

GPSS Report  
Graduate Program Review  
Dept of Rehabilitation Medicine DPT Program

On April 19, 2010 the GPSS Senate had one representative senator attend the program review of the UW Dept of Rehabilitation Medicine DPT Program. Ten students from the first three years in the doctoral program responded to questions from the four member of the panel. Key strengths and concerns were identified at the session, as follows in the summary.

**Community:**

- Students expressed a supportive and collegial sense with their cohort.
- Limited diversity in the cohort was a concern for some students.
- Students expressed having a good rapport with their professors, with good access that was “prompt, candid and thorough.”
- Members of the administrative staff were deemed as excellent, knowledgeable, highly competent and supportive.
- The community was described as both interdisciplinary and supportive of independent interests, responsibilities and time commitments.

**Program**

- The foundation course content was considered excellent by all students;
- All students held the program in high regard, and noted quality in the areas of current research, clinical practices, internships and the final project.
- Students recommended greater cooperation with the other rehabilitation clinics in the health sciences complex, as well as with on and off campus clinics, i.e Sports Medicine clinic
- Students noted that liaison for internship placement was problematic, and recommended improvements for more effective coordination and consistent communications.
- Some students felt the placements in the first year were limited, and suggested increasing the variety of exposure and number of choices.

## **Resources**

- The primary need identified was for increased access to computer assisted learning terminals and network printing. Only one dedicated computer terminal with printer was available for all of the students in the program within the department, although the health sciences library nearby provided some relief in this regard.
- Access to clinical lab space and library resources was identified as well and good for all participants.

## **Overview**

In summary, all students seemed satisfaction with the quality, resources and support in the program, and expressed a high confidence in obtaining future employment after completion. Attention to current research was a point of pride by students for a program that often placed them ahead of their peers from other schools across the country. Students suggested areas for improvement include better coordination of clinics and internships, a need for more computer resources and teaching assistant positions.