Dear Clinical Educators:

We are gearing up for the next batch of students to start in September and looking forward to the year ahead. Reflecting on the previous year I wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you for your continued support of the clinical education of our students. For those in public practice I know that the last year has been particularly difficult for you and I sincerely appreciate the placement offers you have made.

We have a number of changes in our program starting this year and I will attempt to outline some of them in this newsletter. The first big change although not very new is that Deb Martens has been working with me in Clinical Education since October. The year has flown by and Deb is settling in to the workings of the placement process. A belated welcome to Deb.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and I look forward to collaborating with you this year.

- Mark

want to hear from you!

Clinician feedback session. We would like to hear from clinicians who have supervised students in the past couple years. We will be hosting webinar on 8 October to provide you with some information on the program, take your questions and to give you an opportunity to provide us with feedback about the program.

Program updates

As some of you may already know this year we have made some changes to our admissions policies. Previously we accepted the best of the best students that applied regardless of province of residence. This year we have admitted 85% Alberta residents into the program while still maintaining a very high and competitive average GPA. The remaining 15% of seat will be open to students from across Canada as well as international applicants. We hope this will help us retain more graduates in Alberta as well as being able to better utilize some of the offers from the smaller towns that sometimes go unused.

Of the total 80 students admitted this year we have admitted 10 students to a satellite program at the Augustana Campus in Camrose. This will involve the latest technology in high definition video conferencing that will allow us to beam lectures from Edmonton to Camrose where we will have dedicated teaching and lab assistants to help with program delivery. We also have the capability to offer the lectures in Camrose and beam them to Edmonton. The program aims to add a rural emphasis to PT education with many placements being in the surrounding areas. We are very excited about this new development.

SHINE Clinic

The students have begun to offer physiotherapy services at the SHINE clinic, an inner city clinic for at risk youth. The clinic is open on Saturday afternoons and we rely on PT volunteers to supervise the students. Patient numbers have been a bit slow this year but the students are looking at ways to attract more patients. If you are interested please contact Mark. 

Upcoming placement dates:

- PTHER 520 8 Nov - 17 Dec
- PTHER 517 6-10 Dec
- PTHER 521 21 March—28 Apr
- PTHER 522/518A 2 May—9 June
- PTHER 523/518B 13 June—21 July

ARCC Awards

- The ARCC awards this year will be held in Camrose on Friday, 24 September. Nominations have closed and the winners will be announced at the dinner. Get tickets early as it sells out fast. For more information and purchasing tickets please go to the ARCC website.

Welcome to the New Sites

- CSA Grandin Plaza Physiotherapy
- Canadian Health and Sports
Clinical Program

We will continue with the same format for placements this year, that means two placements in the fall (517 and 520) and the remaining in the Spring. Each long placement will be 6 weeks in length, this gives us a total of 31 weeks of clinical education.

As you may know the Essential Competency Profile For Physiotherapists in Canada was recently updated (Oct 09). The course outlines for each of the placements has been updated to reflect this change. Course outlines will be sent out with closer to each placement.

We continue to use HSPnet to manage our placements. This web based system has proved to be quite useful in the coordination of placements. We had a couple bugs which we seem to have been worked out and we are looking forward to a smooth placement matching in the fall. If you would like to use HSPnet please let us know.

CSCE Workshops in Grande Prairie

Mark Hall, Luanne McFarlane (SPA) and Jutta Hinrichs (OT) recently offered two half day workshops to rehab therapists in Grande Prairie. Each year CSCE hold workshops on student supervision to help new and experienced therapists get the most out of the supervision and placement experience. The morning workshop focused on the basics of student supervision, things to look out for, how to prepare for taking a student for the first time. The afternoon workshop focused on dealing with the challenging student. Both workshops were well attended and we hope to be able to offer workshops in another part of the province next year.