Overall Introduction

In support of the mission of St. Petersburg College, faculty committees established thirteen value statements. Three of these value statements are:

- Student Focus: We believe students are the heart of SPC! All SPC resources, decisions, and efforts are aligned to transform students’ lives to empower them to finish what they start!
- Academic Excellence: We promote academic excellence through interactive, innovative, and inquiry-centered teaching and learning.
- Culture of Inquiry: We encourage a data-driven environment that allows for open, honest dialogue about who we are, what we do, and how we continue to improve student success.

It is the intent of St. Petersburg College to incorporate continuous improvement practices in all areas. Assessment reports provide comparisons of present and past results which are used to identify topics where improvement is possible. SPC has traditionally used past results as a vital tool in achieving its commitment to continuous improvement.

Program Learning Outcomes

#1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences.

I. Use of Past Results

The desired results were met for years 2003 and 2004 with SPC Mean Scale Scores exceeding the mean for all U.S. graduates. In order to continue to have the desired results, the program curriculum and course content were continually updated to meet the Content Category Specifications of the FSBPT PTA Examination Content Outline.

The graduating class of 2008 achieved a mean scale score of 654.4 on the Test and Measures Content Area of the national licensing exam. This was slightly higher than the mean scale score of 642.0 for all US accredited PTA Programs.

SPC students exceeded the criteria for success for this major learning outcome in 2009, and in 2010. These assessment results were shared with the PTA faculty.

The graduating class of 2009 achieved a mean scale score (663.7) on the Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences Content Area of the national licensing exam that was higher (+ 18.2 ) than the mean scale score (645.5) for all US Accredited PTA Programs.

The graduating class of 2010 achieved a mean scale score (662.7) on the Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences Content Area of the national licensing exam that was higher (+ 18.7) than the mean scale score (644.0) for all US Accredited PTA Programs.

II. Methodology

Means of Assessment:

In the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, the results of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Licensing Examination will be utilized to evaluate program graduate knowledge.
**Date(s) of Administration**: 2011 and 2012

**Method**: Upon successfully meeting graduation requirements, the PTA program graduate completes the FSBPT Licensing Examination.

**Assessment Instrument**: The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Licensing Examination will be used to assess PTA graduates. The FSBPT licensure exam reports received by the program contain the Mean Scale Score for the SPC cohort of graduates and graduates of all U.S. accredited programs.

**Domain Specifications**: The student will demonstrate knowledge of physical therapy test and measurement techniques.

**Population**: The population sample included students who successfully met graduation requirements, and completed the FSBPT Licensing Examination.

### III. Criteria for Success

The Mean Scale Scores of SPC PTA graduates will be compared to all U.S. program graduates. These Mean Scale Scores will be for first-time test takers only. The Mean Scale Scores for SPC PTA graduates will be expected to be above that reported for all U.S. graduates.

### IV. Summary of Assessment Findings

The 2011 and 2012 assessment results for the Physical Therapist Assistant program for PLO 1 are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>SPC Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>US Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>SPC above (below) US Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>675.4</td>
<td>644.9</td>
<td>+30.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>SPC Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>US Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>SPC above (below) US Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>671.3</td>
<td>645.3</td>
<td>+26.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2013, the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) changed the content and outline of the national exam. 2013 student scores for ‘Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences’ were not provided by FSBPT.

### V. Discussion and Analysis of Assessment Findings

The desired thresholds were met for both 2011 and 2012 with SPC Mean Scale Scores significantly exceeding the mean for all U.S. graduates. In order to continue to have the desired results, the program curriculum and course content were continually updated to meet the Content Category Specifications of the FSBPT PTA Examination Content Outline.

### VI. Action Plan and Timetable for Implementation

Based on the analysis of the results the following Action Plan Items have been selected for implementation:
Change PTA Program PLOs to match the new content outline of the FSBPT national exam: 1. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Physical Therapy Data Collection. 2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Disease/Conditions that Impact Effective Treatment. 3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Interventions. 4. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Non-System Domains

#2: The student will demonstrate knowledge of Data Collection/Interventions/Equipment and Devices/Therapeutic Modalities.

I. Use of Past Results

The desired results were met for years 2003 and 2004 with SPC Mean Scale Scores exceeding the mean for all U.S. graduates. In order to continue to have the desired results, the program curriculum and course content were continually updated to meet the Content Category Specifications of the FSBPT PTA Examination Content Outline.

The graduating class of 2008 achieved a mean scale score of 653.5 on the Interventions Content Area of the national licensing exam. This was higher than the mean scale score of 644.2 for all US accredited PTA Programs.

SPC students exceeded the criteria for success for this major learning outcome in 2009, and in 2010. These assessment results were shared with the PTA faculty.

The graduating class of 2009 achieved a mean scale score (663.7) on the Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences Content Area of the national licensing exam that was higher (+18.2) than the mean scale score (645.5) for all US Accredited PTA Programs.

The graduating class of 2010 achieved a mean scale score (662.7) on the Clinical Application of Physical Therapy Principles and Foundational Sciences Content Area of the national licensing exam that was higher (+18.7) than the mean scale score (644.0) for all US Accredited PTA Programs.

II. Methodology

Means of Assessment: In the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, the results of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Licensing Examination will be utilized to evaluate program graduate knowledge.

Date(s) of Administration: 2011 and 2012

Method: Upon successfully meeting graduation requirements, the PTA program graduate completes the FSBPT Licensing Examination.

Assessment Instrument: The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Licensing Examination will be used to assess PTA graduates. The FSBPT licensure exam reports received by the program contain the Mean Scale Score for the SPC cohort of graduates and graduates of all U.S. accredited programs.

Domain Specifications: The student will demonstrate knowledge of physical therapy interventions.

Population: The population sample included students who successfully met graduation requirements, and completed the FSBPT Licensing Examination.

III. Criteria for Success

The Mean Scale Scores of SPC PTA graduates will be compared to all U.S. program graduates. These Mean Scale Scores will be for first-time test takers only. The Mean Scale Scores for SPC PTA graduates will be expected to be above that reported for all U.S. graduates.

IV. Summary of Assessment Findings

The 2011 and 2012 assessment results for the Physical Therapist Assistant program for PLO 2 are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 Assessment Results (N=33) - PLO 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Collection/Interventions/Equipment and Devices/Therapeutic Modalities.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>SPC Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>US Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>SPC above (below) US Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Collection/Interventions/Equipment and Devices/Therapeutic Modalities.</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>674.7</td>
<td>652.9</td>
<td>+21.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2013, the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) changed the content and outline of the national exam. 2013 student scores for 'Physical Therapy Data Collection' provided by FSBPT are displayed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>SPC Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>US Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>SPC above (below) US Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapy Data Collection</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>626.3</td>
<td>674.7</td>
<td>-48.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Discussion and Analysis of Assessment Findings

SPC students exceeded the criteria for success for this major learning outcome in 2011, and in 2012 but did not meet the criteria for success in 2013 falling significantly below the US Mean Scale Score in the Physical Therapy Data Collection category.

The 2013 graduating class was a consistently low scoring class during their matriculation through the program than what the program has experienced for some years. The 2013 class came entirely from the wait list and had the lowest graduation rate of any class since 2006, at 52.5%.

VI. Action Plan and Timetable for Implementation

Based on the analysis of the results the following Action Plan Items have been selected for implementation:

- Change PTA Program PLOs to match the new content outline of the FSBPT national exam: 1. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Physical Therapy Data Collection 2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Disease/Conditions that Impact Effective Treatment 3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Interventions 4. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Non-System Domains  
  - Sep 2014
- Monitor scores for the category Data Collection/Interventions/Equipment and Devices/Therapeutic Modalities. The 2013 graduating class was a consistently low scoring class during their matriculation through the program than what the program has experienced for some years. The 2013 class came entirely from the wait list and had the lowest graduation rate of any class since 2006, at 52.5%. This was also the year that FSBPT changed the exam content. Exam statistics will be monitored by the PTA Program to see if the lower scores in this category were the result of the under-performing class of 2013 or if curriculum changes are required due to the change in exam content.  
  - PTA Program Director and Faculty / Dec 2014

#3: The student will demonstrate knowledge of Safety and Professional Roles; Teaching/Learning; Evidence-Based Practice.

I. Use of Past Results
The desired results were met for years 2003 and 2004 with SPC Mean Scale Scores exceeding the mean for all U.S. graduates. In order to continue to have the desired results, the program curriculum and course content were continually updated to meet the Content Category Specifications of the FSBPT PTA Examination Content Outline. The graduating class of 2008 achieved a mean scale score of 613.6 on the Standards of Care Content Area of the national licensing exam. This was slightly lower than the mean scale score of 622.7 for all US accredited PTA Programs.

SPC students did not meet the criteria for success for this major learning outcome in 2009, or in 2010. These assessment results were discussed with the PTA faculty.

The graduating class of 2009 achieved a mean scale score (565.2) on the Safety and Professional Roles, Teaching and Learning: Evidence Based Practice Content Area of the national licensing exam, that was lower (-27) than the mean scale score (592.2) for all US accredited PTA Programs.

The graduating class of 2010 achieved a mean scale score (618.3) on the Safety and Professional Roles, Teaching and Learning: Evidence Based Practice Content Area of the national licensing exam, that was lower (-8.2) than the mean scale score of 626.5 for all US accredited PTA Programs.

Student scores in the areas of the Musculoskeletal System, Neuromuscular and Nervous Systems, and Integumentary System, were below the US scores in one or both of the years assessed.

II. Methodology

Means of Assessment: In the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, the results of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Licensing Examination will be utilized to evaluate program graduate knowledge.

Date(s) of Administration: 2011 and 2012

Method: Upon successfully meeting graduation requirements, the PTA program graduate completes the FSBPT Licensing Examination.

Assessment Instrument: The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Licensing Examination will be used to assess PTA graduates. The FSBPT licensure exam reports received by the program contain the Mean Scale Score for the SPC cohort of graduates and graduates of all U.S. accredited programs.

Domain Specifications: The student will demonstrate knowledge of standards of care.

Population: The population sample included students who successfully met graduation requirements, and completed the FSBPT Licensing Examination.

III. Criteria for Success

The Mean Scale Scores of SPC PTA graduates will be compared to all U.S. program graduates. These Mean Scale Scores will be for first-time test takers only. The Mean Scale Scores for SPC PTA graduates will be expected to be above that reported for all U.S. graduates.

IV. Summary of Assessment Findings

The 2011 and 2012 assessment results for the Physical Therapist Assistant program for PLO 3 are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>SPC Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>US Mean Scale Score</th>
<th>SPC above (below) US Mean</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety and Professional Roles;</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>620.6</td>
<td>639.8</td>
<td>-19.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching/Learning; Evidence-Based Practice</td>
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</table>

2012 Assessment Results (N=21) - PLO 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<th>SPC above (below) US Mean</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Number of Items</td>
<td>SPC Mean Scale Score</td>
<td>US Mean Scale Score</td>
<td>SPC above (below) US Mean</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety and Professional Roles; Teaching/Learning; Evidence-Based Practice</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>670.5</td>
<td>638.1</td>
<td>+32.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 2013, the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) changed the content and outline of the national exam. 2013 student scores for 'Safety and Professional Roles; Teaching/Learning; Evidence-Based Practice' were not provided by FSBPT.

V. Discussion and Analysis of Assessment Findings

The desired results were not met in 2011 with the Mean Scale Scores of SPC graduates falling below the US Mean. The desired results were met in 2012 with the Mean Scale Scores of SPC PTA graduates significantly exceeding the mean for all U.S. graduates.

VI. Action Plan and Timetable for Implementation

Based on the analysis of the results the following Action Plan Items have been selected for implementation:

- The program will monitor 2014 SPC mean scale scores for the category Safety and Professional Roles; Teaching/Learning; Evidence-Based Practice. Additions were made to the curriculum for 2012 in response to the 2011 graduates falling below the US Mean. Additions were made to specifically enhance the Evidence-Based Practice component as this was the area of the curriculum, in reviewing the content covered in the exam, PTA faculty found required improvements. The 2012 graduates were successful in meeting the criteria achieving above US Mean Scale Scores in this category. Monitoring will be ongoing to ensure the appropriate curriculum changes have been made for graduates to have continued success in this category.
  - PTA Program Director and Faculty / Jul 2015

- Change PTA Program PLOs to match the new content outline of the FSBPT national exam: 1. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Physical Therapy Data Collection 2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Disease/Conditions that Impact Effective Treatment 3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Interventions 4. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Non-System Domains
  - / Sep 2014
## Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Action Plan Detail / Implications</th>
<th>For PLO</th>
<th>Responsible Party / Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Enhance Curriculum &amp; Faculty Development</td>
<td><strong>B1. Align curriculum with General Education Objective and/or Accreditation/National Standards of the discipline</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The program will monitor 2014 SPC mean scale scores for the category Safety and Professional Roles; Teaching/Learning; Evidence-Based Practice. Additions were made to the curriculum for 2012 in response to the 2011 graduates falling below the US Mean. Additions were made to specifically enhance the Evidence-Based Practice component as this was the area of the curriculum, in reviewing the content covered in the exam, PTA faculty found required improvements. The 2012 graduates were successful in meeting the criteria achieving above US Mean Scale Scores in this category. Monitoring will be ongoing to ensure the appropriate curriculum changes have been made for graduates to have continued success in this category.</td>
<td>#3</td>
<td>PTA Program Director and Faculty Jul 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Change PTA Program PLOs to match the new content outline of the FSBPT national exam: 1. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Physical Therapy Data Collection 2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Disease/Conditions that Impact Effective Treatment 3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Interventions 4. The student will demonstrate knowledge of Non-System Domains</td>
<td>#1, #2, #3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monitor scores for the category Data Collection/Interventions/Equipment and Devices/Therapeutic Modalities. The 2013 graduating class was a consistently low scoring class during their matriculation through the program than what the program has experienced for some years. The 2013 class came entirely from the wait list and had the lowest graduation rate of any class since 2006, at 52.5%. This was also the year that FSBPT changed the exam content. Exam statistics will be monitored by the PTA Program to see if the lower scores in this category were the result of the under-performing class of 2013 or if curriculum changes are required due to the change in exam content.</td>
<td>#2</td>
<td>PTA Program Director and Faculty Dec 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Approvals

**Program Administrator:**  
Rebecca Kramer - Program Director  
*Approved by Rebecca Kramer - Program Director on Sep 26, 2014*

**Educational Outcomes Coordinators:**  
Ashley Caron - Coordinator, Baccalaureate Assessment & Accreditation  
Magaly Tymms - Assessment Director  
*Approved by Magaly Tymms - Assessment Director on Sep 29, 2014*

**Dean:**  
Phil Nicotera - Provost  
*Approved by Phil Nicotera - Provost on Nov 24, 2014*

**Senior Vice President:**  
Anne Cooper - Senior VP Instruction and Academic Programs  
*Approved by Anne Cooper - Senior VP Instruction and Academic Programs on Nov 24, 2014*