

Health Information Management Program  
Department of Health Sciences  
Changes Based Upon Assessment Data  
March 2008

The Health Information Management Program implemented a multiple measures assessment program in August of 2002. The assessment program consistent of several different qualitative and quantitative assessment approaches that included the following:

- Monitoring professional registration examination outcomes
- Surveying new graduates and alumni
- Receiving guidance from an advisory committee of practicing professionals
- Performing an annual analysis of curricular content

### **Assessment and Action**

#### **Registry Examination Outcomes**

Graduates from the Health Information Management Program have an average 71% passing rate on the national registry examination from October 2006 to September 2007 (data available). This compares favorably with the national passing rate of 66%.

The students are evaluated in ten different categories. ISU graduates met or exceed the national performance rate in all ten professional categories. The HIM Advisory Committee reviewed the examination results and recommended that no major curriculum or program revisions be made at this time. They did not feel the performance variation was significant, since ISU graduates were successfully passing the registry examination.

#### **Graduate and Alumni Surveys**

Graduate and alumni surveys are completed on an annual basis. New graduates, one year alumni and three year alumni are surveyed. The surveys address every aspect of the HIM Program from the curricular content to organization and structure of the program itself. The results of these surveys have been very positive with the 100% of the recent graduates and alumni expressing satisfaction with the program in all areas except one: advising. The following describes how we are addressing the problem area.

#### **Advising Action Plan**

The department advisor is implementing a group-advising program. There will be scheduled times when all the HIM students can meet with the department advisor and program director to receive guidance on their academic schedule. These group meetings will be held each semester for all student registered in the HIM major.

#### **HIM Advisory Committee**

A committee of practicing HIM professionals from area health care institutions meet annually to review the programs curriculum, resources and organizational structure. This committee is presented with problems and issues encounter by the program faculty for evaluation and recommendation. Two concerns that were presented to the advisory committee are presented

below with the committee's recommendations.

### **Professional Competencies and HIM curriculum**

The program received the update Health Information Management Professional Competencies in March 2005. The faculty completed a gap analysis of the competencies and curriculum in April 2005. In May 2005 the HIM Program Advisory Committee reviewed the new competencies at the annual advisory committee meeting and the program faculty's curriculum revision recommendations. The advisory committee agreed with the faculty recommendations.

Action:

The curriculum revision was implemented in August 2007 with the following revisions:

- HSC 214: Alternative Classification Systems – was increased by one credit hour to address the new knowledge, skills and competencies proposed by the American Health Information Management Association Council on Education.
- HSC 310: Health Information Management Seminar – was decreased by one hour with an emphasis on student preparation for the professional registry examination.

### **Access an Electronic Record System**

Students need access to current medical records using an electronic health record format. The members of the advisory committee stated that they were will to share electronic copies of medical records with all patient identification removed. To provide student access to these records, the HIM Program needed an updated student computer laboratory where students could access the electronic records. The committee recommended that the program upgrade the student computer laboratory and seek electronic health record software that can be used to prepare students.

Action:

In January 2008 the HIM Program installed an updated student computer laboratory that provides student access to two versions of electronic health record software. One of the advisory committee member's companies donated medical record image management software. Another company donated, a complete physician's office medical record system for student use. These software programs are in the process of being integrated into program courses.

### **Conclusion**

With the recent curriculum revisions and the addition of an updated student computer laboratory with two different electronic record management programs, the HIM program possesses the resources to prepare graduates for health information management positions in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.