Ongoing Improvement Progress Report

Instructions and Report Template

As part of the protocols outlined in Western's Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP), to facilitate the continuous improvement of academic programs between review cycles, in connection with the Final Assessment Report (FAR) and Implementation Plan, a monitoring process will include an Ongoing Improvement Progress Report. The outcomes of this report will be considered as part of the program's next cyclical review.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the operationalization of the implementation plan following a Cyclical Program Review (or the review of a New Program). This should include a brief summary of actions taken by the Program and the Dean's Office since the completion of the review (usually about three years), as well as an update on the stage of implementation for all applicable items. These include:

- whether the action item(s) are in progress, complete or no longer applicable (with a brief explanation);
- the timelines of each item and how they are progressing or expected to progress, particularly if they are diverting from original timelines in the FAR and Implementation Plan, and;
- a short description of any other program developments and improvements that have taken place following the review.
- For new programs only, an evaluation of the initial administration and resourcing of the program.

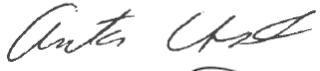
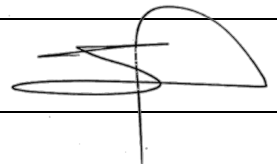
The following report template has been created for the program to report on progress made regarding recommendations presented in the Implementation Plan, and any other relevant program developments and enhancements.

- The program will complete the template and submit it to the faculty Dean's Office for sign-off.
- The program will then submit the completed Ongoing Improvement and Progress Report to the Office of Academic Quality and Enhancement (OAQE). Reports are due by June 30.
    - The OAQE will present all Ongoing Improvement and Progress Reports to SUPR-U/G. Any follow-up questions/concerns will be communicated to the program and Dean's Office by the OAQE.

Ongoing Improvement Progress Report

Program / Faculty Information

Program	Kinesiology, MA, MSc, PhD	**Faculty / Affiliated University College**	Health Sciences
Approval Dates of the Review	SUPR-G: May 16, 2022 SCAPA: May 25, 2022 Senate: June 10, 2022	**Year of the Next Review**	2028-2029
Link to the Programs Final Assessment Report (FAR)	*https://www.uwo.ca/pvp/vpacademic/iqap/academic_programs/iqap_reports/fac_of_health_science_grad/Kinesiology%20Annual%20Report%20Final%20Assessment%20Reports%202021-22%20Western%20University%20Graduate.pdf*		
If applicable, submission of follow-up report(s)	*Report was due April 2023*		

	Name	**Signature**	**Date**
Program Chair/Director	Anita Christie, Associate Director, Graduate Program		April 21, 2025
Dean (or delegate)	Shaun Boe, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences		April 23, 2025

Progress Update on the Implementation Plan

Recommendation #2	Proposed Action and Follow-up	Responsibility	Timeline
Part 1: Restructure/ develop the course-based master's program to be completed within 12 months. Part 2: Rethink the capstone project in light of 12-month program.	Ensure that the curriculum supports offering the course-based master's program over a 12-month registration period. As part of this curricular development, determine the required resources to support the development and facilitation of spring/summer courses. Begin offering courses in the spring/summer term for MA and MSc streams. As needed, utilize the FHS' curriculum mapping resource to support the development of additional courses. Develop an asynchronous MRP presentation plan.	KGP Office with approval from KGAC and KSAC. FHS Dean's office. KGAC with approval from KSAC.	Offer one course in 2022 spring/summer term. Offer at least one MA and one MSc stream-specific courses in spring/summer 2023. By April 2022
Recommendation Implemented X Yes □ No □ Partially If no, or partially, is implementation on schedule with the timeline? ☐ Yes ☐ No			

Progress

What specific actions have been taken?

Part 1: Two additional courses were offered in summer 2022. Sport in the US (MA course) did not meet minimal enrollment and was therefore cancelled in summer 2022. It was offered and ran as an additional course in fall 2022. Orthopaedic Biomechanics (MSc) ran in summer 2022. An additional MSc course, Exercise Nutrition, was offered in Summer 2023. These additional courses helped students in the previous version of the course-based program complete degree requirements. In spring of 2024, a student poll revealed no need and minimal interest in a summer course offering. This information suggested that some of the course efficiencies, described under "Continuous Program Enhancement" below, had been working to serve the needs of our students. We therefore did not offer any summer courses in summer 2024.

The course-based program was restructured to be completed in 12 months, with the major modification receiving the final step approval from the Board of Governors in February 2024. Based on feedback during the IQAP process, the course-based program now has a degree designation of Masters of Kinesiology (MKin), distinct from our thesis-based programs (MA and MSc). It is designed to be a 12-month (3-term) program, which includes 480 hours of practical experience, as outlined in Part 2. The first student intake into the MKin program was in September 2024.

Part 2: The course-based program has been restructured to be completed in 12 months and to include a practical experience, with associated capstone project. The capstone project in its previous form (major research paper) no longer exists in this new structure. The new capstone experience involves 480 placement hours, completed at an organization of the students' choice, with approval of the capstone coordinator. The details, learning outcomes, and evaluation of the capstone project are created by the student and placement supervisor, with approval of the capstone coordinator.

Next Steps (if applicable)

What actions remain? Is there further follow-up?

Additional Comments

If applicable

Recommendation #3	Proposed Action and Follow-up	Responsibility	Timeline
Greater flexibility with graduate funding, especially for thesis students.	Enhance students' funding knowledge by offering thesis-based program students with financial support letters that specify support from the thesis supervisors research grant(s). Explore options that may further enhance the funding of its thesis students.	KGP Office administration with input from individual faculty supervisors	By Dec 2022

Recommendation Implemented

X Yes ☐ No ☐ Partially

If no, or partially, is implementation on schedule with the timeline? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Progress

What specific actions have been taken?

Funding packages for students in the PhD program increased in September 2023. The offer letters were updated for Fall 2024 and students are provided with a term-by-term breakdown of their funding through their online account. At the University level, additional flexibility in graduate student funding has been announced in the form of programs to provide emergency financial support for graduate students in need, and to provide bursaries for international students who are new to Canada.

Next Steps (if applicable)

What actions remain? Is there further follow-up?

Additional Comments

If applicable

Recommendation #5	Proposed Action and Follow-up	Responsibility	Timeline
Enhance a sense of communication among Students and faculty Members.	Invigorate existing community-building opportunities and develop new opportunities to promote a sense of community among students and faculty within the Kinesiology graduate program, optimizing use of the new Thames Hall space to support this initiative. Develop a calendar of these community-building opportunities.		By April 2023

Recommendation Implemented

X Yes ☐ No ☐ Partially

If no, or partially, is implementation on schedule with the timeline? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Progress

What specific actions have been taken?

Since 2022, the graduate program has organized a pizza lunch for grad students and faculty each fall. The graduate program has also worked with the Kinesiology Graduate Student Association (KGSA) to assist them in organizing and promoting an annual research day, which began in 2023. The KGSA has also taken a more active role in organizing social events such as rock climbing, holiday card making, etc.

Next Steps (if applicable) *What actions remain? Is there further follow-up?*
Additional Comments *If applicable*

Note: The total number of expandable text boxes will be dependent on the number of prioritized recommendations appearing in the program's most recent Final Assessment Report (FAR).

Continuous Program Enhancement
What additional initiatives or changes has the program been working on in relation to continuous program improvement? - In addition to the restructuring of our in-person course-based masters program, we are in the process of developing a Kinesiology stream within the Advanced Health Care Practice (AHCP) online masters program, through the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS). This stream has been mapped out and we are working on the documents for the university's multi-level review process for this new stream. - With the restructuring of the in-person course-based masters and the development of the online masters program, attention is being paid to course efficiencies, where online courses could serve both programs and where other courses within FHS could serve our students. Further, the graduate programs across FHS have recently established a shared document indicating which courses are offered and available to students from other Schools within the Faculty. We now share this information with our students.