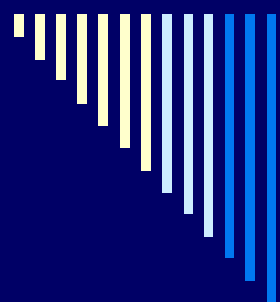


Evidence of Student Learning

What Accreditors Can Tell Us
About Effective Practice in
Institutions and Programs



Panelists

□ Mary Jane Harris, PT, MS

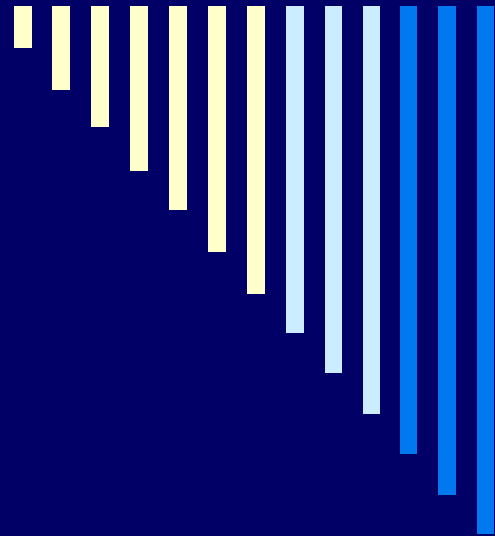
- Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education

□ Patricia M O'Brien, SND

- New England Association of Schools and Colleges

□ Michale McComis, EdD

- Accrediting Commission for Career Schools and Colleges of Technology



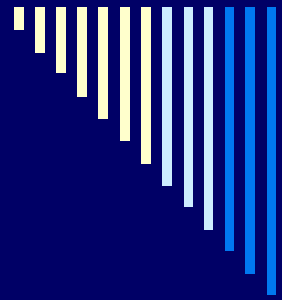
View from a Specialized Accreditor: CAPTE

USDE and CHEA recognized

480 PT/PTA programs

Licensed profession

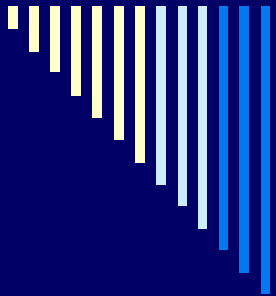
Significant change over recent 30 years



Disclaimer

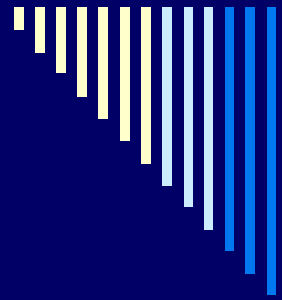
- My comments should not be generalized to be reflective of other specialized accreditors.





It is easier for specialized programs / accreditors

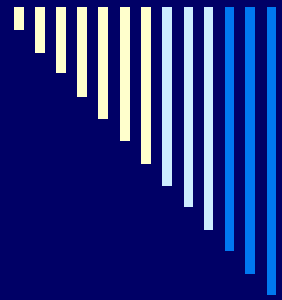
- Disciplinary focus
 - Defined expectations for entry into a profession or discipline
 - Licensure
 - Professional competence identified
 - Defined cohort of students
 - May have more control of the inputs
-



Lessons from the CAPTE Experience

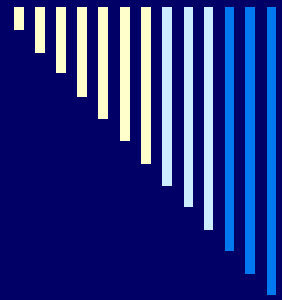
CAPTE's Evaluative Criteria describe expectations for curricular content directed at skills needed for entry-level competence

- ❑ 1978: looked mostly at content
- ❑ 1990: performance of graduates
- ❑ 1996: performance of recent graduates
- ❑ 2006: expected student outcomes



Measures of Student Learning in Physical Therapy

- “Mandated” measures: graduation, licensure, employment rates
- Other measures currently in use
 - CPI: clinical performance instrument
 - Surveys of graduates / employers
 - Portfolios
 - Comprehensive examinations
 - Focused group interviews
 - Standardized patients
 - OSCE: Objective Structured Clinical Evaluation



Assessment of student learning in other disciplines

- ❑ Medicine: (OSCE); assessment tool-kit
- ❑ AHIMA: virtual laboratory for health records
- ❑ NCATE: compiled a monograph that details effective strategies used to assess teacher candidates.
- ❑ Psychology: development of competencies



Future for student learning assessment in Physical Therapy

- Uniform outcomes assessment project
 - Set of outcomes to be measured by all programs
 - Opportunity to customize assessment by adding measures
 - Centralized mechanism to collect information from graduates, employers
-