

REPORT ON THE ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION EXERCISE OF THE AUDIOLOGY TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMME OF THE SCHOOL OF UNIVERSITY OF BENIN TEACHING HOSPITAL (UBTH), BENIN, EDO STATE, ON THE 31ST OF OCTOBER, 2011.

As a matter of logistic, the adopted sequence for the accreditation exercise is as follows: preamble, introduction, observations, recommendations and conclusion.

1. PREAMBLE

The Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Registration) Board of Nigeria (MRTB) accreditation team members made up of the following eminent personalities in the field of Medical Rehabilitation Therapy:

- i. Col. P. Mogbo - Team Leader
- ii. Mrs. Olajide Johnson - Member
- iii. Rev. Adeolu Jaiyesimi - Member (NSP President)
- iv. Mrs. T. O. Akanle - Member
- v. Mr. J. D. Jogunola - Registrar/CEO MRTB

arrived Benin by air on Monday 31st October, 2011 at about 3:15 p.m. They were warmly received at the airport by the program co-ordinator Mrs. O. D. Omodaranle; an Audiologist, and the former co-ordinator Dr. Adubamen. The accreditation team members were conveyed directly to their hotel of accommodation (Precious Palm Royal Hotel) in Benin.

On Tuesday, the 1st of November, 2011, the team members were conveyed to the hospital premises and then to the location of the Audiology Health Technology School. Pleasantries were exchanged at the Principal's office and later at the Chief Medical Director's Board room along with the key officers of the School and the hospital which include:

- i. Director of Administration
- ii. Director of Postgraduate Training
- iii. The principal and vice-principal of the Biomedical Engineering Technology School.
- iv. Four (4) Audiologists including the program co-ordinator as well as the former program co-ordinator.

2. INTRODUCTION

The team leader Col. P. Mogbo gave a breakdown of the mode of accreditation exercise usually undertaken by the Board MRTB to include:

- i. Infrastructural facilities accreditation (physical facilities).
- ii. Equipment Assessment/Verification.
- iii. Curriculum Review/Assessment.
- iv. Student's Matters.
- v. Staff Accreditation.

The accreditation exercise carried out led to the following observations, recommendations and conclusion.

3. OBSERVATIONS

i. Physical Facilities

- (a) Classrooms: The Audiology Technician students have two (2) classrooms to themselves each with a sitting capacity of 25 – 30 students.
- (b) Laboratory: There is a laboratory located around the clinical area which is used for student's demonstration and patients' treatment room.
- (c) Teaching Aids: There are reasonable quantities of teaching aids comprising of toys and audio equipments in the department.
- (d) Offices: All the teaching staff including the clinical co-ordinators have their fully furnished offices.
- (e) Library: There is a space which doubles as departmental seminar room and library but poorly equipped with furniture, books and journals. The program co-ordinator however informed the team that the students have access to the main library of the hospital which is fairly equipped but yet to have an e-library installed.

ii. Equipment Assessment/Verification

On the average, there has been a remarkable improvement on the quantity and quality of equipment in the department as compared to what was obtainable as at the last visit.

iii. Curriculum Review/Assessment

The curriculum of study was evaluated by the team and areas of necessary amendments were pointed out. These include: course codes, general arrangement and course content.

iv. Student's Matters

- (a) Examination: There is the need for joint participation by the Board and the School on major examinations particularly the final year students.
- (b) Admission Requirements: There is also the need for the admission requirements to undergo joint review by the Board and the co-ordinators of the program.
- (c) Mode of dressing: The students mode of dressing was moderate enough and they all appear neat.
- (d) Lecture/Clinical Notes: Few notes were randomly selected from the students and evaluated. The coverage and mode of presentation appeared sufficient for the cadre being trained i.e. the Audiology Technicians.

4. RECOMMENDATION

i. Curriculum Review

The current curriculum should be aligned with the Board's reviewed curriculum as part of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be signed by the school and the Board for effective take-off of the training program.

ii. Student's Matters

(a) Examinations: The final qualifying examinations of the students should be moderated by the Board but financed by the school.

(b) Graduation: The Board should be involved in the graduation program and provide graduation gowns for the graduating students at an agreed token of payment.

iii. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Details on admission, examination, graduation, and other issues requiring joint participation of the Board and the school should be contained in the MOU to be jointly signed by the school program co-ordinators and the Board at the commencement of the program.

iv. Registration

The products of the school should be registered by the Board as Audiology Technicians (AT). They should be made to work under the supervision of qualified and registered Audiologists in Nigeria.

Interested Audiology Technicians who aspire to become full-fledged Audiologists should obtain the appropriate degree in Audiology from Board accredited Institutions either Locally and Internationally.

5. CONCLUSION

Having thoroughly examined and evaluated the staff, infrastructural facilities, equipment, curriculum and the students of the Audiology Health Technology School (UBTH) Benin; we have found them suitable to carry out the training of Audiology Technicians in the University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH). An *Interim/Partial* Accreditation status has been given to them being subject to re-accreditation after a period of three (3) years.

The school authorities should liaise with the Board Secretariat for details and implementation of the recommendations.

Congratulations!