The e-Portfolio Approach to Assessing OTD Students’ Achievement of Program Goals

Primary Investigator:
Andrea Thinnes, OTD, OTR/L
Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy
School of Pharmacy and Health Professions
Office #: 280-5929
Email: andreathinnes@creighton.edu

Co-Investigators:
Kathy Flecky, OTD, OTR/L
Yolanda Griffiths, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Linda Gabriel, PhD, OTR/L
Amy Matthews, OTD, OTR/L
Brenda Coppard, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Keli Mu PhD, OTR/L

Project Abstract:
The purpose of this project is to continue our programmatic evaluation of students’ achievement toward the eight program goals of the Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy program at Creighton University via e-portfolios. In July, 2008, the OTD program instituted an assessment project for the academic year of 2008-2009 to evaluate entry level OTD students’ accomplishment of program goals with support from a one-year internal grant. The current proposed project will continue this programmatic assessment effort to evaluate students’ program goal accomplishment with the same group of OTD students, class 2011. The fundamental question addressed in this proposal is: Is an e-Portfolio an effective way to assess OTD students’ achievement of program goals, especially in appraising students’ progression toward goal achievement?

The current project proposes to complete a second year of the same assessment project, which will follow students from the first year 2008-2009 to the second year of the OTD program 2009-2010. The investigators plan to continue this project longitudinally with the same participants throughout their remaining years in the program. The outcomes of this project will be evaluated using a mixed methods approach. Findings of this project will be disseminated at both local and national levels via professional conference presentations, peer-reviewed journal publications, as well as website and email sharing.