

**Dixie State College of Utah
Dental Hygiene
June 2008**

Reviewers

External Reviewers:

- Dr. Ellen Grimes, Dental Hygiene Program Director, Vermont Technical College
- Trisha Moore, Professor of Dental Hygiene, Northern Arizona University

Internal Reviewers:

- Linda Jones, MLS, Librarian, Browning Library
- Dianne Hirning, MLS, Librarian, Browning Library

Other Reviewers:

- Members of the Dixie State College Academic Council, comprised of administrators, staff and faculty
- Trustee Liaison Committee, comprised of three members of the Dixie State College Board of Trustees

Program Description:

The Dental Hygiene program at Dixie State College offers an AAS Degree in Dental Hygiene, and beginning fall of 2008 it will offer a BS Degree Completion in Dental Hygiene. The DSC Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation; accreditation “approval without reporting requirement” was granted on July 31, 2008 and then next site visit is scheduled for 2014.

The mission of the Dixie College Dental Hygiene Program is to promote the College mission and goals by producing dental hygienists of the highest ethical and professional standards who are able and competent practitioners with confidence in their abilities to function as an integral part of the dental team. The Program will continually progress in educational and scientific technologies, trends and techniques, which will allow dental hygiene students to best serve the patient and the community.

The Dental Hygiene Program is part of the Division of Business, Science, and Health. The Dental Hygiene Program relates to other departments and programs in a number of ways: many of the pre-requisite courses for our program are the same for the Nursing, Paramedic, and Medical Radiography Programs; the Biology department has grown due to all the biology pre-requisites students have to complete before being accepted into the Dental Hygiene program; Dental Hygiene shares some equipment with other Health Science Programs; and the EMS program has provided CPR and First Aid certification for all Dental Hygiene students, faculty, and staff to help with maintaining licensure in their fields.

Faculty & Staff

| Faculty | Tenure | Contract | Adjunct |
|--|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Number of faculty with Doctoral degrees | | | 1 MD 4 DDS |
| Number of faculty with Master's degrees | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Number of faculty with Bachelor's degrees | 1 | | 3 |
| Other Faculty | | | 3 |
| Total | 3 | 1 | 12 |

| Staff | Full-Time | Part-Time |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Administrative | 1 | |
| Secretarial /Clerical | | 3 |
| Laboratory Aides/Instructors | | |
| Advisors | | |
| Teaching/Graduate Assistants | | |
| Other Staff | | |
| Total | 1 | 3 |

Students

| AY | # of Majors | Student FTE | # of Faculty | FTE-to-Faculty Ratio | # of Grads | # of Grads Placed |
|-------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 03-04 | 14 | 32.84 | 1 | 5.52 | 14 | 14 |
| 04-05 | 14 | 33.88 | 1 | 4.71 | 14 | 14 |
| 05-06 | 14 | 31.76 | 1 | 4.86 | 14 | 14 |
| 06-07 | 14 | 23.17 | 1 | 4.77 | 14 | 14 |
| 07-08 | 16 | N/A | 3 | N/A | 16 | N/A |

Salary/wage Data: Contributing factors affecting dental hygiene salaries include experience, level of responsibilities, and type of setting. There is a considerable difference in salaries based on geographic region within the country, and proximity to a large metropolitan area. According to the May 2008 OES State Occupational Employment figures, the median hourly wage in Utah for dental hygienists is \$30.54 and the mean annual salary is \$63,530. Information from US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009 indicates the median hourly earnings of dental hygienists were \$30.19 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$24.63 and \$35.67 an hour. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$19.45, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$41.60 an hour. Data projections from the National Employment Matrix expect employment of dental hygienists to grow 30 percent through 2016, much faster than the average for all occupations. This projected growth ranks dental hygienists among the fastest growing occupations.

Financial Analysis

| Financial Analysis Form | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 07-08 | 06-07 | 05-06 | 04-05 | 03-04 |
| Expense | | | | | |
| Instructional Costs | 262,480 | 245,745 | 174,332 | 197,539 | 197,436 |
| Support Costs | 132,449 | 180,994 | 157,169 | 142,046 | 113,919 |
| Other Expenses | | | | | |
| Total Expense | \$394,929 | 4426,739 | \$331,501 | \$339,585 | \$311,354 |
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Legislative Appropriation | 271,426 | 287,314 | 229,938 | 234,503 | 217,503 |
| Grants | | | | | |
| Reallocation | | | | | |
| Tuition to Program | 123,503 | 139,425 | 101,563 | 105,082 | 93,852 |
| Fees | | | | | |
| Total Revenue | \$394,929 | 4426,739 | \$331,501 | \$339,585 | \$311,355 |
| Difference | | | | | |
| Revenue-Expense | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1 |

Program Assessment

Assessment tools are in compliance with the Commission on Dental Accreditation requirements. Over the past 8 years, 100% of program graduates have passed the National Board Exam for Dental Hygiene on the first attempt and 99.9% of the graduates have passed the licensing clinical exam on the first attempt. Annually, the program holds a two-three day program review faculty retreat to review its program goals, graduation competencies, and assessments for the previous year. At that time they make a number of changes needed contingent upon the findings of the assessment tools.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation requires a number of graduation competency requirements which the program has rigorously applied; those competencies are embedded in the program goals, outcomes, and assessments described below:

Program Goal and Outcome Assessment #1: *Comprehensively prepare students for success in the NBDHE & the Regional/State Board Exams.* Throughout the program the students' knowledge & clinical skills are assessed during their didactic & clinical courses, & mastery of program requirements & competencies. This will also be validated by NBDHE & WREB scores.

Program Goal and Outcome Assessment #2: *Comprehensively prepare students to demonstrate patient care utilizing the Dental Hygiene Process of Care.* Each semester the students have to master certain competencies at a set percentage for that clinic level involving the DHPC and they are measured with competency exams.

Program Goal and Outcome Assessment #3: *Provide learning experiences to produce DH's that show high ethical standards, professionalism and utilize scientific research finding for patient care.* Students are evaluated on their professionalism in clinical courses each day & graded. Employer surveys which will include evaluations of ethical behavior, professionalism, and the utilization of current research findings are sent out each fall. Students will attain 80% or greater in professional judgment for each semester and 90% of graduates will satisfy employers' expectations.

Program Goal and Outcome Assessment #4: *Comprehensively prepare students to provide community service and develop community partnerships.* Throughout the program the students have the opportunity to provide community service and develop community partnerships through SADHA activities & their community courses. Measurement is satisfactory evaluations for their community rotations. Students will attain 80% or greater for their community rotation evaluations.

Program Goal and Outcome Assessment #5: *Comprehensively prepare students for graduation with an AAS degree and promote the dental hygiene profession through service to the community.* Throughout the program the students' knowledge and clinical skills are assessed in their didactic and clinical courses, and mastery of program requirements. Measurement uses ADHA conversion rates attained from ADHA . Further measurement is achieving competency in the didactic & clinical settings and successful graduation from DSCDH program; 50% of the graduates will be active in providing service in the community.

Program Goal and Outcome Assessment #6: *Prepare students to develop partnerships that will encourage and support increased education and life-long learning.* Encourage students to participate in professional development beyond the classroom SADHA & UDHA component meeting. Encourage students to enroll in BSDH degree completion program starting in Fall 2008 at DSC. Attendance at SADHA & UDHA CE courses, (surveys will include questions about CE courses) and enrollment into the BS degree completion program. Graduates will fulfill and/or exceed Utah's CE requirements. BS enrollment will be monitored.

Strengths:

- Community support from local dental community, Intermountain Health Care, and others.
- Excellent students, selected through a well-designed admissions process have allowed the program to rank in the top six programs in the nation for nine of the ten years it has been in existence.
- Dedicated faculty and staff working together as a team.

Challenges:

- Locating qualified adjunct clinical faculty and staff. Typically, qualified individuals can earn much more in private practice.
- Locating qualified full time faculty who have a masters degree, as is required by our accreditation.
- Getting funding to hire a full time clinic secretary to manage a 24-operatory clinic in the new Taylor Health Sciences facility.

Institution's Response