

National Council on Rehabilitation Education, Annual Spring Training Conference.

Professional Development Grant Final Report

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### **Restatement of Professional Development Opportunity**

Funding from the Professional Development Grant enabled me to travel to the Spring 2015 National Council on Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) Training Conference. NCRE is the largest organization representing rehabilitation educators in the United States and the conference typically draws large numbers of participants from all over the country. During the conference I was part of a 5 person panel that conducted a 4 hour training session entitled, “CORE Site Visitor Training for Undergraduate and Graduate Education”.

### **Review and Benefits of Conference**

Participating in the 2015 Training Conference was a valuable experience, both in terms of training sessions and networking opportunities. Presenting as a panel member representing the Council on Rehabilitation Education brought our program and ATU national attention. I was also able to share curriculum ideas and strategies for ongoing program development with colleagues.

Furthermore, I attended training sessions on a variety of topics and teaching pedagogy I have taken into the classroom. The most useful sessions were updated Ethics and Issues training, legislative issues, and accreditation updates. One session addressed the concept of flipping the classroom and I learned some valuable strategies for keeping students engaged and excited about learning.

I was able to attend a recruiting session where I had the opportunity to talk with Ph.D. students about our program at ATU. At that session I also learned about how other institutions recruit and retain faculty members.

As a result of attending the conference I was able to maintain my continuing education credits for licensure and certification, which is vital to our continuing accreditation status.

### **Conclusions**

Attending and presenting at the NCRE conference allowed me to increase my toolbox of teaching strategies, stay updated on accreditation and legal issues, and provided a mechanism where ATU and the RS program gained additional national attention.