Final Assessment Report

Submitted by SUPR-G to SCAPA

Program:	Medical Biophysics
Degrees Offered:	MSc and PhD
Approved Fields:	 Imaging Microcirculation, Hemodynamics and Cellular Biophysics Biomechanics and Biomaterials Radiobiology and Medical Physics in Cancer Treatment and Research Bioelectromagnetics
Date of Site Visit:	05-06 December 2011
Evaluation:	Good Quality

Summary: The Medical Biophysics department has a well established graduate program which offers a rich and diverse variety of research opportunities leading to a wide range of career paths. It is unique in Canada and the Research Institutes play a key role in the graduate program by providing different research cultures, privileged access to world class leading edge research equipment and enabling translational research with clinical studies on patient populations. The program is research intensive with few required courses, but with a very strong comprehensive exam process. The flagship area of the program is the imaging research group which makes up over half the faculty and supervises well over half of the graduate student population. This creates a challenge for other areas of the program, for example those located in the Schulich core. Thus, research integration across the program and logistics associated with geographic spread across London add to this challenge. A more aggressive and targeted recruitment strategy might improve this situation and more international students could be admitted to the program. Overall, the program is strong and no major concerns were identified.

Recommendation:	Responsibility
More aggressive targeted recruiting to fields other than imaging	Grad Chair, Grad Council,
	faculty members
Monitor closely long-term viability of the Microcirc. Hemodyn.	Dept. Chair and Dean
& Cellular Biophysics field in relation to expected retirements	
Improve student cohesiveness and academic community across	Grad Chair and Grad
the research locations, including establishing a Grad Student	Council
Council committee	
Enhance Grad Council by Including Grad Student reps and reps	Grad Chair
from each research institute	
Consider the need for increased staff support for the program,	Grad Chair, Department
possibly increasing from the current 1.5 FTE to 2.0 FTE	Chair