

Final Assessment Report
Submitted by SUPR-G to SCAPA

Program:	Physical Therapy
Degrees Offered:	Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) Master of Clinical Science Degree in Physical Therapy (MCISc)
Approved Fields:	Manipulative Therapy and Wound Healing (for MCISc)
Date of Site Visit:	July 29-30, 2013
Evaluation:	Good Quality

Summary: The School of Physical Therapy offers two very different Masters' programs. The Master of Physical Therapy is a two-year, accredited professional program that qualifies students to complete written and practical licensing exams in Canada. The MPT consists of course work, practical exams, clinical placements and a group research project. The reviewers found the program to be "well-developed, well-organized and well-delivered." The faculty members are skilled teachers and productive researchers, and graduates have excellent employment prospects. However, some concern was expressed about student and faculty workload. Students, though generally enthusiastic about the program, were not universally satisfied with the supervisors of their clinical placements.

The Master of Clinical Science Degree in Physical Therapy is a distinctive and innovative program, which is offered primarily online with some intensive on-site sessions. It is designed to teach students how to critically appraise experimental and clinical research articles, to develop their research and presentation skills, and to become leaders in evidence-based practice. Its alternative delivery format puts students in contact with advanced practice clinicians and research intensive academics from across Canada and around the world. The MCISc has two fields: Manipulative Therapy and Wound Healing. The Wound Healing field is a unique inter-professional program, attracting students with experience as physicians, nurses, and physical and occupational therapists.

With respect to both programs, the reviewers were impressed with the dedication and efficiency of administrative staff. The programs make excellent use of instructional technology and the MCISc students were particularly happy with the level of support they received for the distance components of their course. The faculty were genuinely dedicated to the students in both programs; nevertheless, their small complement means that they may be stretched thin when sabbatical or other leaves coincide.

Recommendation:	Responsibility
Develop a curriculum review committee for the MPT	Program
Enhance resources for student wellness	School, Faculty
Consider admission criteria other than GPA	Program
Increase financial or operational resources for the coordination of clinical placements	School, Faculty