

**Create a multi-disciplinary, student led, on-campus clinic to promote student success and meet students' hands-on learning needs and serve the community needs surrounding Fresno State.**

**CURRENT CHALLENGE:**

Interdisciplinary education in health care and health related fields has been shown to improve student retention of learning and patient outcomes. The Departments of Nursing, Kinesiology and Physical Therapy have been collaborating for many years to bring much needed Fall Prevention services to underserved Seniors in the Central Valley. The Health Center provides treatment space and referrals for all CSUF students for Physical Therapy services, providing a real-world, clinic setting learning environment for students. Additionally, many professors in the Department of Physical Therapy bring clients in for student learning or other mini-clinics. The Gait, Balance and Mobility Clinic has, for many years, provided a dynamic, diverse, hands-on, rich learning experience for students while serving the needs of the community for affordable Physical Therapy services after traditional insurance options have run out. Finally, the Department of Physical Therapy has the first ever Service Learning course at the Doctoral level. This rewarding experience allows students to work with underserved populations in the area of Wellness and Prevention.

These extremely rich immersion learning opportunities are scattered and disjointed, often hard to coordinate due to space constraints, scheduling, organization and funding. There are few opportunities to grow these experiences. Faculty are not always able to collaborate even though interest in collaboration is high. Additionally, these experiences are difficult to put into an extremely challenging academic program, but faculty know the value of these high-impact experiences and work very, very hard to make sure to include them in the schedule, often making long work days for faculty. Even with disjointed, less than optimal space and schedules, students consistently rate the live patient, hands-on experiences as valuable to their success in achieving their degree and to their future success as clinicians.

**PROPOSED SOLUTION:**

Creation of a multi-disciplinary, student lead, on campus clinic to promote student success and meet students' hands-on leaning needs, as well as serve the needs of the community surrounding Fresno State.

The current learning opportunities of the Musculoskeletal care clinic, Gait, Balance and Mobility Clinic, Service Learning, and other scattered mini-clinics throughout the Department of Physical Therapy could be house in this facility. Additionally, the multi-disciplinary Fall Prevention Clinic could offer services through this clinic. Dedicated clinical space could allow for increased opportunities for inter- and intradepartment collaboration. Opportunities abound for Nursing, Physical Therapy, Public Health, Nutrition, Social Work, Speech and Language, Recreation Therapy, Kinesiology and other departments in the College of Health and Human Services to create innovative student learning experiences and meet the needs of the community.

**BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:**

Promotion of student success and enhancement of teaching and learning through experiences that cross multiple learning domains.

Promotion of student success through partnership with local clinicians who would like to support student learning in various formats combined with opportunities for community service.

Promotion of excellence in clinical skills to serve the Valley's healthcare workforce needs.

Development of collaborative projects that can promote research opportunities and community partnerships.

Attraction and retention of talented students, faculty and staff who are drawn by innovative, high-impact learning and research opportunities

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

This project has the potential for major expansion and to put Fresno State "on the map" as the go-to school for professional programs.