



University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Program(s):	Master of Science in Physical Therapy, M.Sc.P.T.
Division/Unit:	Department of Physical Therapy
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Professor Jayne Garland, Head, Department of Physical Therapy, University of British Columbia2. Professor James Gordon, Associate Dean, Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy, University of Southern California3. Professor Elizabeth Harrison, Associate Dean, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, School of Physical Therapy, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan
Date of review visit:	November 19–20, 2013
Date reported to AP&P:	October 28, 2014

1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- One of the leading physical therapy programs in North America and internationally
- Successful curricular innovations include the implementation of inter-professional education and social accountability content
- Admirable, high quality student research projects address questions of interest to the physical therapy community
- Extraordinary faculty research productivity

- Impressive network of collaborative relationships within the University and across external organizations

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Engaging in a strategic planning process, mapping out future objectives
- Implementing new program evaluation processes, reducing the demand on students while still eliciting quality input
- Identifying new sources of revenue
- Exploring alternative organizational structures for the Rehabilitation Sciences

4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Department to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Engaging in a strategic planning process
 - The Department will engage in detailed strategic planning that will direct the next phase of the program's curriculum renewal.
 - The Department should consider the competencies relevant to changing health care demands when developing its continuing education professional development strategy.
 - The Chair will use key research themes in the Faculty of Medicine's Research Strategic Plan as a guide to articulating the Departmental strategic research plan.
 - The Department will consider how best to build on the success of the International Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation.
 - Implementing new program evaluation processes
 - The Department will consider new program evaluation processes.
 - Identifying new sources of revenue
 - The Faculty will hire a new senior development officer for the Rehabilitation Science Sector who will provide expert support for Departmental fundraising and alumni relations.
- Medium Term (1-2 years)
 - Engaging in a strategic planning process
 - The Department will focus on opportunities for new revenue through fundraising, expansion of continuing education and professional development programs, and strategic partnering with affiliated hospitals/research institutes.
- Long Term (3-5 years)
 - Engaging in a strategic planning process
 - The Department will continue to focus on benchmarking and academic performance measurements.

The Dean's Office will follow up annually with the Department to assess progress.

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the program as being one of the leading physical therapy programs in North America and internationally. Its strengths include successful curricular innovations; admirable, high quality student research projects; extraordinary faculty research productivity; and an impressive network of collaborative relationships within the University and across external organizations. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: engaging in a comprehensive strategic planning process; implementing new program evaluation processes; identifying new sources of revenue; and exploring alternative organizational structures for the Rehabilitation Sciences. In response, the Department will engage in detailed strategic planning that will direct the program's curriculum renewal, its continuing education professional development strategy, and its strategic research plan. As a means of identifying new sources of revenue, the Faculty of Medicine will hire a new senior development officer for the Rehabilitation Science Sector who will provide expert support for Departmental fundraising and alumni relations. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.