Public Disclosure Notice

The following public information is provided by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) regarding the

Western Carolina University
Department of Physical Therapy
Cullowhee, NC

CAPTE is a specialized accrediting agency that accredits physical therapy educational programs across the United States. The information presented below is in accord with CAPTE’s disclosure policy; staff of the Commission cannot comment further on questions specifically related to the physical therapist education program at Western Carolina University.

On October 29, 2019, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education made the following decision regarding the physical therapist education program at Western Carolina University:

Continue Accreditation and Place the Program on Probation

What is the program’s Accreditation Status?  
Probationary Accreditation

Probationary Accreditation is an accredited status; students who graduate from the program while it is on probation are considered to be graduates of an accredited program. Probationary accreditation indicates that there are conditions at the program that place the program’s accreditation in jeopardy and provides notice to the program and the public that if the program does not address the identified conditions, accreditation will be withdrawn.

Why is the program on probation?

CAPTE’s decision to continue accreditation and place the program on Probation is based on the program’s inability to demonstrate compliance with the Standards and Required Elements; the program has been out of compliance with one or more elements for eighteen (18) months. The program was found to be out of compliance with the following element(s): 4K.

What options does the program have to respond?

The decision to place a program on probation may not be appealed. The program has been asked to file a Compliance Report due March 1, 2020 that addresses the issues identified by the Commission. The Commission will review the Compliance Report at its April 24-28, 2020 meeting. Upon review of the report, the Commission may

• remove probation if the report satisfies the Commission's concerns, or
• continue probation if the report satisfies some but not all of the Commission’s concerns, or
• withdraw accreditation if the report does not satisfy the Commission’s concerns and the Commission believes that the program is not making a good cause effort to do so.

Acknowledgement of Proposed Public Notice

I have received and reviewed the Public Notice comments. A response is attached: □Yes □No

[Signature]

Date: 11-25-2019

[Name]

[Position]