Questionnaire on Physical Therapy Entry Level Education

This questionnaire has three parts. Please answer as specifically as possible. If there are any questions you prefer not to answer, please skip them and move on to the next question.

I. Overview of your Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

1. What year did your DPT program start?
   Year [__________]

2. Did you have a Physical Therapy entry level program prior to the DPT program?
   1. Yes  2. No (Skip to question 4)

3. What kind of program was it?
   1. Master Program  2. Baccalaureate Program  3. Others [______]

4. How many students attained degrees in Physical Therapy in the last school year?
   DPT Programs [______] graduates
   Master’s Program [______] graduates
   Others [Degree: [______] graduates

5. How many students are in the DPT program per grade?
   [______] students per grade

6. How long does the DPT program require to complete?
   [______] years [______] months

7. What kinds of degrees do the first year students in the DPT program of the current school year have prior to the admission?
   Baccalaureate degree [______] students
   Master’s Degree [______] students
   Doctorate Degree [______] students

8. What factors affected your school’s decision to open a DPT program? Write the all numbers which apply in [______].
   [______]
   1. Effective to attract applicants
   2. Higher level contents could be taught in the program
   3. Opening up the possibilities of clients’ direct access to Physical Therapy services (without physicians’ order)
   4. Following decision made by American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
   5. Following the trend of transition to DPT programs among other schools
   6. Others (Write specific reasons)
      [______]

9. What percentage of the recent DPT graduates was employed within 6 months of graduation?
   [______] %

II. Evaluation of DPT programs.

10. What are the benefits of having a DPT program? Write the all numbers which apply in [______].
    [______]
1. Increase in number of applicants
2. Increase in number of more qualified applicants
3. Increase in employment rate among graduates
4. Better curriculum
5. Improved efficacy of education program, resulting in improved knowledge among students
6. Improvement in National Physical Therapy Exam passing rate
7. Improvement in social status of Physical Therapists
8. Possibility of clients’ direct access to Physical Therapy services (without physicians’ order)
9. Others (Please write specific benefits)
   [ ]

11. Do you experience any issues regarding the DPT program? Write the all numbers which apply in [ ].
    [ ]
   1. No benefit of doctorate degree employment opportunities, compared to RPTs with other degrees
   2. No financial benefit of the doctorate degree, compared to RPTs with other degrees
   3. Slow improvement in curriculums matching the doctorate degree
   4. Slow improvement in fieldwork/internship programs matching the doctorate degree
   5. Insufficient time to educate the required quantity and quality of the doctorate degree
   6. Increased strains to students due to required time commitment
   7. Increased strains to students’ finance due to more required credit hours
   8. Competition in acquiring qualified candidates as the number of DPT program increased
   9. Slow improvement in social status of Physical Therapists, such as clients’ direct access to the services
  10. Decrease the number of therapists in rural area, due to trend of working in large cities
  11. Difficulty in employment among graduates, due to a trend of hiring PTAs, instead of DPT graduates for cost effectiveness
   12. Others (Please write specific issues)
      [ ]

12. What challenges does your DPT program face? Write the all numbers which apply in [ ].
    [ ]
   1. Improvement in curriculum contents
   2. Improvement in fieldwork/internship programs
   3. Lengthening the required time for completion of the program
   4. Shortening the required time for completion of the program
   5. Improvement of National Physical Therapy Exam passing rate
   6. Expanding prospective employers which fit the doctorate degree
   7. Diminishing financial burden to students
   8. Activity to promote clients’ direct access to Physical Therapy services
   9. Promotion to attract prospective applicants
  10. Activity to promote higher social status of Physical Therapists
  11. Others (Please write specific challenges)
     [ ]
13. What is the most critical challenge among the answers in the question 12? Please explain the issue in as much detail as possible.

14. If you have any opinions in regards to DPT programs, please give us your input.

III. Please answer about yourself (optional)
Age:  1. 20s  2. 30s  3. 40s  4. 50s  5. 60s  6. 70s and above
Position:  1. Program Director  2. Academic Coordinator / Director of Clinical Education (ACCE/DCE)  
          3. Other Faculty Members  4. Others
Rank:  1. Professor  2. Associate Professor  3. Assistant Professor  
       4. Instructor  5. Lecturer  6. Others
Name of the school/program [ ]

Thank you for your cooperation.