



OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATE PROVOST

TO: Members of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs
SPONSOR: Carolyn Tuohy
CONTACT INFO: 978-2181; c.tuohy@utoronto.ca
DATE: October 6, 2003 for meeting of October 15, 2003
AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal for a new PhD program in Rehabilitation Science, as described in the submission from the School of Graduate Studies, dated May 29, 2003

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority for approval of major program and curriculum changes.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The proposed program builds upon the existing suite of masters programs in the Graduate Department of Rehabilitation Science. It will enroll 4 students per year for a steady-state total of approximately 16 students.

The program will involve active interaction and collaboration of faculty and students with affiliated hospital research institutes, notably the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs recommend to the Academic Board for approval:

Proposal for a new PhD program in Rehabilitation Science, as described in the submission from the School of Graduate Studies, dated May 29, 2003

May 29, 2003

Professor Carolyn Tuohy
Vice-President, Policy Development
and Associate Provost
Room 206, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Tuohy:

At its meeting of May 27, 2003, the Council of the School of Graduate Studies approved the following motion:

THAT SGS Council approve the proposal of the Department of Rehabilitation Science for a Ph.D. Program in Rehabilitation Science, effective January, 2004.

The motion, executive summary and proposal are attached. The proposal was approved at the May 6, 2003, meeting of the Division IV Executive Committee.

On behalf of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies, I am presenting this item to Governing Council committees, as appropriate, for approval. Summer Executive Authority approval is not required.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Alderdice
Secretary to SGS Council
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

Encl.
/smr

c.c. U. De Boni T. Chan C. Johnston S. Rosatone M. Verrier L. Yee

April 23, 2003

Dr. Umberto DeBoni, Associate Dean
Division IV Life Sciences
School of Graduate Studies
University of Toronto
65/63 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5S 2Z9

Re: PhD Proposal Rehabilitation Science

Dear Dr. DeBoni:

As Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy I am committed to provide faculty to teach and supervise in the PhD program in Rehabilitation Science.

This program will be the doctoral stream program for our discipline and home for our doctoral stream students. The benefit of having a PhD program to facilitate the development of our research enterprise is extremely important for the Physical Therapy Department.

Sincerely.

Molly Verrier MHSc
Chair and Associate Professor

MV/ams

Motion

School of Graduate Studies Council Tuesday, May 27, 2003

Item 6.

MOTION (/) **THAT** SGS Council approve the proposal of the Department of Rehabilitation Science for a Ph.D. Program in Rehabilitation Science, effective January, 2004.

See attached.

NOTE:

This proposal was approved by the Division IV Executive Committee at its meeting of May 6, 2003.

With SGS Council's approval this item will go to Governing Council committees for approval, and to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for a standard appraisal.

Executive Summary

The Graduate Department of Rehabilitation of Science (GDRS) in the Rehabilitation Sciences Sector of the Faculty of Medicine is proposing a PhD in Rehabilitation Science. The program will produce rehabilitation scientists by focusing on studies of physical and psychosocial dimensions of human function throughout the lifespan on individuals with impairment, disabilities and/handicaps.

The PhD program is an extension of the existing master's program in GDRS that was implemented in 1995 and has graduated 34 students to date. The master's program has had a positive 5-year OCGS review. It is now time to implement a PhD Program to advance the research. The PhD program will prepare researchers that will feed the extensive demand for rehabilitation scientists and academics in Canada and the global market. Twenty-five of the existing 42 faculty in GDRS who have full membership in the School of Graduate Studies will be the core faculty for the PhD program. The faculty have extensive graduate supervision experience and experience in teaching graduate courses. These 25 faculty have had significant funding (\$100M) over the last seven academic years in rehabilitation science research. The GDRS is housed in the Centre of Function and Well-Being a newly renovated facility on the south campus. The facility has new research laboratories for the faculty in the Departments of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy and purpose-built computer facilities and graduate student space to house the PhD Program.

Initially the program will enroll four students with a projection of 37 graduate students in total (masters and doctoral) in steady state in the year 2010. The intellectual development of the students will be fostered by a variety of learning experiences to promote the enhancement of intellectual capacity and collaboration using both formal and informal opportunities for discovery. Students admitted to the program will meet standard graduate admission requirements with an A- average from a relevant master's program. The program will also feature a transfer option for qualified master's students. Course requirements for PhD program will be a minimum of two half courses, a research presentation course, and a thesis defense. The half courses will be Advanced Research Methods and Advanced Rehabilitation Research Issues. The Graduate Departments of Public Health Sciences and Health Policy Measurement and Evaluation have agreed to offer existing research methods courses to our PhD students to compliment existing courses taught in GDRS. Active interaction and collaborations of faculty and students in the Rehabilitation Sciences with affiliated hospital research institutes i.e. the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute make the University of Toronto an ideal site for this new PhD program.

Revised: October 3, 2003