



Quality Assurance Cyclical Undergraduate Program Review – Executive Summary and Implementation Plan

School of kinesiology

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Science

March 2025

Programs Reviewed

Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology (HBK)

Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology, Co-op

Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology, Bachelor of Education, (HBK BEd)

Primary Junior (P/J), Intermediate Senior (I/S), and Accelerated P/J and I/S

Master of Science in Kinesiology (MSc Kin)

with the option of a specialization in Gerontology

Graduate Diploma in Professional Kinesiology (GDip Kin)

Executive Summary

In accordance with the Lakehead University Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), the School of Kinesiology submitted a self-study (October 2019). Volume I presented the undergraduate program descriptions and outcomes, an analytical assessment of the programs, and program information along with institutional information and statistical data. Volume II provided course syllabi. Volume III provided the CVs for 10 core faculty members, 5 adjunct professors and contract lecturers, and 3 staff members contributing to the delivery of the programs.

The Review Team for this cyclical program review included two external reviewers and one internal reviewer selected by the Senate Academic Quality Assurance Sub-Committee (SAC-QA) from a set of proposed reviewers. The reviewers examined materials and completed a two-day site visit on November 11-12, 2019. The site visit included meetings with the Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Deputy Provost and Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning); Dean of the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences; the Director of the School; three joint sessions including faculty members, staff and key contract lecturers; separate groups of undergraduate and graduate students; the University Librarian and Liaison Librarian; Director and staff from the International Office; the Dean and staff of the Faculty of Graduate Studies; and, the

Associate Vice-President (Research and Graduate Studies). The Review Team toured the Kinesiology facilities (C.J. Saunders Building) and parts of the Thunder Bay campus including the Teaching Commons (Chancellor Paterson Library) and CASES.

In their report (December 2019), the Review Team provided feedback that describes how the programs delivered by the School of Kinesiology meet the Quality Assurance Framework evaluation criteria and align with the University mission, strategic plan and academic plan. The Review Team noted that the programs are of high quality and offer students a regionally connected and learner-centred experience supported by the full-time faculty members and many highly qualified Adjuncts, members of Technical Staff and Sessional lecturers.

At both the undergraduate and graduate level, students must meet the standard University admission policies which are appropriate for the Program Learning Outcomes. Curriculum structure and delivery, and teaching and assessment methods are appropriate, are aligned with comparable programs across Canada at the undergraduate and graduate level, reflect the current state of the discipline, and are effective in preparing graduates to meet defined program outcomes and the University's Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Level Expectations.

The Review Team noted several strengths of the School of Kinesiology programs and summarized them as follows:

- full-time graduate students are supervised by productive and engaging faculty researchers and supported by adequate funding through internal and external sources.
- the combination of online, in-person, and practicum learning in the GDip Kin program affords students much flexibility to complete the program from a distance and/or whilst employed in the field. It is a highly innovative program that is in strong demand and is meeting the needs of students well.
- The quality of teaching in the School is high, with students consistently ranking courses/instructors higher than the faculty/institution mean on student evaluation of teaching surveys.
- Faculty members have been nominated for and received teaching awards and have received Lakehead University merit awards for both teaching and research.
- The entering average of HBK students is currently 81.3% and the mean undergraduate average has remained relatively constant around 75%.
- As a noteworthy indicator of quality, since 2012, 36 peer-reviewed journal publications and over 100 conference presentations have been disseminated at local, national and international levels by MSc Kin students.

- The Honours thesis outcomes appear to be highly effective- students and administrators both identified the poster day as an academic highlight for the unit.
- It is important to note that this group is supported by an experienced group of administrative and technical staff.

Responses to the Review Team were received from the Director of the School of Kinesiology (March 2020), and the Dean of the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences (June 2020).

A Final Assessment Report (FAR) has been prepared to provide a synthesis of the external evaluation and internal response to the recommendations. This report identifies the significant strengths of the program, the opportunities for program improvement and enhancement, and sets out and prioritizes the recommendations that have been selected for implementation.

Implementation Plan

The Implementation Plan included below identifies the academic unit's plans to action the recommendations, those responsible for ensuring their implementation and the timelines.

Implementation Plan (Part A): Program Responsibilities

Implementation of the Recommendations	Proposed Follow-up	Responsibility*	Timeline
Undergraduate			
Maintain commitment to Curriculum Review and Renewal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance requirements • Course load • Course timing • Electives (KINE and non-KINE) • Opportunities for experiential learning 	As part of ongoing curriculum review, hold discussions with School faculty and staff including students and external resources (e.g. Office of the Registrar, International Office) as appropriate; where appropriate, implement change as per University requirements	Director; Curriculum Committee; other department heads as appropriate; Office of the Registrar	Sept 2021
Develop non-Honours version of the HB Kin degree	After consultation and consensus, implement change as per University requirements	Director	Sept 2020
Discuss Concurrent Education program option with Faculty of Education	Meet with representatives from Faculty of Education to review structure and function of degree requirements; if appropriate, implement change as per University requirements	Director; Chair – UG Programs, Faculty of Education.	January 2022
Review current Faculty advising system	Hold consultations with students as well as faculty and staff, including Enrollment Services, to ensure that advising is meeting the needs of students while upholding	Director; existing faculty advisors; Office of the Registrar	June 2021

	standards of the University		
Explore pedagogical mechanisms for developing and assessing student group work skills	Work with Teaching Commons staff and experts to identify and pilot appropriate explicit skill development in effective group work	KINE Curriculum Committee; Director; Teaching Commons	Sept 2021
Graduate			
Reduce course requirements in MSc KIN	Following consultation, implement change as per University requirements	Graduate Studies Coordinator; Office of Graduate Studies	Sept 2020
Explore possibility of offering a flex-time option for the MSc KIN	Following consultation, implement change, if appropriate, as per University requirements	Graduate Studies Coordinator; Office of Graduate Studies	Sept 2021
Consider appropriate ways to acknowledge work experience in meeting admission requirements	Following consultation, implement change, if appropriate, as per University requirements	Graduate Studies Coordinator; Office of Graduate Studies	Sept 2021
Note – as all Academic Units will be developing their response to the Academic Plan (2019-2024), some of these items may be addressed as part of this process.			

Implementation Plan (Part B): Decanal & Administration Responsibilities

Implementation of the Recommendations	Proposed Follow-up	Responsibility*	Timeline
Meet regularly with School of Kinesiology to monitor progress on the Implementation Plan**	Report to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) as part of the Annual Review process	Dean FHBS*	Annually

*indicates individual or office with responsibility

**Note - The Dean of the Faculty, in consultation with the School Director shall be responsible for monitoring the Implementation Plan. The details of progress made will be presented in the Deans' Annual Reports and filed in the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic).