Dear Clinical Educators:

As this academic year draws to a close and we finish up the paperwork for our last clinical placement this is a good opportunity to remind you of some of the changes that have and will be taking place in the MScPT entry level program as well as some other initiatives and happenings that have taken place over the last few months. Tamie has been working on a project that will see more regular communication with you, the clinical supervisors, and the Department of Physical Therapy about events, workshops and resources that may be of interest to you. If there is anything you would like to see in this newsletter please let us know and we will do our best to include it.

Thank you for all your contributions over the last year, we really do appreciate all that you do for our program.

From both Tamie and I we wish you a relaxing and hopefully a warm summer.

- Mark

Around Corbett Hall

Our second year students are currently on campus doing course work related to their major project, professional issues and health management across the continuum. The students’ will finish classes on July 31st and then will be on vacation until August 31st which is the first day of the final clinical placement.

First year students are currently on vacation and will begin classes on August 4th. As a result of program changes the timing and delivery of some courses have changed. We have tried to incorporate clinician feedback into these program changes to better prepare students for clinical placements. For example, the Medications in Physical Therapy course will now be offered in August at the beginning of the second year instead of at the end of the program. This will allow students to use this knowledge of medications on clinical placement. This will also be the first year that we offer a number of courses online for our first year students beginning in August of which Medications in Physical Therapy is one. The two other courses that lend themselves well to this method of delivery are the Professional Issues and Critical Appraisal courses.

Clinical Program Changes

This year there will be a couple of changes to the MScPT program. Our first year students will be doing their one week clinical placement in December instead of October and this will overlap with the intermediate placement. We are hoping the intermediate students will be able to provide some mentorship to these novice students during that week. In addition, the novice students will be getting a taste of clinical practice during an afternoon’s shadowing experience. The will be taking place in Edmonton at the end of September or beginning of October. The purpose of this day is to further diversify the students’ clinical experience and expose them to areas of practice they may not be familiar with. In the spring we will be running three placements in a row; each will be six weeks in duration and will take place after the students have completed the majority of their academic course work.

CSCE Workshops in Lethbridge and Edmonton

Susan Mulholland (ACCE OT) and Mark Hall recently conducted two workshops in Lethbridge and Edmonton for The Centre for Studies in Clinical Education (CSCE). These were two half day workshops in each location focussing on student supervision for novice clinical instructors and dealing with challenging students. The workshops were well attended with 81 participants.

Mark Your Calendars

- The Alberta PT Conference “Health in Motion 2009” will be taking place on 14 and 15 November. We are currently in the planning stages of the conference and will be posting changes as they become available. Check out our conference website for regular updates.

ARCC Awards

- The ARCC awards this year will be held in Calgary on Friday, 18 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

- Performance Physiotherapy—Stettler
- Summerside Physiotherapy—Edmonton
- Function First Pediatrics—Grande Prairie

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