

Final Assessment Report
Submitted by SUPR-G to SCAPA

Program:	Kinesiology Graduate program
Degrees Offered:	Masters of Arts; Masters of Science; Doctoral of Science in Kinesiology
Approved Fields:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrative Biosciences in Kinesiology • Psychological Basis of Kinesiology • Sociocultural Studies of Kinesiology • Management and Leadership in Kinesiology
Date of Site Visit:	October 21 st and 22 nd 2013
Evaluation:	<i>Good Quality with Report January 2016</i>

Summary:

Western's Health Sciences Kinesiology graduate program has a long history of academic excellence and enjoys a strong track record of producing students that are sought after as candidates for filling academic positions in Kinesiology around the world. The review was conducted on October 21st and 22nd 2013 and was headed by externals, Dr Wayne Albert (Dean, University of New Brunswick) and Dr Martin Gibala (Chair, McMaster University). The review was collegial, comprehensive and well organized. The externals prepared a very concise but constructive report that outlined several specific recommendations that in large part are directed primarily at the organization and culture of the program and its fields rather than the curriculum and training aspects of the program. All have concluded that the program has a very diligent and enlightened graduate chair in Dr Jim Dickey. Dr. Dickey prepared a comprehensive and detailed response to the externals' report. The Health Sciences Dean, Dr Jim Weese has indicated in his response that the Faculty will support the recommendations to the full degree that they can and that budget restrictions allow. Of the recommendations made and described below I would suggest that they really consist of a couple of important themes: 1) increase communications so that all students understand requirements and expectations not only in their own field but in all fields in the program; 2) increase collaboration and integration between fields within the program as few faculty or students appear to take full advantage of opportunities to learn from one another; 3) augment the administrative staff due to the fact that it is a daunting task for 1.5 staff to oversee 135 students in 8 different degree combinations through to completion; and 4) investigate study and desk space for students which is at a premium and while it is available it is widely dispersed and thus does not foster a unified student community in the program.

	Recommendation:	Responsibility
	For the School of Kinesiology:	
1	Investigate interdisciplinary efforts, such as flexibility in the seminar series, to address the lack of unified "Kinesiology" identity	Graduate program with guidance from KGAC
2	Develop and/or disseminate the roles and responsibilities for administrators, faculty, staff and students	Graduate program with guidance from KGAC
3	Clarify and disseminate the roles and responsibilities of SGPS representatives, the Director, the Graduate Chair, administrative staff, faculty, students, KGAC and the KINE Graduate Board	Graduate program with guidance from SGPS, FHS, the Director, KGAC and KINE Graduate Board
4	Review the constitution of the KINE Graduate Board including the association with the Grad Program and the SOGS representatives	KINE Graduate Board with assistance of the Graduate program

5	Identify and disseminate the processes of decision making and curriculum review and evaluation	Graduate program with guidance from KGAC and FHS
6	Develop an online Graduate Handbook modeled after existing resources and perhaps including elements such as "Fast Facts"	Graduate program, KGAC and KINE Graduate Board
7	Clarify the goals of the seminar series	Graduate program with guidance from KGAC
8	Develop policies regarding the responsibilities of the Graduate program and the KinGB regarding finances, such as the desk deposit	Graduate program, KGAC and KINE Graduate Board
For the Faculty of Health Sciences		
9	Explore options for enhanced staff support in the Graduate Office. Explore options for increased efficiencies in the Graduate Office	Director of the School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Health Sciences and the Program Graduate