



Fall 2007: UCSF/SFSU DPT PROGRAM

POST PROFESSIONAL DOCTOR of PHYSICAL THERAPY for EXPERIENCED CLINICIANS

Introduction

The University of California, San Francisco and San Francisco State University began a clinical doctoral program in physical therapy in the Fall of 2004. Sixteen students have graduated from this program and 16 are currently enrolled in the program. This is the first DPT program available through the public university system in California. This post-professional Doctorate in Physical Therapy is designed for masters prepared professional leaders who want to develop their skills as scholarly clinicians. The goal of this DPT program is to provide a center of learning and discovery in the science of physical therapy at the doctoral level. The objectives of this educational program are to enhance professionalism and independent practice based on evidence. These objectives will be met through studies in movement science and muscle, nerve and connective tissue biology; enhanced clinical decision making through mentored, residency-type clinical experiences reinforced with training in physical diagnosis, critical thinking, problem solving and evidence-based practice, and journal clubs, case studies and professional colloquia. Experienced professional leaders with advanced specialty certification and/or research experiences have the opportunity to provide evidence of competency for some of the coursework (e.g. the clinical clerkship). This program is approved by both the California State University and the University of California as well as the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Students recently completing their MS degree from the UCSF/SFSU Graduate Program in Physical Therapy will also be included in this program of study.

Objectives of the Program

The educational objectives of this program are to supplement the masters level professional in Physical Therapy with an additional academic year of study, culminating in a DPT degree. The program is designed to:

1. Develop scholarly clinicians who integrate theoretical and practical information from the health sciences, basic sciences, clinical sciences, mathematical sciences, applied sciences, and social sciences into sensitive, ethical, and independent clinical practice
2. Create an in-depth program of learning to enhance capabilities for providing direct access, quality of care, and appropriate referrals of patients with complex, challenging impairments
3. Facilitate the ability to critically review existing research and elaborate clinical research skills to build the evidence of physical therapy practice and produce new therapeutic interventions based on solid theoretical constructs
4. Maximize the investment of educational resources of both the University of California at San Francisco and San Francisco State University to prepare physical therapists for positions of clinical leadership who are committed to facilitating access to care, and excellence of rehabilitation services for the citizens in the State of California

Preparation for Admission

To be eligible for admission to the UCSF/SFSU DPT Program, a student must:

1. Be a graduate of an accredited Masters Program in Physical Therapy
2. Hold a license to practice physical therapy in the State of California or be eligible for licensure in California
3. Have a GPA of 3.0 or better in graduate studies
4. Have taken the GRE in last 5 years
5. Have documented evidence of leadership in the profession or in graduate professional studies.
6. Have three strong letters of recommendation supporting one's potential for professional development and leadership
7. Provide a clear statement of professional goals and rationale
8. Be interested in developing skills as an independent practitioner
9. Be able to read, speak and write clearly using acceptable English as documented objectively by standard methods (e.g. GRE, Writing Competency Test, published manuscript, masters manuscript)

Curriculum

| Course Titles | Quarter Units | # Quarters | Quarter/Semester | Time of Day |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Physical Therapy Science | | | | |
| Muscle Nerve Biology | 3.0 UCSF | 1 | Fall | 2 weekends |
| Movement Science | 3.0 UCSF | 1 | Fall | 2 weekends |
| Evidence Basis of Practice | | | | |
| Clinical Research Clerkship* | 9.0 UCSF* | 3 | Fall, Winter, or Spring | One day/wk |
| Evidence Based Practice | 9.0 (UCSF/ SFSU)** | 3 | Fall qtr and Spring sem | Evening and weekends |
| Professional Colloquium | 3.0 UCSF/SFSU ** | 2 | Fall qtr; Spring sem | Evenings/ 1 day |
| Advanced Clinical Practice | | | | |
| Advanced Clinical Clerkship** | 9.0 SFSU*** | 3 | ½ in Fall and ½ in Spring Semester | 2 days/wk |
| Case Studies | 7.5 SFSU ** | 2 | Fall start; mostly Spring | Evening; some weekends |
| Grand Rounds **** | 3.0 UCSF**** | 3 | Fall, Winter and Spring | At own medical ctr |
| Physical Diagnosis*** | 4.5 UCSF | 1 | Winter | weekends; some evenings |

Total 51 quarter units (34 semester units)

* Applicants with research experience may be able to demonstrate competence for PT 419 Mentored Research Clerkship

** Certified specialists, applicants completing previous fellowship/residency programs, and applicants with experience with specialty preparation and/or teaching may be able to demonstrate competency for PT 920 Mentored Clinical Clerkship

*** If applicant has current coursework in physical diagnosis, medical screening, or primary care or works in primary care PT, then may be able to test for competency in PT 207 Medical Screening.

****May go to Grand Rounds and Seminars in own local hospital or nearby Medical Center for PT 400

Rationale for Program

The science of physical therapy is growing and physical therapists must be prepared to apply current research evidence to clinical practice. With changes in health care coverage and the emphasis on health care management of patients in community based settings, physical therapists must be prepared to practice independently in a variety of environments including primary care. Also, with the Vision 2020, physical therapists must develop professionalism, prepared to accept new responsibilities as a professional. Physical therapists today must be, capable of critically assessing the patient and designing and implementing learning-based, progressive intervention strategies to improve physical independence and quality of life despite complex impairments. Physical therapists must also be prepared to make timely decisions about when medical care by a physician is emergent or urgent, or when a patient requires more extensive medical diagnostic evaluation. In this current environment, physical therapists are expected to serve an integral role on the health care team by managing rehabilitation programs for patients with the advice but not necessarily the direct supervision of a physician. Uniquely, the physical therapist must be able to apply the sciences of anatomy, physiology, pathology, aging, motor control, exercise, therapeutic modalities and biomechanics to progress patients toward physical independence and self-care despite serious states of medical illness. Further, the physical therapist must be able to teach patients and their families how to become their own best therapist for maximizing health and fitness, as well as maintaining quality of life in the community. The UCSF/SFSU DPT program is designed to create a center of learning and discovery in physical therapy at the clinical doctoral level to prepare physical therapists to meet these new clinical demands.

As physical therapy science has expanded in depth and breadth, the House of Delegates of the American Physical Therapy Association has been committed to developing physical therapy as a doctoring profession. In the APTA 2020 Vision, physical therapists must be prepared to assume more independent responsibilities while assuring consumers access to high quality health care. Thus, the House of Delegates voted that physical therapists should be prepared at the doctoral level to accept their expanded role in the current and future health care environment. The UCSF/SFSU DPT Program is designed to meet this vision.

Program of Study

In the doctoral program, the emphasis is on dynamic, interactive learning through discussions, presentations, and literature reviews. The emphasis is on evidence based research with a focus on case based learning. The basic science foundation in neuroscience, biomechanics, muscle and nerve is complemented with patient care problem solving, grand rounds and mentored experiences in patient care activities and research. Some instructional teaching occurs within a continuing education format on weekends (e.g. Movement Science, Muscle and Nerve Biology, Evidence Based Practice, Physical Examination). The seminars are offered in the evenings and on blocked weekdays similar to continuing education courses. The schedule is designed to allow students to work part-time throughout the academic year of study. Rounds may be attended at UCSF or a hospital near the student's employment. The format of teaching is based on adult learning paradigms recognizing ongoing employment in the community. The development of a case report, a case study, or a sequential series of cases will be the culminating experience, with preparation of a manuscript style document that could be presented at Grand Rounds or a professional meeting.

Most experienced clinicians should be able to demonstrate competency for the Mentored Clinical Clerkship (PT 920) The mentored clinical clerkship involves working on some aspect of research with a faculty member. The student is expected to spend approximately 8 hours/week on research activities and present a poster presentation. The culminating experience includes the preparation of a manuscript ready case report. This will be presented orally to the faculty and classmates as well as within a community forum. All students will also have to carry out an evidence based search, which will be presented orally to faculty and classmates. Either the case report or the evidence based review will be presented to the community in the form of a forum.

Applications for Admission

The applications for admission for the Fall of 2007 are available on the website at:

<http://www.ptrehab.medschool.ucsf.edu/Education/Admissions.aspx> If you have questions regarding the application please contact Lillie Wong at 415-476-3147. A hard copy of the application must be sent to the University of California, San Francisco, Graduate Program in Physical Therapy, Box 0736, SF, CA 94143-0736. **The application is due by March 31st, 2007.** All students must be accepted into both universities by April 30, 2007 in order to begin the program in the Fall of 2007.

This is a 9-month, self-supported program based on student fees. In addition to the self-support fee, each student also pays a University fee for UCSF and SFSU, making the total fees for the DPT year at \$18,000. At this time, the program is designed to be full-time, with the student completing the program in 9 months. It is possible to work 3-4 days/week. Classes are primary on Mondays, evenings and alternate weekends.

Faculty

Core Academic Faculty

Carla Krystin Andrade, PhD, PT
Nancy Byl, PhD, PT, FAPTA
Vince Calozzia, PhD
Ann Hallum, PhD, PT
Kate Hamel, PhD
Ann Jacobs, PhD, PT

Sandra Radtka, PhD, PT
Patsi Sinnott, PhD, PT
Kimberly Topp, PhD, PT
Linda Wanek, PhD, PT
Robert Niklewicz, DSc, PT
Susanna Rosi, PhD