**CURRENT ACCREDITATION ACTIVITY**

**June 2021**

**Summary of recent site visits:**

* At its February 2021 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) voted to reaffirm accreditation for the Bachelor of Social Work program for eight years, ending in October 2027 due to a one-meeting deferment received this cycle.
* The virtual site visit for the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care entry into practice program was completed February 8-9 without programmatic issues. Continuing re-accreditation status will be conveyed for the BSRC entry into practice on July 21 during the next Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) board meeting.

**Summary of recent accreditation actions:**

* On July 30, 2018, the Higher Learning Commission continued the accreditation of YSU with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation scheduled to occur in 2027-28.

**Details:**

| **Program** | **Status** |
| --- | --- |
| Art National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) | The NASAD Commission granted renewal of membership for the following degree options: BA in Art History, BS in Art Education, BFA in Studio Art, and MA in Art Education. The next full review is scheduled for 2025-2026. The Commission accepted the Progress Report of the MFA in Interdisciplinary Visual Arts degree. An affirmation statement and audit were submitted on June 27, 2020, noting that no significant changes had been made to the majors and programs. |
| **Athletic Training**  Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) | The Master of Athletic Training program was granted initial accreditation for five years by CAATE in 2018. The next review will occur in 2023. A progress report was required because the program is out of compliance with the unfilled position of a required program director. On January 12, 2021, accreditors placed the program on probation. A Program Director position has been posted, and a search is being conducted. |
| **Business**  AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business | AACSB International approved the extension of accreditation in January 2020. Accreditation of the undergraduate and graduate business programs is extended for the standard five years. The next accreditation review will be in 2024. AACSB cited a deficiency in the number of finance faculty and the heavy reliance on lecturers. |
| **Chemistry**  American Chemical Society (ACS) | The American Chemical Society (ACS) notified the YSU Chemistry Department in August 2017 that its BS Chemistry program has met the requirements for continued ACS accreditation through 2022. At that time, the department must apply for re-accreditation. |
| **Counseling**  Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) | The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) granted full accreditation to the MS. Ed. in Counseling—Addiction Counseling, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Student Affairs/College Counseling program tracks for the full eight-year period, until March 31, 2023. |
| **Dental Hygiene**  American Dental Association (ADA) | The self-study for continuing accreditation of the Dental Hygiene program was submitted in September 2017. This was the initial site visit following the transition from the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree to the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (BSDH) degree. A site visit occurred in November 2017, and the program was awarded full accreditation status, Approval Without Reporting Requirements, at the 2018 ADA CODA Summer Commission meeting. The accreditation cycle for allied dental programs is seven years. The next site visit will be due in late 2024 or early 2025. |
| **Dietetics Program**  Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND)  Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)  Dietetics (continued) | The three ACEND accredited dietetics programs that co-exist at this time are the Didactic Program in Dietetics, the Coordinated Program in Dietetics, and the Master in Public Health-Dietetics Future Model (MPH-DFM). The Coordinated Program will graduate its last cohort in Summer 2021, at which time it will be completely replaced by the MPH-DFM. The first cohort in the MPH-DFM started Fall 2020. All three programs continue in good standing. The Dietetic Technician Program closed in August 2020 after the last cohort graduated. Low enrollment and faculty resources informed this decision.  As part of its re-accreditation requirements, the Didactic Program in Dietetics completed an ACEND site visit in January 2020 and is now awaiting the decision by the ACEND board. COVID-19 has delayed this process.  The MPH-DFM pilot program received final approval in November 2019. The next accreditation visit will be held in 2023. |
| **Education and Licensure Programs**  The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)  Accreditation occurs at the unit (BCOE) level. | The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) conducted a site visit of YSU’s Beeghly College of Education on April 2-4, 2017. CAEP’s Accreditation Council met on October 23, 2017, and granted accreditation status effective Fall 2017 through Fall 2024. The next site visit will occur in Fall 2024. |
| **Emergency Medical Services**  State of Ohio Department of Public Safety / Division of Emergency Medical Services  Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs—EMS Professions (CoAEMSP—CAAHEP) | The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program was site visited on March 3, 2016, by the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) Division of EMS, and on March 3 and 4 by the Committee on Accreditation of Education Programs for the EMS Profession (CoAEMSP). The program received no citations from either the state or CoAEMSP reaccreditation visit.  Subsequent to the submission of the self-study documents and site visit, the program received full reaccreditation by the ODPS Division of EMS and has received its findings letter from CoAEMSP indicating there were no citations and the program is being forwarded to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) for full reaccreditation for five years. The EMS program received official notification from CAAHEP of its recognition for the full five-year period. |
| **Engineering**  Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) | The Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering programs are fully accredited by ABET until 2026. Industrial Engineering is fully accredited until 2023. |
| **Engineering Technology**  Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ETAC-ABET | Final findings from ETAC of the ABET visit were received on August 29, 2018. All of the AAS and BSAS Engineering Technology programs (CCET, EET, and MET) are accredited through September 30, 2024. |
| Exercise Science Committee on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences (CoAES) / Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) | The Committee on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences (CoAES) granted initial accreditation of the YSU undergraduate Exercise Science program on May 18, 2018. The accreditation is for five years. |
| Forensic Science American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) | Application for initial accreditation is pending. Program self-study and site visit will follow. |
| Long-Term Care Administration National Association of Long-Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) | The Long-Term Care Administration program applied for its first accreditation review from the National Association of Long-Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) in Fall 2018 and had its site visit in March 2019. The program was granted accreditation on June 14, 2019. The program submitted its first annual report in September 2020. It was approved by NAB. The second annual report will be submitted in May 2021. |
| Medical Assisting Technology Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) / Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) | The most recent accreditation was in July 2004. A reaccreditation self-study was submitted in December 2012. The site visit occurred in 2013. CAAHEP granted the program continuing accreditation for a full eight years. Voluntary withdrawal of Accreditation for the Medical Assisting Accreditation was requested and granted by CAAHEP on January 28, 2020. The next review was scheduled to occur Fall 2020 although this program is being phased out due to low enrollment. The last class will be conducted Summer 2021. |
| Medical Laboratory TechnologyNational Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) | The Medical Laboratory Technology program self-study and response were submitted Spring 2020. A virtual site visit was conducted on July 23-24, 2020. The program as awarded ten years of accreditation. |
| Medical Laboratory ScienceNational Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) | An initial accreditation application was submitted to NAACLS in 2014 with the full self-study submitted in 2016. The site visit occurred in 2017. The site visit team found no standards violations and awarded YSU a full seven-year accreditation. The Medical Laboratory Science program’s next accreditation self-study will be due in Fall 2021. |
| Music National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) | In 2012, the NASM Commission on Accreditation voted to continue YSU and the Dana School of Music in good standing. A follow-up report on activities was sent to NASM. In 2013, the NASM Commission on Accreditation voted to accept the YSU progress report. In July 2016, the NASM Commission on Accreditation accepted YSU’s Application for Plan Approval of Dana’s Bachelor of Music in Music Recording. The next full review, scheduled for 2020-2021, has been deferred until 2021-2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| Nursing Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)  Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)  Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) St. Elizabeth Health Center School for Nurse Anesthetists, Inc. (YSU MSN nurse anesthesia option only) | BSN programs are fully accredited. The next accreditation visit is Spring 2022.  Initial accreditation was granted for BSN, MSN, and post-graduate advanced practice registered nurse certificate programs for five years after site visit in February 2017. Next evaluation visit: Spring 2022.  The nurse anesthetist program was found to be in full compliance and was granted continued accreditation effective May 2017 for a period of ten years. Next evaluation visit: Spring 2027. |
| **Physical Therapy**  Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)    Physical Therapy (continued) | The MPT has been discontinued. Accreditation now applies to the DPT program approved by HLC in 2008. A CAPTE team visited YSU in 2014 for a self-study visit for the DPT program. The self-study was submitted in 2014 for this visit. The site team gave a favorable report. Ten-year accreditation was reaffirmed in 2014 with a compliance report due in 2015. This report was submitted, and CAPTE granted the program continuing accreditation with the next scheduled self-study and site visit in Spring 2024. In 2019, the program received CAPTE approval to increase class size to 45 per cohort. Class sizes were increased incrementally to admit 45 students by 2021. The program submitted a progress report to CAPTE regarding the impact of this increase. After the CAPTE board reviewed the progress report in April, the program’s accreditation was continued.  The program submitted a compliance report, and a second report is due by March 1, 2021. As a result of the initial report, the program has conditional compliance on one criteria based upon one faculty member not having a doctoral degree. This faculty member has now enrolled in a doctoral program. A progress report is due March 1, 2021, regarding the expansion and the impact of the PhD on faculty workload in the DPT. YSU began recruiting a new faculty member in Spring 2020 until the pandemic resulted in a hiring freeze. |
| **Public Health (Consortium of Eastern Ohio Master of Public Health)**  Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) | The MPH is offered by a consortium of institutions, including YSU. Initial accreditation was earned in 2003. A site visit occurred April 20-21, 2009. In October 2009, the Council renewed accreditation for seven years, until December 31, 2016. Site visit occurred October 3-4, 2016, with all compliant findings. In June 2017, the program received official notification of full accreditation. |
| **Respiratory Care and Respiratory Care “Polysomnography Specialty Option”**  Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)  Respiratory Care (continued) | The self-study documents (CSSR and PSSR) for the BSRC entry into practice, BSRC degree advancement, completion program, and the Master of Respiratory Care have been submitted by the required deadlines and accepted by CoARC. The site visit for the Respiratory Care programs have been rescheduled due to COVID-19. The virtual site visit for the BSRC entry into practice program was completed Feb. 8-9 without programmatic issues, although concerns were raised about lack of administrative time for key personnel within the program to achieve their administrative duties. Continuing re-accreditation status will be conveyed for the BSRC entry into practice on July 21 during the next CoARC board meeting.  Both the BSRC degree advancement completion program and the Master of Respiratory Care program had the letters of intent and the PSSRs accepted and sent to a referee for a virtual site visit. Virtual site visits for these programs are scheduled for May 10-11, 2021.  YSU has increased capacity of its BSRC entry into practice program, placing enrollment at 25 allowable students, which is max for classroom capacity and clinical rotation sites. Originally, site visits were scheduled for July/Sept 2020. In the interest of substantial financial savings, the site visits were to occur as one CoARC visit. This visit will now be performed virtually while retaining the multiple program savings.  The polysomnography certificate program is a free-standing certificate program that is not actively accredited by CoARC |
| **Social Work** Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)  Social Work (continued) | The Bachelor of Social Work program earned re-affirmed accreditation status in February 2013. This accreditation status remained in effect until February 2021.  The BSW accreditation site visit occurred on October 21, 2020. At its February 2021 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) voted to reaffirm accreditation for eight years, ending in October 2027 due to a one-meeting deferment received this cycle.    In 2012, the Council on Social Work Education granted reaffirmation of accreditation of the Master of Social Work program until 2020.  On October 15, 2020, after reassessing the program’s candidacy, the COA placed the program on Conditional Accredited Status based upon non-compliance with Accreditation Standard M3.3.4(c). The COA restored the program’s accredited status as of April 12, 2021. The COA review of the program’s restoration report found that the program had taken corrective action and is in compliance with all standards. The program is fully accredited through February 2028. |
| **Theatre**  National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) | Due to cuts in the number of tenure-track faculty and ongoing staffing issues, the Department of Theatre and Dance officially resigned its NAST accreditation effective May 3, 2018, and will not seek reaccreditation until these issues have been resolved. Covid-19 led to the cancellation of the NAST conference and prevented completion of the internal self-study. The department will continue to gather information with the plan to present in Fall 2021. |
| World Languages and Cultures American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)  Recognition for Italian Education and Spanish Education | Resubmission of the Italian Education and Spanish Education programs to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in March 2016 resulted in national recognition for both programs effective August 2016. Next submission is Fall 2021. |

**Update on Assessment of Student Learning**

YSU has made and continues to make progress in fostering meaningful and relevant assessment of student learning.

**Assessment of Student Learning Activities**

* **Academic Assessment:** The 2019-2020 reporting cycle began in Fall 2019. Academic programs engage in assessment reporting on a five-year cycle, and programs either completed an Assessment Plan, Assessment Update, or a Cycle Reflection. Programs also had the option to complete a COVID-19 Update. Annual reports were due on November 30, 2020, and then were reviewed by 12 trained volunteer reviewers and Assessment Council members. As of April 2021, 71% of programs have submitted, 8% are in progress with extensions, and 21% have not submitted. We anticipated a drop in submission rate because of COVID-19, and we have informed deans and chairs of missing programs in hopes of prompting an increase in submission before the end of the year. Reviews for completed programs have been shared with program assessment coordinators and will be shared with chairs and deans at the end of the spring semester.
* **Co-Curricular Assessment:** The 2020-2021 reporting cycle began in Fall 2020. Similar to academic programs, co-curricular units are engaging in rigorous assessment through the utilization of a 3–5-year assessment cycle. Annual reports will be due on June 30, 2021. Following the submission of reports, co-curricular programs will engage in a peer-review process and provide colleagues with reflective and critical feedback to increase the ways programs are utilizing student learning data to drive change in their units.
* **Increased Student Involvement in Assessment:** Over the past several years, student involvement in the review and collection of student-learning data has increased exponentially through intentional partnerships with graduate students in the MSEd Counseling program and undergraduate students in Student Government Association (SGA). Annually, graduate students are reviewing student survey data and building assessment projects to take a deeper look at student perceptions. Graduate students create recommendations grounded in student data and share their findings with stakeholders on campus. For the past two years (and continuing), an assessment staff member has served as an advisor to SGA and has worked collaboratively with the SGA Assessment and Enrichment Committee. This partnership has created a two-way sharing of student data and a cohesive and creative approach to acting on that data. In addition to these intentional partnerships, in the past year 130 students have participated in ITL-hosted discussions about student-survey data.
* **Taskstream Assessment Management System:** As of the start of Spring 2021, all co-curricular programs are reporting annually through the Taskstream Assessment Management System (AMS). Additionally, 33 academic programs have been on-boarded to Taskstream AMS. Any academic program creating or revising an Assessment Plan (year 1 of their 5-year assessment cycle) is trained in utilizing Taskstream AMS for reporting. We anticipate 20 new programs being on-boarded to Taskstream in Fall 2021. The use of this system is already proving beneficial as it: allows multiple users from programs to work on assessment reports; creates a centralized workspace that encourage continuous review of student learning data; manages historical assessment reports and data to encourage reflection; facilitates alignment between learning outcomes, divisional goals, and institutional priorities; and empowers ITL staff to take a more summative look at strengths and challenges in student learning data and offer faculty-development workshops in response to that data.

**Current Student Data Collection—YSU Key Performance Indicator**

* **National Survey of Student Engagement:** The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) launched on March 2nd and will remain open through May 31st. The current student response rate is 27.2%, which is higher than when the survey was last administered in 2018 (18.7%) and higher compared to participating schools in our size category (24.5%). The NSSE is a key performance indicator for the YSU *Plan for Strategic Actions to Take Charge of Our Future.* The NSSE collects data on first-year and senior student experiences in the areas of academic challenge, learning with peers, experiences with faculty, campus environment, and high impact experiences such as research or internships. Two additional modules were added: 1. Inclusiveness and Engagement with Cultural Diversity and 2. Academic Advising. The NSSE was administered alongside the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE), a national tool collecting perceptions of faculty related to student learning and development. Results from both surveys provide critical information and benchmarking data regarding student engagement and success activities on the YSU campus.