Memorandum

To: Dr. Adam Baxter-Jones, Chair, Executive Committee of CGSR

CC: Dr. Jon Farthing, Graduate Chair, College of Kinesiology
    Dr. Trever Crowe, Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR)

From: Dr. Dionne Pohler, Chair, Graduate Programs Committee, CGSR

Date: June 13, 2016

Re: Implement Direct-Entry PhD program in Kinesiology

The Graduate Programs Committee met on June 9, 2016, and reviewed the proposal noted above.

It was noted that the CGSR had the authority to implement direct-entry PhD programs under an approved template. The College of Kinesiology was wishing to pursue implementation with a minimum admission average of 85%, which was beyond the 80% average indicated on the approved template.

Members noted that the College of Kinesiology had identified some specific professional backgrounds in the proposal, such as Master of Public Health or Master of Physical Therapy. Members suggested that clinical professional programs often do not result in high academic averages.

Ultimately, the Graduate Programs Committee agreed that the College of Kinesiology had provided sufficient rationale to introduce the Direct-Entry PhD program with an 85% admission average, and the following motion was passed:

**Motion: To approve the direct-entry PhD program in Kinesiology with an 85% admission average required.**

    Whiting/Desjardins        CARRIED

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Clement at Kelly.clement@usask.ca or 306-966-2229.

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Memorandum

To: Kelly Clement, Graduate Academic Affairs and Graduate Programs Officer
   College of Graduate Studies and Research

From: Dr. Jon Farthing, Chair of Graduate Program
       College of Kinesiology

Date: April 25, 2016

Re: Proposal for Curricular Change – KIN Direct Entry Ph.D. Program

The Graduate Programs Committee and Faculty Council of College of Kinesiology have
reviewed the Direct Entry Ph.D. option and approved the attached proposal for curricular change.

Please consider this memo as college support for Direct Entry Ph.D. option in Kinesiology.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jon Farthing, Ph.D.
Chair of Graduate Program
College of Kinesiology
University of Saskatchewan
Tel: (306) 966-1068
Email: jon.farthing@usask.ca
PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

Title of proposal:  Ph.D. Direct Entry option for College of Kinesiology

Degree(s):  Ph.D.

Field(s) of Specialization:  Kinesiology

Level(s) of Concentration:

Option(s):

Degree College:  Ph.D. - Kinesiology

Contact person(s) (name, telephone, fax, e-mail):  Dr. Jon Farthing at: jon.farthing@usask.ca Tel: (306) 966-1068

Proposed date of implementation:  September 2017

Proposal Document

Please provide information which covers the following sub topics. The length and detail should reflect the scale or importance of the program or revision. Documents prepared for your college may be used. Please expand this document as needed to embrace all your information.

1. Academic justification:
   a. Describe why the program would be a useful addition to the university, from an academic programming perspective.
   The University of Saskatchewan already offers Ph.D. Direct Entry through CGSR. Individual units are permitted to offer the program at their prerogative according to the admission and degree requirements outlined by CGSR http://www.usask.ca/cgsr/policy-and-procedure/minimum-entrance-requirements.php#5. The goals and objectives of Ph.D. direct entry programs are described by CGSR. The College of Kinesiology discussed the Ph.D. direct entry option at graduate programs committee and faculty council. Faculty noted that
the Ph.D. Direct Entry option is intended for EXCEPTIONALLY strong undergraduate students with demonstrated research experience. Kinesiology faculty recognized that CGSR’s minimum entrance average does not qualify as exceptional. The College of Kinesiology has proposed “A cumulative weighted average of at least 85% in the last two years of undergraduate study”, rather than the minimum CGSR admission requirement of 80% for Direct-Entry Ph.D. program options. According to the current U of S “Grading System”, students with 80-90% average only show as “Excellent” performance, and “Exceptional” is considered in 90-100% average. The College of Kinesiology has also noted that potential graduate students with clinical backgrounds, such as medical doctors, physical therapists, occupational therapists, Masters of Public Health, and chiropractors are interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in the program but are dissuaded by the requirement to enter as a Master’s student. The direct entry option has the potential to enhance recruitment and retention of Ph.D. graduate students in Kinesiology.

b. Giving consideration to strategic objectives, specify how the new program fits the university signature areas and/or integrated plan areas, and/or the college/school, and/or department plans.

The University of Saskatchewan has strategic goals to enhance the recruitment and retention of high quality graduate students and to continue to improve our national reputation as leaders in discovery and innovation. Central to this reputation of innovation is research and graduate student training, particularly at the Ph.D. level. The proposed Ph.D. direct entry program will enhance our ability to recruit the highest achieving undergraduate students with research potential.

The College of Kinesiology’s Third Integrated Plan outlined efforts to enhance graduate recruitment and provide opportunities that will set us apart from our competitors. The Ph.D. Direct Entry option will enable us to recruit the highest level undergraduate students with demonstrated research experience to enrol in a Ph.D. program immediately after graduating. Fittingly, the college also highlighted goals to enhance the undergraduate research curriculum. As described in 1.d. below, we will become just the third Kinesiology program within the prairie provinces to offer this program (along with UofM and UofC). By enhancing graduate student recruitment potential, particularly those with health professional backgrounds, this program would help the college achieve its IP3 goal of maintaining at least 25 of 45 graduate students at the Ph.D. level (currently we have 19 Ph.D. students with at least 5 near completion in 2016).

c. Is there a particular student demographic this program is targeted towards and, if so, what is that target? (e.g., Aboriginal, mature, international, returning).

College of Kinesiology intends to recruit exceptional honours undergraduate students, and clinical health professionals without a thesis-based Master’s
degree such as those with Master of Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Doctor, Doctor of Chiropractor, or Master of Public Health designations.

d. **What are the most similar competing programs in Saskatchewan, and in Canada? How is this program different?**

*Information on the most competitive programs in province and Canada are listed as follows.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of universities</th>
<th>Ph.D. Direct Entry option</th>
<th>Minimum admission requirement</th>
<th>Convert to U of S standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Regina</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Only have PhDs, but no direct entry</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Calgary</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Alberta</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Only have PhDs, but no direct entry</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of British Columbia</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Fraser University</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>A- (3.67/4.33 scale)</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Victoria</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Over 7.0 on the U of Victoria 9.0 scale</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Manitoba</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>“An outstanding academic background”, but no detail provided</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>CGPA of 3.7 out of 4.0 scale</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Toronto</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although our proposed Ph.D. direct entry option will not be overly different than competing programs across Canada it will allow us to stay competitive on the national stage. Note that the majority of competing programs require an average in the mid-eighties.

2. **Admissions**

a. **What are the admissions requirements of this program?**

- A four-year honours bachelor’s degree, or equivalent, in an academic discipline relevant to the proposed field of study.
- A cumulative weighted average of at least 85% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of undergraduate study (that is, at least 60 credit units of course work).
- Demonstrated ability for independent thought, advanced study, and independent research.
- Evidence of research contributions (e.g. normally as published articles, abstracts conference proceedings).
- Language Proficiency Requirements: Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English. See the College of Graduate Studies and Research Academic Information and Policies in this Catalogue for more information.

3. **Description of the program**

a. **What are the curricular objectives, and how are these accomplished?**
Program objectives are achieved through accessibility to experiences that facilitate academic achievement within program coursework, design and execute research projects, gain teaching experience, connect with community and gain practical skills through their research. The curricular objectives are consistent with CGSR objectives for Ph.D. direct entry programs.

b. Describe the modes of delivery, experiential learning opportunities, and general teaching philosophy relevant to the programming. Where appropriate, include information about whether this program is being delivered in a distributed format.

c. Provide an overview of the curriculum mapping.

d. Identify where the opportunities for synthesis, analysis, application, critical thinking, problem solving are, and other relevant identifiers.

e. Explain the comprehensive breadth of the program.

f. Referring to the university “Learning Charter”, explain how the 5 learning goals are addressed, and what degree attributes and skills will be acquired by graduates of the program.

g. Describe how students can enter this program from other programs (program transferability).

h. Specify the criteria that will be used to evaluate whether the program is a success within a timeframe clearly specified by the proponents in the proposal.

i. If applicable, is accreditation or certification available, and if so how will the program meet professional standard criteria. Specify in the budget below any costs that may be associated.

4. Consultation

a. Describe how the program relates to existing programs in the department, in the college or school, and with other colleges. Establish where students from other programs may benefit from courses in this program. Does the proposed program lead into other programs offered at the university or elsewhere?

b. List units that were consulted formally, and provide a summary of how consultation was conducted and how concerns that were raised in consultations have been addressed. Attach the relevant communication in an appendix.

c. Provide evidence of consultation with the University Library to ensure that appropriate library resources are available.

d. List other pertinent consultations and evidence of support, if applicable (e.g., professional associations, accreditation bodies, potential employers, etc.)

The majority of the above is not applicable for this proposed change. A table is provided in response to 1.d. above which outlines the competing programs that were surveyed in the process.

5. Budget
a. How many instructors will participate in teaching, advising and other activities related to core program delivery (not including distribution/breadth requirements or electives)? (estimate the percentage time for each person).
b. What courses or programs are being eliminated in order to provide time to teach the additional courses?
c. How are the teaching assignments of each unit and instructor affected by this proposal?
d. Describe budget allocations and how the unit resources are reallocated to accommodate this proposal. (Unit administrative support, space issues, class room availability, studio/practice rooms laboratory/clinical or other instructional space requirements).
e. If this program is to be offered in a distributed context, please describe the costs associated with this approach of delivery and how these costs will be covered.
f. If this is an interdisciplinary program, please indicate whether there is a pool of resources available from other colleges involved in the program.
g. What scholarships will students be able to apply for, and how many? What other provisions are being provided for student financial aid and to promote accessibility of the program?
h. What is the program tuition? Will the program utilize a special tuition model or standard tuition categories? (The approval authority for tuition is the Board of Governors).
i. What are the estimated costs of program delivery, based on the total time commitment estimates provided? (Use TABBS information, as provided by the College/School financial officer)
j. What is the enrolment target for the program? How many years to reach this target? What is the minimum enrolment, below which the program ceases to be feasible? What is the maximum enrolment, given the limitations of the resources allocated to the program?
k. What are the total expected revenues at the target enrolment level, separated into core program delivery and distribution/breadth requirements or electives? What portion of this expected revenue can be thought of as incremental (or new) revenue?
l. At what enrolment number will this program be independently sustainable? If this enrolment number is higher than the enrolment target, where will the resources come from to sustain the program, and what commitments define the supply of those resources?
m. Proponents are required to clearly explain the total incremental costs of the program. This is to be expressed as: (i) total cost of resources needed to deliver the program: (ii) existing resources (including in-kind and tagged as such) applied against the total cost: and (iii) a listing of those resource costs that will require additional funding (including new in-kind support).
n. List all new funding sources and amounts (including in-kind) and the anticipated contribution of each to offsetting increment program costs. Please identify if any indicated funding is contingent on subsequent approval by a funding authority.
and/or future conditions. Also indicate under what conditions the program is expected to be cost neutral. The proponents should also indicate any anticipated surpluses/deficits associated with the new program

College Statement
Please provide here or attach to the online portal, a statement from the College which contains the following:

- Recommendation from the College regarding the program
- Description of the College process used to arrive at that recommendation
- Summary of issues that the College discussed and how they were resolved

Related Documentation
At the online portal, attach any related documentation which is relevant to this proposal to the online portal, such as:

- Excerpts from the College Plan and Planning Parameters
- SPR recommendations
- Relevant sections of the College plan
- Accreditation review recommendations
- Letters of support
- Memos of consultation

It is particularly important for Council committees to know if a curriculum changes are being made in response to College Plans and Planning Parameters, review recommendations or accreditation recommendations.

Consultation Forms
At the online portal, attach the following forms, as required

Required for all submissions:

- Consultation with the Registrar form
- Complete Catalogue entry, if proposing a new program, or excerpt of existing of existing program with proposed changes marked in red

KIN Direct-Entry PhD

Admission Requirements

With the recommendation of the unit, direct entry Ph.D. admission is available to exceptionally strong students, who show great promise in terms of academic accomplishments and potential for research.

- A four-year honours bachelor's degree, or equivalent, in an academic discipline relevant to the proposed field of study.
- A cumulative weighted average of at least 85% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of undergraduate study (that is, at least 60 credit units of course work).
- Demonstrated ability for independent thought, advanced study, and independent research.
Evidence of research contributions (e.g. normally as published articles, abstracts, conference proceedings).

Language Proficiency Requirements: Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English. See the College of Graduate Studies and Research Academic Information and Policies in this Catalogue for more information.

Degree Requirements

Students must maintain continuous registration in the KIN 996 course.

- At least 9 credit units of course work at the graduate level must be successfully completed in the first year of the program.
- Within the first year of program, successfully complete a Ph.D. Qualifying examination that is at least as rigorous as the defence for a Master’s thesis in the program area.
- GSR 960.0
- GSR 961.0 if research involves human subjects
- GSR 962.0 if research involves animal subjects
- A minimum of 15 credit units, including:
  - KIN 807.3
  - KIN 808.3 Note: it is permissible, with the supervisor’s and advisory committee’s permission, to substitute another course in data analysis for KIN 808.3
  - Students must select, either from the College of Kinesiology or another College, and additional 9 credit units of courses related to area of study. These 9 credit units of course work must be approved by both the supervisor and advisory committee.
    - KIN 990.0
    - KIN 996.0
- Write a research grant; and have exposure to teaching during their time of residence in the program.
- Pass a comprehensive examination, after completing the required course work, and prior to focusing on their research and doctoral thesis.
- Write and successfully defend a thesis based on original investigation.
- Student must enroll in KIN 990.0 until the research proposal is presented.

Required for all new courses:
- New Course Proposal forms
- Calendar-draft list of new and revised courses

Required if resources needed:
- Information Technology Requirements form
- Library Requirements form
- Physical Resource Requirements form
- Budget Consultation form