



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

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| Program(s) Reviewed: | Physiology, B. Sc., Hons.: Specialist, Major, Minor (offered through the Faculty of Arts and Science) Physiology, M.Sc., Ph.D. |
| Division/Unit Reviewed: | Department of Physiology |
| Commissioning Officer: | Dean, Faculty of Medicine |
| Reviewers (Name, Affiliation): | 1. Professor Michèle Brochu – Chair, Department of Physiology, Université de Montréal 2. Professor Nick Delamere – Head, Department of Physiology, University of Arizona 3. Professor Geoffrey Hammond – Head, Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences, The University of British Columbia |
| Date of review visit: | April 3-4, 2014 |
| 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

- “Top tier” research and teaching programs
- Comprehensive range of undergraduate courses
- Outstanding educational experience
- Graduates, postdoctoral trainees, and faculty are in great demand

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Examining graduate student enrolment
- Reviewing faculty contributions to medical undergraduate curriculum
- Supporting the four research platforms within the broader Departmental mandate
- Identifying new revenue streams

4 Implementation Plan

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

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Examining graduate student enrolment
 - The Department will continue to seek to recruit international graduate students, working within the current funding model.
 - Reviewing faculty contributions to undergraduate medical education curriculum
 - The Department will continue to provide leadership in course development and content revision of physiology-related topics in the undergraduate medical education curriculum.
 - Supporting the four research platforms within the broader Departmental mandate
 - The Department will continue to draw on the research platforms to enhance collaboration with external partners.
 - The Department will lead in the development of new research partnerships, drawing on interdisciplinary innovation.
 - The Department will increase integration of research platforms activities, graduate program advisory committees, workshops, and seminars.
 - Identifying new revenue streams
 - The Dean's Office will work with the University to ensure that Canada Research Chair Tier 1 awards are renewed.
 - The Department will continue to seek to acquire new lines of revenue to keep pace with operating expenses.
- Longer Term (3-5 years)
 - Examining graduate student enrolment
 - The Department will maintain its current level of graduate enrolment over the next five years and will be responsive to research funding developments.
 - Identifying new revenue streams
 - The Department will work to develop closer relationships with alumni and build annual giving over the long term.

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

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the Department's strengths as its "top tier" research and teaching programs; the comprehensive range of undergraduate courses; the outstanding educational experience provided to students; and the demand for the programs' graduates, postdoctoral

trainees, and faculty. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: examining graduate student enrolment; reviewing faculty contributions to medical undergraduate curriculum; supporting the four research platforms within the broader Departmental mandate; and identifying new revenue streams. The Department will maintain its current level of graduate enrolment, while being responsive to future research funding developments. The Department will continue to provide leadership in contributing to the undergraduate medical education curriculum. To support the four research platforms, the Department will continue to build relationships with external research partners and will increase integration of the platforms into graduate program components. The Department will continue to seek to acquire new lines of revenue and build annual alumni giving. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.