

Office of the Dean, School of Health & Natural Sciences

Office or Department of Academic Affairs

Administrative Unit Assessment

Year Reporting: FY 20 (July 2019-July 2020)

Department and Assessment Report Information

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For which department or area are you reporting?	School of Health & Natural Sciences
What is the name and MGA email address of the person responsible for this report?	Dr. Tara Underwood, tara.underwood@mga.edu

Departmental Mission and Goals

The mission and goals of the department should be consistent over a 5 year period, although some institutional changes may necessitate and prompt a change in mission or goals for specific departments. In this section, you will report the mission statement for your department as well as the long term goals (5 year range) for the department.

What is the mission statement for this department/area? Your mission should explain why the department/area exists and who it serves.	<i>To deliver quality curricula and programs which incorporate evidence-based practice and real-life application which prepare students to be competent professional and leaders within our community and beyond.</i>
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What are the goals for this department? These should be the "big things" the department/area intends to accomplish within 5 years.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Offer benchmarked curricula that support the workforce needs of the region while meeting program certification and accreditation standards.</i><i>2. Attract and retain academically qualified students into our affordable, accessible, and challenging degree programs and produce competent graduates prepared to assume entry level positions in a dynamic healthcare environment.</i><i>3. Develop, cultivate, and utilize relationships with alumni, the practitioner community, and the healthcare industry to provide practical feedback and to enhance program development that is conducive to industry standards and trends. Collaborate with the profession, college, and community in service and research to further the health outcomes of the community and contribute to the</i>
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	<p><i>discipline. Strategically operate the School in a manner attuned to the mission and initiatives of Middle Georgia State University and the University System of Georgia.</i></p>
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Objectives

Each year, every department should identify objectives the department hopes to accomplish in the next year. These should align with departmental goals and the MGA strategic plan. In the next section you will be reporting on the objectives you set and whether or not you achieved them in FY20. Later in the document you will report on objectives you hope to accomplish in the coming fiscal year, FY21.

Objective 1

<p>Objective 1: What was this department's first objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.</p>	<p><i>One-hundred percent of the clinical programs in the School of Health Sciences will remain in compliance with national accreditation standards. This objective applies to the nursing (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing - ACEN), occupational therapy assistant (Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education – ACOTE), and respiratory therapy (Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care - CoARC) programs.</i></p> <p><i>The 100% target goal was determined by the requirement to remain in compliance with national accreditation standards as articulated in the policies and guidelines for each accrediting organization. This goal is vital to the existence of the clinical programs at Middle Georgia University. If we are not compliant, our institution risks the closure of these programs.</i></p>
<p>Objective 1: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)</p>	<p><i>Percentage of clinical programs that remain in compliance with national accreditation standards.</i></p> <p><i>Data is gathered by reviewing and maintaining records of the outcomes for each clinical program's on-site accreditation review and annual reports that are submitted to the Georgia Board of Nursing (GBN), Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (GSRC), and the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE).</i></p>
<p>Objective 1: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)</p>	<p><i>Our target outcome for meeting national accreditation standards for our program is 100%.</i></p>
<p>Objective 1: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)</p>	<p><i>One-hundred percent of our clinical programs are in compliance with national accreditation standards.</i></p>
<p>Objective 1: Did your department meet this objective?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Objective 1: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?</p>	<p><i>Continue efforts to ensure compliance is met; this is vital to the current existence and future growth of our clinical programs.</i></p> <p><i>Efforts to continue meeting this objective include monitoring student-to-teacher ratios, continuing efforts to support student success and prepare them for national licensure/ registry examinations, remaining up-to-date on industry trends and advancements in health care, obtaining relevant resources/equipment that can be used in simulation labs, and other similar endeavors.</i></p>
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Objective 2

<p>Objective 2: What was this department's second objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.</p>	<p><i>Meet or exceed state and national pass rates on health professions certification and registry examinations.</i></p>
<p>Objective 2: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)</p>	<p><i>Percentage of students who passed the national examination.</i></p>
<p>Objective 2: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p>Objective 2: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)</p>	<p><u>Nursing</u> <i>90% of students passed the NCLEX the first time (BSN – 89.44%; ASN – 94%/; Average pass rate 91.5%)</i></p> <p><u>OTA</u> <i>95% of OTA students passed the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam the first time</i></p> <p><u>Respiratory Therapy</u> <i>100% of graduates from the Respiratory Therapy program passed the TMC on their first attempt. 100% of entry level graduates will earn their Registered Respiratory Therapy (RRT) credential on their first attempt of the Clinical Simulation Exam (CSE).</i></p>
<p>Objective 2: Did your department meet this objective?</p>	<p><i>Our School did not meet the objective of 100%; however, the 90% or higher pass rate is commendable by our clinical programs.</i></p>
<p>Objective 2: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?</p>	<p><i>The need for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>early intervention for students enrolled in our clinical programs.</i> • <i>active course/ academic advisement in all programs.</i> • <i>adjustment to nursing program admission criteria based upon correlational data.</i> • <i>continuous National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam preparation class for the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program.</i>

Objective 3

<p>Objective 3: What was this department's third objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.</p>	<p><i>Increase and enhance student advising activities.</i></p>
<p>Objective 3: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)</p>	<p><i>Student satisfaction surveys of our professional advisors.</i></p>
<p>Objective 3: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)</p>	<p>95%</p>
<p>Objective 3: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)</p>	<p><i>Ninety to 100% of our students indicated being satisfied or very satisfied with the professional advisors in the School of Health & Natural Sciences.</i></p>
<p>Objective 3: Did your department meet this objective?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Objective 3: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Continue to monitor advising activities, work logs, caseloads, and surveys concerning our students' satisfaction with advising services</i> • <i>Offer training that is relevant to any updated information</i> • <i>Create team-building activities for professional advisors to build comradery among the team</i>

Objective 4

<p>Objective 4: What was this department's fourth objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.</p>	<p><i>Increase Enrollment, retention, and graduation rates of our students by 10%.</i></p>
<p>Objective 4: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)</p>	<p><i>Observe data relevant to enrollment, retention, and graduation rates of our students via Banner and the Dashboard information from the Office of Institutional Research.</i></p>
<p>Objective 4: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)</p>	<p><u>Enrollment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Increase RN-BSN enrollment by 3%</i> • <i>Increase Rehabilitation Science enrollment by 10%</i> • <i>Increase Entry Level Respiratory Therapy enrollment by 10%</i> • <i>Increased the enrollment of majors in the Biology program by 10%</i> <p><u>Retention</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Retain 100% of the OTA program enrollment</i> • <i>Retain 100% of Respiratory Therapy Bridge Program Enrollment</i> • <i>Retain 100% of Respiratory Therapy Entry Program</i> • <i>Retain 100% of Nursing Program majors</i> • <i>Retain 100% of RN to BSN majors</i> • <i>Retain 100% of Biology majors</i> <p><u>Graduation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Increase the number of graduates from the Biology program by 15%</i>
<p>Objective 4: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)</p>	<p>** See details and chart</p>
<p>Objective 4: Did your department meet this objective?</p>	<p><i>No – OTA program enrollment</i> <i>Yes – Respiratory Therapy Bridge program</i> <i>Yes – Respiratory Therapy Entry program</i> <i>No – RN to BSN enrollment</i> <i>No – Biology major enrollment</i></p>
<p>Objective 4: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Offer more flexible and attractive course schedules in the RN to BSN program; the 8 week course structure began during this reporting year.</i> • <i>Continue to promote the Biology major on social media and other platforms.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more opportunities for Biology students to engage in relevant research and present their research at regional and national conferences. • Continue to market the new Rehabilitation Science degree on social media, billboards, and other methods of advertisements. • Continue to market the new Entry Level Respiratory Therapy degree on social media, billboards, and other methods of advertisements.
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****See details below. (Objective 4: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective?)**

Enrollment

Fall 2019		Fall 2020		Difference	% Change
BIOB	400	BIOB	341	-59	-15
GNUR	50	GNUR	49	-1	-2
HLPL	2	HLPL	1	-1	-50
HSCI	357	HSCI	42	-315	-88
HSNU	13	HSNU	216	203	1562
HSOT	1	HSOT	62	61	6100
NURB	341	NURB	223	-118	-35
NURS	150	NURS	131	-19	-13
OTA	46	OTA	29	-17	-37
RETB	20	RETB	25	5	25
RETH	28	RETH	29	1	4
RETP	117	RETP	99	-18	-15
RNBS	27	RNBS	13	-14	-52
RSBS	719	RSBS	796	77	11
Grand Total	2271	Grand Total	2056	-215	-9

Retention

See details in the tables above.

Graduation

The data concerning our graduation rates is not available at the time of this report.

Future Plans

<p>Please identify and detail three to four measurable objectives for the next fiscal year. In listing the objectives, please use the format shown in these examples. 1) The Department of X will improve services levels by 5% as measured by our satisfaction survey. 2) The department of X will provide training in ABC for at least 73 MGA faculty and staff.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Department of Natural Sciences will increase enrollment in the Biology majors program by 10%.</i> 2. <i>The Department of Natural Sciences will increase graduation rates in the Biology major by 10%</i> 3. <i>The Department of Rehabilitation Science will increase enrollment by 10%.</i> 4. <i>The Department of Nursing will increase enrollment in the RN to BSN program by 10%</i> 5. <i>The Department of Nursing will increase enrollment in the MSN program by 10%.</i> 6. <i>The Department of Respiratory Therapy will increase enrollment in the Entry Level program by 10%.</i>
<p>Based on this assessment, please share your thoughts on the current status and future direction of this department or area.</p>	<p><i>All departments housed within the School of Health and Natural Sciences are positioned for growth and need to plan for the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>1 additional full-time faculty member in the Department of Respiratory Therapy due to growth in the Entry Level program</i> • <i>additional funding for the enhancement of the neonatal simulation lab in the Department of Respiratory Therapy; this simulation lab is also shared with the Department of Nursing</i> • <i>the addition of a full-time faculty member in the Department of Natural Sciences</i>

Open Box for Additional Comments

<p>Open Text Box For Assessment Comments:</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If the COVID-19 pandemic impacted this assessment cycle, please provide specific details below.</p>	<p><i>The COVID-19 pandemic impacted:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the receipt of \$500,000 in grant funds from the Health Services Resource Administration (HRSA) after the grant was approved</i> • <i>the cancellation of conferences in which students had the opportunity to give regional and national presentations relevant to their research</i> • <i>All ventilators from the Department of Respiratory were donated to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The OTA class of 2020 was not able to graduate in the Spring of 2020 due to closure of fieldwork sites in which our students were assigned to complete program requirements.</i>
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