BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
Doctor of Physical Therapy

RECOMMENDATION

This program clearly meets the Chancellor’s standards for graduate degree programs. The Regents’ Advisory Committee on Graduate Study recently voted unanimously for full approval of the previously provisionally approved degree program. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

Request: The University of Dayton seeks full approval for the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program that had been granted provisional approval by the Ohio Board of Regents in 2006.

Background: In 2006, The University of Dayton sought Regents’ approval for a new professional doctoral degree, the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. Because a neighboring university in Dayton (Andrews University) was closing its Master of Physical Therapy program, the University of Dayton negotiated a transfer of the Andrews University program to the University of Dayton. The University of Dayton sought an elevation of the program to doctoral status, consistent with changing national standards for the profession.

In March of 2006, the Regents’ Advisory Committee on Graduate Study (RACGS) voted to recommend approval for the University of Dayton’s Doctor of Physical Therapy degree on a provisional basis for a period of four years. For full approval, the University of Dayton was asked to provide RACGS with a progress report showing evidence that three new physical therapy faculty members with academic credentials appropriate to a doctoral program have been hired, and that current faculty members in the physical therapy program are demonstrating appropriate levels of independent scholarship. The Board of Regents provisionally approved the new DPT program on May 18, 2006.

The University of Dayton provided the progress report to RACGS on May 24, 2010. The report indicated that three additional full-time DPT faculty members with appropriate credentials had been hired, and that faculty members in the DPT program are demonstrating appropriate levels of independent scholarship. The report also detailed the overall academic productivity and effectiveness of the program.

Recommendation: At its June 25, 2010 meeting, RACGS members accepted the progress report and, in a unanimous vote, recommend the University of Dayton Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program for full approval by the Chancellor.

End of Comment Period: July 28, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval