

## IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

**Documents Reviewed:** Certificate in Rehabilitation and Disability Studies

### **Summary of Proposal:**

This proposal is for a 6 course, 18 credits certificate program consisting of a combination of new online courses and a practicum in Rehabilitation and Disability.

#### **1. Are the goals clear and achievable?**

Not enough information is provided regarding the practica placements to determine whether the goals are achievable (see #5).

#### **2. Is the program academically sound?**

Not enough information is provided regarding the practica placements to determine whether the program is academically sound (see #5). Also, it appears that the online courses do not exist at this point in time.

#### **3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?**

The program administrator(s) intend(s) to use adjunct faculty to teach the new courses and/or provide overload pay to full time faculty. Tuition revenue is expected to offset expenses.

#### **4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?**

There is no overlap with another unit. However, the proposal appears to be almost identical to a certificate for undergraduates in the same discipline.

#### **5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal...**

The following concerns need to be addressed:

- a) The need for this certificate is not well explained. There is a mention that there is a high demand for employment in the health services industry in the Indianapolis area. How does such demand relate to this particular certificate?
- b) The student population targeted is not well described. From which units/disciplines does the program intend to recruit? Also, who are those "people in the workforce who can use this information" [*sic*]? 30 students are expected to enroll with 10% of them aiming for the graduate certificate. What is the source for these numbers? Is a graduate certificate viable with such a small number of grad students expected to enroll?
- c) The courses offered are identical to those for the undergrad certificate, and so are the 6 learning objectives, except that stronger verbs to state

performance goals are used in 2 of these objectives. The proposal states that a higher level of theoretical knowledge will be expected from the grad students. How will the grad students acquire this additional knowledge if they take the same courses as the undergraduate students?

- d) Practicum placement: How long will the practica take? This is of particular importance to students who are currently in the workforce. Do the placements include hands-on experience? How will you ensure that all placements are of similar quality? How will students who don't live in the Greater Indianapolis area be placed?