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## **Radiologic Science Department Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Radiologic Science Program at Merritt College is to prepare qualified practitioners who are competent in the art and science of diagnostic imaging. The goals of the program are:

1. To prepare students to demonstrate competency in the essential aspects of medical imaging while meeting the needs of the health care workforce.
2. To develop skills in team building, critical thinking and effective communication.
3. To instill appropriate attitudes and foster affective growth in providing care and responding to patients' needs during imaging procedures.
4. To promote professional growth and life-long learning.

## **Description of Program**

The graduate of this program receives an Associate Degree in Radiologic Science and is prepared to complete the examinations administered by the California Department of Health Services and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. The program is a 2-year, 24 month sequence of courses, consisting of both didactic and clinical education.

## **Radiologic Science Department Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the program graduates will be able to:

1. produce diagnostic quality medical images for all basic radiography examinations in a hospital work environment, including emergency department, operating room, fluoroscopy, portable and general radiography.
2. communicate effectively with patients by taking appropriate histories, giving appropriate instructions, and providing information, comfort, and assistance as needed.
3. exercise critical thinking and problem solving skills by adapting radiographic examinations to individual patient needs and conditions.
4. function as an effective health care team member by demonstrating appropriate professional communication skills and providing services in a manner that complements those performed by other team members.

5. resolve conflicts with co-workers to the satisfaction of all parties without a manager's intervention.
6. demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning by attending continuing education courses or participating in advanced level training following completion of the program.

### **SWOL Analysis**

**Strengths:** Knowledgeable faculty who work well together. New equipment recently donated by an affiliate hospital for Positioning classes.

**Weaknesses:** Very old equipment for use in Physics classes does not reflect current technology in use at area hospitals.

**Opportunities:** Recent affiliation with new imaging site will provide training opportunities for Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Computed Tomography. Curriculum needs to be developed for new clinical course.

**Limitations:** funding for equipment and instructional programs. Difficulty hiring faculty due to disparity in industry salary vs. faculty salary.

### **Institutional Priority and Instruction and Service Goals I: Student Learning Outcomes**

#### **Action Plan Tasks**

1. Continue to assess program effectiveness by administering Graduate Exit Surveys, Alumni Surveys, and Employer Surveys; and monitoring licensure examination results on a yearly basis.
2. Continue to revise curriculum as appropriate to maintain currency with industry climate and technology.
3. Continue to shift curriculum to more active learning strategies focused on developing critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills.
4. Begin research project correlating student preparation factors with program success.

#### **Resource Needs**

1. Support services for program assessment.
2. Funding for professional development.
3. Support services for research project.

#### **Performance Indicators**

1. Continued award of 8-year accreditation by Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.
2. Improved rating of critical thinking skills on Graduate Exit Surveys, Alumni Surveys, and Employer Surveys.
3. Creation of new selection policy based on research project results.

## **Institutional Priority and Instruction and Service Goals II: Culture of Communication**

### **Action Plans**

1. Provide timely and succinct dissemination of information to faculty verbally and electronically (department meetings, division meetings, phone messages, and e-mail).

### **Resource Needs**

2. More release time for Department Chair (comparable to nursing programs).
3. President's Office establishing a mandatory campus wide department/division meeting day several times each semester to disseminate information to faculty.

### **Performance Indicators**

1. Increased faculty participation in the shared governance process demonstrated by greater input and solicitation of more information from different committees at Merritt College.

## **Institutional Priority and Instruction and Service Goals III: Technology and Media Resources**

### **Action Plan Tasks**

1. Update laboratory equipment for Physics courses.
2. Develop new courses for continuing education and post-graduate training.

### **Resource Needs**

1. Fund equipment for Physics courses (new x-ray/fluoroscopy units for D 121 and D 122).
2. Fund equipment/media purchases for new continuing education courses: venipuncture "arm," computer software, and workstations.

### **Performance Indicators**

1. Offer an array of continuing education courses (both online and physical) for local practicing radiologic technologists.
2. Complete faculty input for the remodeling of the Radiologic Science classrooms in the D-Building

## **Institutional Priority and Instruction and Service Goals IV: Human, Fiscal, and Physical Resources**

### **Action Plan Task**

1. Work with Facilities Committee on the design of the D-Building, incorporating new Physics laboratory stations in D 121 and D 122.
2. Hire part-time faculty to teach new continuing education courses in Fluoroscopy, Venipuncture, Sectional Imaging, and CT & MRI examination preparation.

**Resource Needs**

1. Funding for part-time faculty.

**Performance Indicators**

2. Offer an array of continuing education courses for local practicing radiologic technologists.
3. Complete faculty input for the remodeling of the Radiologic Science classrooms in the D-Building

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