Instructional Quality Assessment: Psychiatric Technician Program

Program Strengths and Accomplishments:

The use of mentor/tutors and the utilization of a Web-based State Board Review practice examination has improved student retention and student success rate. This past year the program had a 93% pass rate which ranked number three in the State. Student surveys also indicate that the quality of instruction, learning resources and counseling services are excellent. The department has an excellent relationship with the health care industry, which provides the department with input regarding the direction/needs of the profession and how to prepare students to meet employment needs.

Program Goals and Objectives:

A major objective for the department is to continue to offer students an excellent educational program whose graduates will be competent and professional members of the Mental Health Care team. An ongoing challenge for the department continues to be the ability to serve students who are academically under-prepared in the basic skills---reading, writing and math. This is the only Psychiatric Technician Program in Orange County. This past year the program had 100 applicants for only twenty four spaces. The program cannot keep up with the demand for graduates/employees, which is another challenge for the program.

Other:

With the retirement of a full time faculty member it is difficult to find part-time faculty to teach in the program, which compounds the problem of meeting employer’s needs. Faculty is encouraged to continue their participation in the process of developing Student Learning Outcomes and assessments for the department.