling

- a. Provide summer workshops in speech, language pathology, and audiology for professionals in education
- b. Explore the use of occupational therapy consultation services to enhance the skills of teacher education students to better serve the needs of children with special needs
- c. Prepare community health educators to provide consultation services to public school health education programs
- d. Recommend that teacher education majors take the environmental health sciences introductory course

7. Recruit and support academically proficient and talented students

- a. Improve the student advising activities of the school by exploring such means as:
 - distributing the advisees more evenly among all the faculty and volunteering to advise students who have not made a declaration of major interest
 - recommend that faculty participate in the General College advisement evaluation program
 - organize advisement on a school wide basis out of the Dean's office



Strategies for Distinction

- b. Improve the visibility and accessibility of the school to the east campus undergraduate population by exploring such means as holding more classes on the east campus and holding office hours on the east campus for academic and career advisement purposes
- c. Increase the number of introductory courses offered on the main campus, the number and nature of courses aimed at the nontraditional student, part-time student opportunities, and the numbers of students engaged in interdisciplinary studies
- d. Expand recruitment efforts with the better use of media, development of improved materials, and pursuit of every recruitment opportunity
- e. Consider all types of curricular improvements for pre-majors including development of a set of common prerequisite requirements and by making concerted efforts to improve the quality of pre-professional courses

8. Advance the University effectively to external publics

- a. Develop a coordinated, centralized mechanism of publicizing the activities of the school and its faculty to appropriate audiences through news releases, newsletters, and representation in all types of publications
- b. Participate extensively in professional and community activities, such as consultation, research, and continuing education, in a manner that will bring credit to the School and University
- c. Work with local and regional agencies and public groups who are dealing with the rural problems of health, environment, and the economy
- d. Work with, support, and help develop agencies and projects that deal with important health policy issues such as the elderly, teenage pregnancy, infant mortality, substance abuse, health care utilization, and healthy life styles
- e. Support the goals in Pitt County's Focus 2007 strategic plan, particularly those related to health care and substance abuse

9. Develop and use expanded information resources

- a. Establish school priorities for the allocation of faculty computers, connected to all appropriate networks and with all required software available
- b. Develop further the computer laboratory, with the desirable and feasible technology, for general school use
- c. Insure availability to all faculty of on-line access to the Health Sciences and Joyner Libraries
- d. Assist the faculty in continually updating and expanding their computer skills and utilization in teaching and research

10. Provide effective stewardship of the University

- a. Assist Pitt Community College in the development of a medical record technician program and an occupational therapy assistant program
- b. Pursue the development in the Health Sciences Division of additional patient care services by the professions represented in this school, planned and operated under practice plan arrangements with those representative departments
- c. Refine departmental student outcome assessment methods