Mission Statement

Through excellent teaching, research and service to the community, the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is committed to enhancing quality of life, promoting participation and autonomy, and improving function for citizens in Alberta and beyond.

171 The Professors

171.1 Teaching and Scholarship

In recognition of excellence in teaching, Assistant Professor Esther Kim was selected as the 2013 recipient of the Faculty Teaching Award. Other teaching award recipients for 2013 are Heather Bredy for the Faculty Sessional Teaching Award, and Maxi Miciak for the Graduate Student Teaching Award.

171.2 Members of the Faculty

Officers of the Faculty

Interim Dean and Professor
RG Haennel

Associate Dean—Professional Programs and Teaching
L Taylor, PhD

Associate Dean—Graduate Studies and Research
T Hopper, PhD

Professors Emeriti
T Videman, MD, PhD
S Warren, PhD

Professors
D Bennett, PhD
M Ferguson-Pell

Professor and Chair in Military and Veteran’s Clinical Rehabilitation
I Cernak, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor
K Adams, PhD

Adjunct Professors
S Aung, PhD
S Hagisawa, PhD
M Redmond, PhD
J Wolfaardt, PhD

Adjunct Associate Professor
A Mihailidis, PhD

Adjunct Assistant Professors
S Caspar
I Henderson, BA, DSP
H Janz
S Leew, PhD
H Logan

L Phillips
P Pilarski
V Smith, PhD
P Tandon
J Wakefield, PhD

D Palmer
P Jones
L Wang

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Professor and Chair
K Pollock, PhD

Associate Chair
M Campbell, PhD

Professors Emeriti
A Cook, PhD
S Ganter, PhD
P Hagler, PhD
M Hodge, PhD
G Holdgrafer, PhD
A Ruchatz, PhD
P Schneider, PhD

Professors
C Boliek, PhD
T Hopper, PhD
J Rieger, PhD
J Wolfaardt, PhD

Associate Professors
M Campbell, PhD
S Cleary, PhD
J Cummine, PhD

L Langevin, PhD
L McFarlane, MSc
M Zhang, PhD

Assistant Professors
D Bea, DMD
M Charest, PhD
E Kim, PhD
T Paslawski, PhD

Adjunct Associate Professors
R Ritter, PhD
D Truscott, PhD

Adjunct Assistant Professor
S Ruffa, MSc

Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education
L McFarlane, MSc

Clinical Supervisors
S Decker
S Diediw
K Dul
D Martin
R Tomczak

Clinical Lecturers
E Arsenneau, Sheldon M Chalmers Health Centre, CAR-C
A Bird, Speechworks
J Baker, CH, Alberta School for the Deaf
A Blandy, Vital Grandin Preschool
J Barbe, Scott Robertson School
S Brook, CH, Leduc Public Health Centre
H Burrell, Calgary Health Region
M Carlson, Regina Public Schools
L Carney, Royal University Hospital
A Cassis, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital
K Cattan, North Central Public Health Centre
172 General Information

The importance of Medical Rehabilitation was recognized by the University when it established a program in Physical Therapy in 1954 and a program in Occupational Therapy in 1960. The Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology first offered courses in 1969.

172.1 Undergraduate Programs

The Department of Occupational Therapy is currently not admitting students to the BScOT Program. Students interested in occupational therapy must apply to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MScOT) program. Please refer to §205.52.1 Occupational Therapy Graduate Studies and Research General Information section of the Calendar. Contact the Department for more information.

All students must undertake clinical practice during their course of study in approved institutions under the supervision of qualified professional staff. Students will be required to complete some fieldwork/clinical placements in the summer months and may include regional, national and international locations. Students must travel in order to meet the clinical education requirement. Students are responsible for the costs associated with fieldwork/clinical placements (e.g., travel, accommodation, appropriate dress and immunization expenses).

172.2 Programs for Master’s Degrees

The Faculty offers master’s degrees in Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech Language Pathology as well as a doctoral program in Rehabilitation Science. Refer to §205 Graduate Studies and Research section of the Calendar for program details.

172.3 Membership in Professional Associations

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Graduates from the Speech-Language Pathology Program who intend to be certified to practice in Alberta are required to join the Alberta College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (ACSLPA) and are eligible to join the Speech-Language Audiology Canada (SAC). Applications may be obtained from SAC at Suite 200, 3132 Parsons Road, Edmonton AB T6N 1L8 (phone: 1-800-537-0589) and from SAC at Suite 920 - 1 Nicholas St, Ottawa, ON K1N 7B7.

Occupational Therapy

Graduates from the Occupational Therapy program may be eligible for membership in the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT).

To establish eligibility, CAOT requires successful completion of a certification examination.

Physical Therapy

Graduates from the Physical Therapy program may apply for membership in the Canadian Physiotherapy Association and the Physiotherapy Alberta College and Association.

Provincial Licensing: In order to be a practising physical therapist in the Province of Alberta, graduates from the Physical Therapy Program at the University of Alberta are required to take the Physiotherapy Competency Examination which consists of both written (Qualifying Examination) and clinical (Physiotherapy National Examination) examinations. The fee for the examination is the responsibility of the student. Information on the cost of the examination can be obtained from the Physiotherapy Alberta College and Association. Successful completion of the PNE will enable graduating physical therapists to practice in Alberta. Contact (780) 438-0338 for more information.

Provincial Licensing

Graduates from all programs intending to practise in Canada must comply with provincial licensing requirements regardless of their professional qualifications.

Employment in Other Countries

Information regarding practice in other countries may be obtained from the appropriate professional organization, which also advises on the degree of reciprocity of registration to be expected.

172.4 Budget

In the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, a variable annual deposit fee is charged.

In the Department of Occupational Therapy, a $30 Sundries Fee is charged in the third and fourth years of the program.

In the Department of Physical Therapy, a $250 mandatory instructional support fee is charged to all students upon entry into the program.

173 Faculty Regulations

173.1 Professional Ethics/Code of Student Behaviour

Students in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine must adhere to the professional code of ethics of their respective professional/licensing bodies. Refer to §30.3.3 of the Code of Student Behaviour. Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. The official version of the Code of Student Behaviour, as amended from time to time is housed on the University Governance website at www.governance.ualberta.ca.

173.2 Academic Standing and Graduation

(1) Passing Grade: Under normal circumstances, each student must obtain a grade of no less than D+ in every course during the student’s program of study.

(2) Failure in Fieldwork or Clinical Work:

a. A student who fails a fieldwork/clinical course during the student’s program. If a student fails a fieldwork/clinical course, that course must normally be successfully repeated before subsequent fieldwork/clinical courses can be taken. If a student fails a repeat fieldwork/clinical course, the student will be required to withdraw from the program. If a student fails another separate fieldwork/clinical course, the student will be required to withdraw from the program. For further information, Occupational Therapy students refer to §174.1.

b. A student who fails a fieldwork/clinical placement may appeal that decision. Information regarding appeal procedures is available in the fieldwork/clinical placement procedures manual.

(3) Promotion and/or Continuation

a. Any student failing to obtain a minimum GPA of 2.0 in any academic year will be required to withdraw from the Faculty.

b. Students identified as second-time problem students by the Revisions Committee and referred to the Department Chair for review may also be required to withdraw.

(4) Grade of Incomplete: Subject to the approval of the Dean, a grade of incomplete is normally used when a student is prevented by illness, domestic affliction or other extreme circumstances from completing the course requirements at the specified time. Where this grade has been given, the student must submit the assignment within 10 days after the series of final examinations scheduled for this particular course is complete, except in cases where, at the discretion of the Department Chair, the Dean grants an extension. Failure to comply with this regulation results in a grade of 0 for the portion of the course in which the grade of incomplete was given.

(5) Time Limits for Completion of Programs: All programs must be completed within the time limits for completion set out in §203.11 of the Calendar.

(6) Post Diploma Degree Completion: (Note: The Post Diploma BScPT completion program was discontinued effective September 1996.)

(7) Electives: An elective course is approved if it (a) does not duplicate material covered in any compulsory course in the student’s program; (b) does not duplicate material covered in the previously approved elective courses; (c) is offered when no timetable conflict exists. Permission to take courses in other universities toward meeting the elective requirements of the student’s program is normally granted if these criteria are met. Credit is granted for approved off-campus courses if a grade of C (or equivalent) is obtained.
173.3 Transfer Credit, Course Exemption/Substitution and Credit by Special Assessment

Refer to §203.5 for the policy defined by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

173.4 Practicum Intervention Policy

The Dean, or supervisor acting on behalf of the Dean, may immediately deny assignment of a student to, withdraw a student from, or vary terms, conditions, or site of practicum/clinical placement if the Dean or supervisor has reasonable grounds to believe that this is necessary in order to protect the public interest. Refer to §23.8.2 Practicum Intervention Policy for additional information.

173.5 Fieldwork/Clinical Practice Requirements

(1) Procedures: The procedures governing fieldwork/clinical practice are binding and will be provided in a procedures manual. Also refer to §174.1 and for information specific to the Occupational Therapy program.

(2) Fieldwork/Clinical Practice at Sites: When students attend required fieldwork/clinical placements at approved institutions, students will also follow the administrative procedures and regulations of that institution. Students must attend fieldwork/clinical placement orientation seminars.

(3) CPR Certification: Students in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine must obtain certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) before entering their clinical fieldwork placements. All fees and other costs for CPR certification and recertification are the students’ responsibility. Students must maintain their certification by recertifying in each of the subsequent years they are in the program.

Occupational therapy students may complete approved CPR certification courses offered elsewhere.

(4) Police Information Check: Under the Protection for Persons in Care Act, all students going to any clinical placement in Alberta are required to complete a Police Information Check (also known as a Criminal Record Check, Security Clearance Check, or Police Clearance), which must include a Vulnerable Sector Check. Clinical agencies/practice sites may require additional background checks, such as a Child Intervention Record Check. Students will be advised if a clinical agency/practice site requires any additional background checks. See §23.8.3 for more information on the general requirements concerning Police Information Checks and the fees associated with them.

Each Department will collect Police Information Checks at a time designated by that Department. Typically, only one Police Information Check will be required for the duration of a student’s program. The Police Information Check must be dated no earlier than 90 days prior to the date of collection as designated by each Department.

The ultimate responsibility for ensuring that a student meets the requirements of clinical agencies/practice sites lies with that student. A student for whom a Police Information Check reveals a criminal record may be unable to complete the required clinical placements and may be required to withdraw from his/her program. The clinical agency/practice site will determine the criteria for acceptance/denial of a placement if the Police Information Check reveals a criminal record. A student who has concerns related to the possibility that a Police Information Check might reveal a criminal record should consult with the Faculty of the Department in which s/he is enrolled.

(5) Immunization Requirements and Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: Rehabilitation Medicine students are health care professionals who will be exposed to patients during the course of studies at the University. To ensure, insofar as possible, both student and patient safety, the Faculty requires immunization, or proof of immunity, to poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and hepatitis B. As well, varicella titre and TB testing are required. A two-step tuberculin skin test is required in the first year of the program and should be performed by the University of Alberta Health Centre.

The University of Alberta recognizes its duty to minimize the risk of transmission of bloodborne pathogens to/by individuals studying or working at this University. The Bloodborne Pathogens Policy limits the possibility of bloodborne pathogens within the educational setting. The University recognizes, however, that it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of infection. Refer to §20.5 University Bloodborne Pathogens Policy, for additional information.

The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, in accordance with University policies and other available guidelines, has developed the following policies concerning bloodborne pathogens. These policies will be reviewed and adapted as further information becomes available.

Hepatitis B: Hepatitis B surface antigen testing will be performed by the University of Alberta Health Centre. For those students who test negative for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), hepatitis B vaccination will be required. An exception will be made for those individuals who have proof of prior vaccination and test positive for antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen (antiHBs). After vaccination, students will receive a second test to determine if they have converted to produce the appropriate antibody titre. If they have not converted they will receive a second vaccination and again be tested. Those students who then fail to convert will be counselled as to their potential risk status during training and future practice.

For those students who test positive for HbsAG, their “e” antigen (HBeAg) status and the presence of hepatitis B viral DNA will be determined. If they are found to be positive for the “e” antigen or the viral DNA they will be counselled as to their risk of infecting patients.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV): The data relating to transmission of HIV from a health care worker to a patient in a health care setting are limited. Transmission from patients to a health care worker is more common. All students accepted into the Faculty are encouraged to undergo HIV testing at any time during their program when concerns about infection have arisen. Testing for HIV is not mandatory.

Immunization/bloodborne pathogen requirements must be fulfilled by the date published in the fieldwork/clinical placement procedures manual. Students must sign a waiver if they are unable to meet these requirements due to medical contraindication.

Note: For updates on changes to medical testing and immunization refer to the Faculty Office.

(6) Fit Testing for Respirator Mask, as required.

(7) Dress requirements: Students will be advised of dress requirements at the time of registration.

173.6 Appeals and Grievances

Every student may have individual grades reviewed. Students should first approach the instructor concerned, then, if necessary, see the Department Chair.

Decisions affecting a student’s academic standing may be heard by the Faculty Academic Appeals Committee. Full academic appeal regulations may be obtained in the Office of the Dean.

Certain unsuccessful appeals at the Faculty level may be further appealed to the GFC Academic Appeals Committee. See §23.8.

Deadline: All appeals regarding academic standing must be received in writing by the Dean, within 21 calendar days, following publication of final results.

174 Programs of Study

174.1 Degree of BSc in Occupational Therapy

(1) Fieldwork Policy: Also refer to Faculty regulations in §172.1, 173.2(2), 173.4 and 173.5. All students must complete five full-time fieldwork placements at approved facilities under the supervision of qualified staff. Each placement is assigned a course number, and fieldwork courses are normally scheduled as follows:
OCCTH 324 Fall term of third year  
OCCTH 328 Spring following third year  
OCCTH 428 Fall term of fourth year  
OCCTH 433 Winter term of fourth year  
OCCTH 434 Winter term of fourth year  

Although efforts are made to consider individual requirements, if a student declines a placement, that placement is released to another student. Due to the limited national supply, another placement normally is not available until the next selection period. Declining a placement lengthens students’ programs and delays their graduation.

Before undertaking fieldwork courses in each year of the program, students must attend an annual fieldwork seminar, and fulfill all fieldwork prerequisites.

A student who has been assigned a grade of “W” or “NC” in a practicum placement is entitled to a second registration in this course, subject to satisfactory completion of such remedial work as may be assigned by the Faculty. A student who receives a “W” or “NC” in a fieldwork placement must repeat the course in a similar setting and type of service. If a student receives a “W” or “NC” in the second attempt of a practicum placement, the student is required to withdraw from the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Reexaminations are not possible in fieldwork courses; students who fail a fieldwork placement must repeat that course. They must re-register and pay the required course fees. Normally, a student may repeat only one fieldwork course. If a student fails the repeated course or a second separate fieldwork course, the student must withdraw from the program.

Students may appeal a course grade received in a fieldwork course in accordance with §§23.8 and 173.6.

(2) **Promotion:** Students normally complete courses according to the Program sequence. If a student has deficient credit in a course or courses from a previous term, through failure or otherwise, that student must normally clear the deficiency the next time the course(s) is/are offered and is considered a repeating student.

(3) **Program**

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<td>OCCTH 308</td>
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<td>OCCTH 309</td>
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<td>REHAB 454</td>
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<td>REHAB 455</td>
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<td>REHAB 468</td>
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(4) **Repeating Students:** Repeating students are normally required to complete a full academic program of 30 to be considered for promotion. However, students are not required to take more than the normal number of courses to complete their programs.

(5) **Attendance in Modules (OCCTH 486):** All students must complete and pass a minimum of five distinct OCCTH 486 modules. The modules are designed to be intensive and interactive. It is imperative that registered students attend all listed hours of instruction. Students with any absences from an OCCTH 486 module without a doctor’s note will receive a grade of NC (failure, no grade point value assigned). Reexaminations are not permitted. Students with any absences from an OCCTH 486 module with a doctor’s note will receive a “W.”

A student who receives one “NC” in any OCCTH 486 module must either register a second time in that same OCCTH 486 module, if it is offered, and pay the required course fees, or register and pay the required course fees for an additional OCCTH 486 module on the same or similar topic.

If a student receives two “NC” grades for any OCCTH 486 module, the student is required to withdraw from the Department of Occupational Therapy. Students may appeal a grade of “NC” received for an OCCTH 486 module in accordance with §§23.8 and 173.6.

### 174.2 Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Medicine

Master of Science degrees are offered in the areas of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech/Language Pathology. The Faculty also offers a MSc and PhD in Rehabilitation Science. See §205. The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine offers a number of credit post-baccalaureate certificate programs which formally acknowledge the study of particular themes within the rehabilitation discipline. The programs are designed to build on existing expertise of practicing clinicians and current students. The certificate programs provide both profession-specific as well as interdisciplinary evidence-based content and are offered in various formats which may include distance technologies and face-to-face learning. See §205.8.5.

### 175 Courses

Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine courses can be found in §231, Course Listings, under the following subject headings:  
Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD)  
Occupational Therapy (OCCTH)  
Physical Therapy (PTHER)  
Rehabilitation Medicine (REHAB)