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Review of Proposal for Master of Art in Art Therapy Program:

The proposal for a program called the Master of Art in Art Therapy to be implemented by the Herron School of Art and Design is thorough and in compliance with the educational requirements put forth by the American Art Therapy Association. It seeks to prepare its graduates to pursue national art therapy registration as well as mental health licensure in Indiana. Such a program will also provide sufficient counseling background for its graduates to work towards counseling licensure in other states. This is commensurate with other graduate art therapy programs' objectives.

My comments and recommendations are few:

I am particularly impressed with the program's emphasis on studio art. It is an essential component in the complete training of an art therapist. Too many programs sacrifice the "art" in art therapy for more work in the field of psychology, and I have always considered this a mistake. However, I do have one thing to add. The studio art prerequisites for this program specify "competence in art materials." I would suggest that this be more exact by requiring competence in "drawing, painting, and clay," as these are the standard media used in art therapy.

In the area of curriculum, the lack of the course, Art Therapy with Adolescents, is notable. It is a population that is frequently served by art therapists and the graduates of this program would not be adequately prepared without coursework in this area. The art therapy programs where I have had employment all offer this as a three-credit class.

I also question whether the class, Art Therapy with Families, can be covered sufficiently in 1.5 credits. I have similar concerns regarding the course called Assessment and Evaluation in Art Therapy.

Due to the collaborative work that the program will be doing with the medical research campus, it is surprising that you are not offering a course specifically on research, especially to help those students who may need this for their final thesis if it involves a research project. This is an area that did not seem well delineated in the program proposal, other than to cite what is required by AATA.

Also, since it seems that some of your students will be doing internships with patients at the Simon Cancer Center or with patients at Riley Hospital who have medical issues that are physical rather than psychiatric, the program might consider offering a 1.5 credit course in medical art therapy. One other 1.5 credit course that would be beneficial to include is a course on art therapy with older adults, as surely the graduates will be finding employment in this area as the baby boomer generation ages.

Regarding what journals will be available in the library, I believe that it would be a serious oversight not to offer the professional journal, *The Arts in Psychotherapy*. This is a journal that is available online and has information that is valuable for graduate study in art therapy.

The relevant holdings about art therapy in the Indiana University Library System is comprehensive, but might I suggest a few necessary additions:

Betensky, M. G. & Rubin, J. A. (1995). *What do you see? Phenomenology of therapeutic art expressions*. London: Jessica Kingsley.

Cohen, B. & Cox, C. T. (1995). *Telling without talking: Art as a window into the world of multiple personality*. New York: W.W. Norton.

Lusebrink, V., (1990). *Imagery and visual expression in art therapy*. New York: Plenum Press.

Finally, it may be important to say that the students of this program will be covered by liability insurance while they are doing their internships.

I appreciate the opportunity to review this proposal and I wish you well.

Carol Thayer Cox