REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM

Program: Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program

Department/Division: Rehabilitation Sciences

College: College of Health Sciences

Degree Title (Old): Rehabilitation Sciences Degree Title (New): Same

CIP Code: 

Accrediting Agency (if applicable): 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. PROPOSED CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Number of transfer credits allowed</td>
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<td>2. Residence requirement</td>
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<td>(minimum of one year before and after Qualifying Exams)</td>
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<td>3. Language(s) and/or skill(s) required</td>
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<td>4. Provisions for monitoring progress and Termination criteria</td>
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<td>5. Total credit hours required (if applicable)</td>
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<td>6. Required courses (if applicable) RHB 789.(1-4 credits) RHB 789.(1-7 credits) Optional if student Repeat a minimum of has previous research 3 times for a minimum experience of 9 cr. hrs. total</td>
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<td>7. Required distribution of courses within program (if applicable)</td>
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<td>8. Minor area or courses outside program required (if applicable)</td>
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<td>9. Distribution of courses levels required (400G-500/600-700)</td>
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<td>10. Qualifying examination requirements</td>
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NOTE: To the extent that changes in 6 or 8 above involve additional courses to other programs, please include documentation from the program(s) pertaining to the availability of such courses.

MAR 06 2003
II. RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S)
If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.
At present, students are only required to complete one, 1-4 credit Research Apprenticeship. In our approved plan, this apprenticeship was optional for those who had participated in some level of research in the past. The keystone of doctoral education is the research process. The faculty believes that a more comprehensive research experience must be required of all students if they are going to achieve the necessary competencies in the research process. Having at least three Research Apprenticeship experiences will provide a broad base of experience, expose students to different ideas, methodologies, and protocols and will help them develop their area of interest based on real experience.
Multiple practica will also foster interdisciplinary relations and knowledge required of an interdisciplinary program. Students will have the opportunity to learn from different faculty who could potentially serve on their committees.

This change in program might add up to 5 credits to a student's course of study. We do not believe this change is significant since the students will have to achieve a base level of research knowledge and skills to pass their qualifying examination and complete a dissertation no matter how many Research Apprenticeship experiences they have. By requiring a minimum of 3 Research Apprenticeships for a minimum of 9 credits, we are clearly identifying the required competencies and course of study so that students have a better chance of success.

Signatures of Approval:

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate
MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, Department Chairs, and Members of the Senate
FROM: Sharon R. Stewart, Ed.D.
Acting Associate Dean, College of Health Sciences

TOPIC: Application for Change in Existing Courses and Change in Program for the Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program
DATE: January 21, 2003

The College of Health Sciences recommends for your approval the following change in an existing course and change in program for the Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program:

RHB 770: Professional Seminar in Rehabilitation Sciences
   Proposed Changes: Change from 1 credit to variable credit (1-3) and change in course description

   Present Description: A study of selected topics in the Rehabilitation Sciences with emphasis on recent research and theory in the disciplines of communication disorders, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Includes topics in health systems delivery, interdisciplinary issues, and research methodologies. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

   New Description: A study of selected topics related to leadership issues in the Rehabilitation Sciences with emphasis on recent research and theory related to higher education and to the communication disorders, occupational therapy, and physical therapy disciplines. Sample topics include research methods and current topics, interdisciplinary issues, health systems, grant writing, teaching and learning in higher education, and the culture of colleges and universities. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

   Rationale: The change to variable credit will allow greater flexibility in the course. We have found that certain topics warrant more than 1 hour of credit. The new description is proposed to allow opportunities for study related to assuming leadership roles in higher education as well as discipline-specific and interdisciplinary topics of interest.

RHB 789: Research Apprenticeship
   Proposed Change: Change from 1-4 credits to 1-7 credits.

   Rationale: The change allows for greater flexibility and variety in student research apprenticeship experiences depending upon the students' schedules and available opportunities.
Change in Doctoral Degree Program

Proposed Change: Change in requirement for Research Apprenticeship as follows:

Present Description (p. 114, Grad Bulletin): A research apprenticeship is required for students without prior research experience but may be taken by all students.

RHB 789 (1-4)

New Description: A research apprenticeship is required for all students. The Research Apprenticeship course is variable credit and must be repeated at least 3 times for a minimum of 9 credit hours.

RHB 789 (1-7)

Rationale: At present, students are required to complete one, 4-credit hour Research Apprenticeship. This Apprenticeship is optional for those who have participated in research in the past. The keystone of doctoral education is the research process. The faculty believes that a more comprehensive research experience must be required if students are to achieve the necessary competencies in the research process. Having at least three Research Apprenticeship experiences will provide a broad base of experience, expose students to different ideas, methods, and protocols, and will help them develop an area of interest based on experience. Multiple Apprenticeships will foster interdisciplinary relations and knowledge required of an interdisciplinary program.

This change in program might add up to five credits to a student's course of study. We do not believe this change is significant since the students must achieve a base level of research knowledge and skills to pass qualifying examinations and complete the dissertation, no matter how many Research Apprenticeship experiences they have. Requiring 3 Research apprenticeships for a total of 9 credits clearly identifies the required competencies and course of study.

Contact person: Susan K. Effgen, Ph.D.
Ph.: 323-1100, ext 80579
February 28, 2003

Douglass S. Kalika, Ph.D., Chair
Graduate Council
359 Patterson Office Tower
CAMPUS 0027

Dear Dr. Kalika:

At its meeting on February 25, 2003, the Academic Council for the Medical Center approved, and recommends approval by the Graduate Council, for the proposals from the College of Health Sciences to change RHB 770, Professional Seminar in Rehabilitation Sciences; RHB 789, Research Apprenticeship; and to revise the Rehabilitation Sciences Doctoral Program.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Phyllis P. Nash, Ed.D.
Associate Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

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attachments

c: Thomas C. Robinson, Ph.D.
Sharon E. Stewart, Ed.D.
Jacque Hager
Senate Council Office