



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

Program(s):	Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, MScOT
Division/Unit:	Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Juliette Cooper, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Department of Occupational Therapy and former Director, School of Medical Rehabilitation, University of Manitoba2. Mary Law, Ph.D., Professor and Associate Dean, School of Rehabilitation Science, McMaster University3. Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar, Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago
Date of review visit:	September 26–27, 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 top-ranked programs in North America
- Strong interdisciplinary rehabilitation science focus
- Outstanding students who are passionate about the profession
- Excellent availability and use of community resources
- Significant increases in research funding over the past decade

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Summarizing the program's curricular framework to share with community partners
- Examining the curriculum structure to strengthen integration among courses
- Exploring student preparation in addressing societal needs
- Gathering additional student outcome data
- Expanding opportunities for scholarships and ways to recognize student academic achievement
- Developing focused research themes around which new partnerships might be built
- Continuing to establish key external relationships
- Strengthening alumni relations
- Developing outreach opportunities to contribute to the health and well-being of Canadians
- Clarifying the formal reporting lines and relationships within the Faculty of Medicine's governance structure

4 Implementation Plan

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

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Summarizing the program's curricular framework
 - The Department will create an executive summary of its Educational Conceptual Framework, to be made available online.
 - Examining the curriculum structure in detail
 - The Chair will develop strategic directions for curriculum renewal.
 - The Department will engage in a curriculum mapping exercise to support increased integration.
 - The Department will purchase software to assist in managing curriculum content.
 - Exploring how students are being prepared to address societal needs
 - The Department will collaborate with academic Family Health Teams established by the Department of Family and Community Medicine.
 - Gathering additional student outcome data
 - The Graduate Coordinator and Student Liaison Officer will develop surveys of recent graduates and their employers to evaluate graduate preparedness.
 - Developing focused research themes on which to build new partnerships
 - The Department will revisit its strategic research goals and will build on emerging collaborative networks with hospital partners.
 - Continuing to establish key external relationships
 - The Department will seek to influence further health policy in Ontario and Canada, as part of its academic strategic plan.
 - Strengthening alumni relations
 - The Department will consider developing an alumni association separate from that of the Department of Physical Therapy as a means of providing a more meaningful framework for alumni.

- Developing outreach opportunities that could contribute to the health and well-being of Canadians
 - The Department will prioritize examining opportunities for advancing health and well-being among vulnerable Canadians.
- Clarifying the formal reporting lines in the Department and Faculty
 - The Chair will develop an organizational chart to demonstrate accountability and relationships.
- Medium Term (1-2 years)
 - Expanding opportunities for student scholarships
 - The Faculty will prioritize fundraising for student support, seeking increased funding for student awards and bursaries
 - Continuing to establish relevant external relationships
 - The Chair will work to identify and establish relevant government relationships at the provincial and federal level.
 - Strengthening alumni relations
 - The Department will develop more formal links with both the Faculty and University alumni relations offices to enhance alumni communication.
 - The Department will explore offering more formal professional development courses for alumni.
- Longer Term (3-5 years)
 - Developing focused research themes on which to build new partnerships
 - The Department will support research leadership through training goals for doctoral students in the Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Sciences.

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 top-ranked programs in North America. Its strengths include strong interdisciplinary rehabilitation science focus; outstanding, passionate students; excellent use of community resources; and significant increase in research funding over the past decade. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: examining the curriculum structure; gathering additional student outcome data; expanding opportunities for student scholarships; developing focused research themes; continuing to establish key external relationships; developing outreach opportunities; and clarifying reporting lines and relationships within the Faculty of Medicine's governance structure. In response, the Chair will develop strategic directions for curriculum renewal. Departmental staff will develop surveys to evaluate graduate preparedness for employment. The Department will revisit its strategic research goals, focusing on key themes as it builds on collaborative networks with hospital partners, and it will develop both governmental and alumni relationships, drawing on support from Faculty and University offices. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.