Enhancing the Connectedness Between Undergraduate Students, Faculty & the DPT Program Within the Same Institution

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Results

• Majority of undergraduate students choose their major in high school or freshman year of college.
• Undergraduate students expressed a lack of resources and understanding of the DPT program within their institution (Figure 1).
• Undergraduate students expressed desire for admission requirements, informational meetings and mentorship (Figure 2).
• Faculty echoed lack of resources and provided ideas for potential products.

Implications

• Designing and implementing products may help bridge the gap between the undergraduate and graduate populations in the same institution.
• Future research will examine the impact of products and to also determine if graduate applications within institution increased.
• Future phases may include admissions, undergraduate student advisors and other CSP undergraduate departments.

Background

• Minimal data exists on optimizing the retention of undergraduate students to the DPT program within the same academic institution.
• Many DPT programs provide information and resources for applicants to explain admission requirements and overview the program curriculum.

Purpose

• Identify and understand undergraduate student and faculty member’s knowledge, perceptions and resources regarding the DPT program within the same institution.
• Develop resources and tools to enhance the connectedness within the undergraduate and graduate DPT program in the same institution and fill identified gaps.

Participants

• 41 undergraduate Science and Kinesiology students
• 6 Kinesiology faculty members
• 5 Science faculty members
• 4 active DPT students who attended CSP as undergraduates
• 18 active DPT students

Methods

• Qualitative data collection via surveys and focus groups
• Triangulation of data, coding and development of themes
• Action research strategies used to create tangible products and resources

Conclusion

• Themes emerged that students and faculty were provided with little information regarding the DPT program within their home institution.
• Analysis of student and staff focus groups, questionnaires, and interviews, determined the need for a variety of products including:
  • Program resource guide
  • Mentorship program
  • Social media (Facebook & Instagram)
  • On campus marketing and informational events.

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Resources Available

Figure 1: Information and Resources Available to Undergraduate Students to Enhance Connection to CSP’s DPT Program

Resources Desired

Figure 2: Information and Resources Undergraduate Students Desired to have Available

References


Acknowledgements

• Dr. Kristin Lefebvre PT, PhD, CCS
• Numerous CSP students and faculty that took part in our research

Resource Development Example

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Resource Development Example

Welcome to CSP DPT’s official account. Here you will find information and posts regarding activities, events, student involvement and learning experiences!