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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98195

*School of Medicine
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
Division of Occupational Therapy
Box 356490*

April 14, 2004

Elizabeth L. Feetham, Ph.D.
Acting Dean
The Graduate School
Box 353770

Dear Dean Feetham,

The Review Committee report on the Master of Occupational Therapy degree program has been shared with Department faculty, students, and staff. We are all very pleased with the report and wish to extend our gratitude to the committee for their thoughtful and thorough work. We agree with their assessment of our program. It was confirming for us to hear that the assessment of our program by the committee and other stakeholders (i.e., fieldwork supervisors, employers, graduates and current students) supports that we are achieving the goals set forth by our program faculty in a competent and quality manner.

We agree that the most serious concern is the space limitation, stated unanimously by both faculty and students. Our need is for laboratory space specific for occupational therapy teaching, faculty research space, student study space, and equipment storage space. A large multi-purpose laboratory that could be used for occupational therapy teaching is what would best meet our needs, ideally in the BB or T wings of the HSB. The lack of adequate laboratory teaching space and the inadequate equipment storage space could jeopardize the accreditation of our MOT program in the future.

Last, we agree with the committee's recommendation that the Master of Occupational Therapy Program remain at the master's level at this point in time. Rather, it seems more logical to move in the direction of developing an interdisciplinary doctoral degree in rehabilitation sciences that would meet the needs of multiple disciplines and match the interdisciplinary mission of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. We do however think that the Division of Occupational Therapy faculty should continue to monitor the trends in the profession and remain open to the possibility of an entry-level doctoral degree should this become indicated in the future.

In summary, we thank the committee for their excellent work and agree with their assessment of the program.

Sincerely,

Lawrence R. Robinson, MD
Professor and Chair
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine

Elizabeth M. Kanny, PhD
Associate Professor & Head
Division of Occupational Therapy