

Program Review for  
Associate Degree  
Radiologic Technology Program  
2012-2013

**Northern Essex Community College**

**04/22/13**

# Members of the Team

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**Lynne Davis**

**Program Coordinator**  
Radiologic Technology

**Patricia Willett**

**Clinical Coordinator & Instructor**  
Radiologic Technology

**Jennifer Jackson-Stevens**

**Program Coordinator**  
Respiratory Care Program

**Emily Gonzalez**

**Science Faculty**

**James Borek**

**Radiology Manager**  
Anna Jaques Hospital and  
Advisory Board Member

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# Program Mission

- The mission of the Radiologic Technology Program is to graduate competent entry level technologists who meet the employment needs of area healthcare facilities.

2010-2012 - 42% enrolled RTA Students – Merrimack Valley

2010-2012 – 81% graduates reporting employment – Affiliate Hospitals

# College Strategic Goals

- **Goal 1- Develop a comprehensive urban campus in downtown Lawrence**
  - Program housed on urban campus downtown Lawrence
  - All RTA courses on this campus

# College Strategic Goals

- **Goal 2- Improve Student Learning and Retention and Graduation Rates**

- Purchased Computed Radiography (CR) equipment-better prepares students for clinical environment
- Utilize *Clinical Observation* as part of acceptance process

Retention	75% Benchmark
2004	92%
2005	84%
2006	100%
2007	80%
2008	84%
2009	81%
2010	88%
2011	65%
2012	77%

# College Strategic Goals

- **Goal 4- Improve Student Career Preparation**
  - Healthcare facility partnerships
    - Anna Jaques – Hiring 6 per diem soon-to-be graduates
- **Goal 5 – Expand a “Culture of Learning” across the college**
  - Attend CIT Workshops (Center for Instructional Technology)
  - Active in state professional society
  - Encourage graduates/current students to participate in professional conferences
  - Clinical Instructors participate in college professional development opportunities  
(Legal Issues Raised by Electronic Media/Social Media)

# Strengths

- External review by the JRCERT
  - 8 year accreditation award in 2006
- Solid curriculum – well-planned sequence of events
  - Comprehensive, new graduates receive skills needed to enter workforce
  - Clinical Instructors receive course syllabi prior to start of semester / have input into the course content

# Additional Strengths

- Program Faculty
  - Committed, caring, credentialed, leaders in profession
- Regular Input from Internal / External Audiences
  - Committed Advisory Board and Clinical Instructors



# Additional Strengths

- 6 affiliations with area hospitals
  - Dedicated to student success
- **Met NECC's Intensive Core Skills Requirements**

# Challenges

- First semester of clinic RTA 191 (fall 1)- students attend clinical over winter break and receive an “I” grade –RTA 191 not published as ending in January- Frowned upon by the JRCERT
- Some assigned RTA classrooms need adequate shading over the windows to totally block sun for viewing of images.

# Additional Challenges

- Need for new Digital Radiography (DR) in the X-ray lab – stay current with technology
  - Equipment - One Panel DR System portable/wireless
    - \$160,000
  - Lead Lining Walls
    - \$8,800



# Additional Challenges

- Increasing # of Transfer Agreements
- Recruitment of additional minorities into Radiologic Technology Program

Year	Minority Enrollment	Hispanic	Minority %
2009-2010	8 out of 44	5	18%
2010-2011	8 out of 39	5	21%
2011-2012	2 out of 39	2	5%

**Black, Asian, Hawaiian, Cape Verdean  
<1% of any class**

# Additional Challenges

- Graduate Employment Rate 6 months post graduation is decreasing

Year of Graduation	75% obtain employment in 6 months
2009*	100%
2010*	83%
2011*	75%
2012*	65%

\* 2009 JRCERT – those who respond to the survey

# Summary

- **The Program Review is a way to reflect more objectively on program strengths, challenges and opportunities**
  - This program is strong
  - The challenges can be met
- **We believe that this program is vital to the community**