

Dr. Blye Frank, Professor and Dean
Faculty of Education

February 13, 2015

Corrections to External Review Report of the UBC School of Kinesiology, January 9,
2015

Dear Blye:

The new University guidelines for external reviews require the unit head to provide corrective comments after an external review report has been received. The comments are only intended to address errors of fact or interpretation.

I conferred with the School's Leadership Team (LT) on February 3rd and prepared a draft which was reviewed by the full Leadership Team and Advisory Committee (LTAC), February 11th and then edited by several senior faculty members after a School meeting on February 12th.

We are very grateful for the hard work and insightful comments of the External Review Committee, and we heartedly thank them for taking time from their own busy leadership roles to review the School's Self-study report, travel to UBC, interview faculty, staff and students and prepare their report.

The report has many excellent points and the School is in process of preparing a response to the review and a strategic implementation plan.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bob Sparks, Professor and Director
School of Kinesiology

Corrections to External Review Report of the UBC School of Kinesiology, January 9, 2015

1. Faculty complement

- a. **p. 8/18, line 4 from top.** The Committee wrote, “There is a sustained history of generating >\$1M annually across the School’s **21 faculty members....**”

Correction: The actual faculty complement when the ERC visited the School was 25 faculty members (23.73 FTE), including two RHI-MSFHR scholars who were hired in grant tenure positions in September 2014.

The School had seven additional hirings underway when the ERC visited, which will potentially bring the faculty complement to 32 headcount and 30.23 FTE. These include the new Director of the School, a CRC in Exercise Psychology, a senior spousal appointment in Exercise and Sport Psychology, and searches for Socio-cultural studies, Statistics and Research Methods, Sports Nutrition & Dietetics (.5 FTE), and Aboriginal Health, Physical Activity and Exercise.

- b. **p. 11/18, line 8 from bottom.** The ERC wrote: “The Student/Faculty ratio is **currently over 50**; with the desperately needed new faculty hires that are approved and ongoing the ratio **may move to the low 40s.**”

Correction: The current student/faculty ratio is 1197/25 or 47.88. The projected ratio based on the seven new hirings is 1197/32 or 37.41.

- c. **p. 11/18, line 5 from bottom.** The ERC wrote: “Another consequence of such high student/faculty ratios is that **almost 50% of the current curriculum** is delivered by sessional instructors.”

Correction: This year, 41.4% of the undergraduate curriculum is being delivered by sessional instructors (29 course sections/70 total sections), including summer and winter sessions. The sessional figure includes 9 courses offered by graduate students and 2 taught by postdocs, however, and teaching experience for graduate and postdoctoral students is a priority for the School. Excluding these 11 courses, the percentage of courses taught by sessionals is 25.7% (18/70).

2. Undergraduate Program

The External Review Committee (ERC) made several statements about the School’s undergraduate program, student support tools, and community programs that were inaccurate.

- a. **p. 10/18, line 9 from bottom.** The Report states “As an indicator of the currency of the administrative tools used in the undergraduate program we asked about the availability of an electronic degree navigator/tracker; faculty

members that we met on the Undergraduate Committee **seemed unaware of such a tool** --- we wonder if that is the case with students as well.”

Correction: The Undergraduate Committee is very aware of the University’s degree navigator system but the current system the School is using for tracking student records is not compatible with that of the University. There is hope that a new University system may be a better fit for the School’s needs.

- b. p. 11/18, line 3 from top. Minor Correction:** The Physical and Health Education stream was mislabeled in the report as “**Physical Education and Health**”. The BKin stream – Physical and Health Education – was designed to have a health education component as well as a physical education component.
- c. p. 11/18, line 8 from top. Minor Correction:** “**Active Adults**” is not the name of the Outreach Programs the School operates for adults. There are actually two programs for adult populations and they are well established, trademarked programs called “BodyWorks Fitness Centre” and the “Changing Aging Program”.