



The University of Utah
College of Health

Approved
Please forward to
Graduate Council

8-8-07

August 8, 2007

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES
AND DISORDERS

EXERCISE AND
SPORT SCIENCE

HEALTH PROMOTION
AND EDUCATION

NUTRITION

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PARKS, RECREATION
AND TOURISM

PHYSICAL THERAPY

A. Lorris Betz, M.D., Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Health Sciences
Building 550, Fifth Floor
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Betz:

Enclosed for your review and approval is a proposal from the Division of Physical Therapy in the College of Health requesting departmental status. The proposal has been presented and discussed by the College of Health Council and the entire faculty at our Spring meeting. The proposal was approved by the College on April 26, 2007 and has my full support as Dean.

Justification for this change in status is clearly articulated in Dr. Scott Ward's (Division Chair) letter to me and in the body of the proposal. The proposal is consistent with recommendations made by the Internal and External review teams during the recently completed Graduate Council Review of the Division. The format of the proposal follows the Utah State Board of Regents requirements described in Policy Section 10.4 of the R-401 Approval of New Programs, Program Changes and Discontinued Programs.

The primary distinction between divisions and departments in the College of Health is the scope of the curriculum offered. Without exception, our departments (Communication Sciences and Disorders, Exercise and Sport Science, Health Promotion and Education, and Parks, Recreation and Tourism) offer a variety of degree programs at the undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral (PhD) levels. Our Divisions (Nutrition, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy) offer stand-alone professional degrees at the graduate (Masters and Clinical Doctorate) level. Administratively there is no distinction between divisions and departments in the College. All departments and divisions are lead by a Chair who reports to the Dean of the College and operate under a de-centralized budget model.

My understanding is that, following your approval, this proposal will be reviewed by the Graduate Council, University Senate Executive Committee, University Academic Senate and Board of Trustees prior to submission to the State Board of Regents for final approval.

Thank you for your consideration of this request from the College of Health.

Sincerely,

James E. Graves
Dean and Professor

JEG:np

cc: Scott Ward, Chair

Office of the Dean
250 S. 1850 E. Rm 200
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-0920
Phone (801) 581-8379
Fax (801) 581-5580



The University of Utah

Division of Physical Therapy

July 6, 2007

James E. Graves, PhD, Dean
College of Health
HPRN 200
CAMPUS

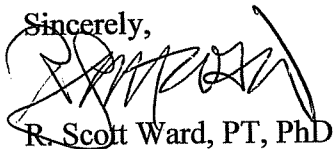
Dear Dean Graves:

Please find enclosed with this letter the formal proposal from the Division of Physical Therapy that requests a change to become the Department of Physical Therapy. I am officially submitting this request to you as per Board of Regents policy Section 10.4 of the "R401, Approval of New Programs, Program Changes, and Discontinued Programs".

You are aware of our work to become a Department and the long, almost 40 year, history of this valuable program. I also know that you are aware of the fact that Departmental status has been a goal of the Division of Physical Therapy as outlined in our strategic plan. Thank you for your willingness to support this endeavor.

Let me know what I can do to help move this proposal through the appropriate approval process. I stand ready to meet with anyone along the way of questions should arise. I look forward to talking with you about the progress of this proposal.

Sincerely,



R. Scott Ward, PT, PhD
Professor and Chair
Division of Physical Therapy

Enclosure

The Division of Physical Therapy, College of Health

SECTION I: The Request

The University of Utah requests approval to change the status of Division of Physical Therapy to the Department of Physical Therapy. Per Section 10.4 of the "R401, Approval of New Programs, Program Changes, and Discontinued Programs", we are submitting this request as a restructuring of the current Division to Department. There is clear rationale for making this change that are presented under the "Need" Section of this request. Importantly, this change will bring the academic unit of Physical Therapy at the University of Utah in line with the order of delineation of most similar physical therapy programs nationally.

SECTION II: Need

We believe there is strong rationale for the Division of Physical Therapy to be changed to departmental status. The Division has achieved a level of function easily commensurate with status as a Department in the College of Health. It demonstrates financial viability. It has stable leadership and governance. It demonstrates the ability to recruit and retain excellent faculty and mentor them through levels of promotion. The Division is recognized internally and externally for excellence in professional education. The Division has a successful research profile. The Division houses a successful clinical practice. The Division demonstrates effective interdisciplinary collaboration with other entities on campus. The faculty are engaged with PhD students from other departments and the Division is seeking to establish an interdisciplinary PhD program as demand from prospective students for PhD level of training in rehabilitation science has increased.

Departmental status will provide a greater sense of permanence, equity, and security for the Division in the College of Health. As a department the unit will have improved status and recognition within the University allowing it to more effectively participate in collaborative activities on an equal footing with other departments. The change in status will also place the Division on a level more like its academic peers at sister institutions (see Table 1).

As a matter of information, here are some facts about the Division of Physical Therapy at the University of Utah.

General Information

The physical therapy program at the University of Utah has a long-standing tradition of excellence dating back to the admission of its first class in 1969. This makes the University of Utah program in physical therapy one of the oldest in the region. The University began its physical therapy program with a Bachelor's degree offering, moved to the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) degree in the mid-1990's, and then to the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree in 2005 all in response to evolving professional and health market trends. Each move has been in support of the global mission of the University of Utah, which is to educate the individual and to discover, refine, and disseminate knowledge. Physical therapy education at the University of Utah has always been focused on a student obtaining the most up-to-date knowledge and clinical skill set, and being prepared to immediately apply their education in myriad health care settings. The Division of Physical Therapy at the University of Utah currently ranks 33 out of 211 physical therapy programs, placing it in the top 15% of its peers in the United States.

Table 1. Status of comparable programs in physical therapy.

University	Carnegie Classification	Status
The University of Utah	Doctoral - Extensive	Division (current)
University of Colorado	Doctoral - Extensive	Program (Program in Physical Therapy)
University of California at San Francisco	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science)
University of Southern California	Doctoral - Extensive	Division (Division of Biokinesiology & Physical Therapy)
University of Florida	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy)
Indiana University	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy)
University of Kansas	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science)
University of Massachusetts	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy)
University of Maryland	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science)
University of Michigan	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Physical Therapy Department)
University of North Carolina	Doctoral - Extensive	Division (Division of Physical Therapy)
University of Pittsburgh	Doctoral - Extensive	Department (Department of Physical Therapy)
University of Tennessee Health Sciences	Special Focus Institutions	Department (Department of Physical Therapy)
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	Special Focus Institutions	Department (Department of Physical Therapy)
University of Washington	Doctoral - Extensive	Division (Division of Physical Therapy)

Description of the Program

The Division of Physical Therapy, College of Health, awards the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) upon completion of the professional program in physical therapy. This professional program prepares students for careers as licensed physical therapists. Formal admission to the DPT program requires a Bachelor's degree, the completion of specific pre-requisite courses, reference letters, and a statement of purpose by the applicant. Application to the University of Utah Graduate School must be made to be eligible to apply to the Division of Physical Therapy. Acceptance to the program is limited to one time yearly. Candidates for the DPT degree must complete all classroom course work with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better with no individual grades below C. In addition, clinical internships must be completed satisfactorily. Candidates must also fulfill a doctoral requirement that demonstrates proficiency in evidence-based clinical practice in physical therapy.

External Review and Accreditation

The Division of Physical Therapy is currently accredited by CAPTE. An onsite accreditation visit and review of the current program is scheduled for 2008. Continued accreditation is expected considering the past success of the Division.

Enrollment

There are 40 to 42 students admitted to the Division of Physical Therapy DPT program each year. The expected student body of around 120 students will consist of approximately 40 students at the 1st year level, 40 students at the 2nd year level, and 40 students at the 3rd level.

Faculty

The Division's faculty are accomplished scientists, teachers and clinicians with national reputations. The Division faculty consists of 13 core faculty members and many adjunct faculty members. The faculty has been stable over the past decade. Several faculty are recognized regionally and nationally for their scholarly and research accomplishments. The faculty demonstrates excellence in teaching and clinical services as conveyed by student and peer evaluations. The faculty are committed to student learning and each other's growth. The faculty are engaged in interdisciplinary collaborations in the areas of research, teaching and clinical practice. The proposed change of status to Department does not include requests for further support for additional faculty. The Division is currently preparing a search for a 1.0 FTE and a 0.5 FTE faculty position included in its existing budget.

Staff

The Division has a 1.0 FTE Administrative Assistant, a 1.0 FTE office assistant and 0.50 FTE secretary that is currently able to manage the administrative and clerical duties in the Division. The proposed change in to Departmental status will not require additional staff. The Division is currently have a job posting for a 0.50 FTE staff position included in its existing budget.

SECTION III: Institutional Impact

There is no apparent impact on the institution at any level including administrative, physical structure/facilities, equipment or personnel with the change in designation from Division to Department. The College of Health has demonstrated unanimous support for this proposal of change to department status for the Division of Physical Therapy. All current Department/Division Chairs have expressed their support for the change. The College of Health Faculty Counsel voted unanimously in favor of the change in status. At the college-wide spring 2007 College of Health Faculty meeting a unanimous vote was also recorded in favor of the change in status.

SECTION IV: Finances

The Division has the necessary budget in place to support this change from Division to Department. No additional budget is being requested from the College of Health, the University or the State of Utah as a direct result of this change. No special supplementary equipment is necessary. Current resources and facilities are sufficient to support a superior Doctor of Physical Therapy program in the Department of Physical Therapy. A review of the 2006/07, 2007/08, and likely 2008/09 budgets is provided in Table 2.

Table 2. The budget for 2006/07, and proposed budgets for the following two budget cycles demonstrate the fiscal solvency of the Division of Physical Therapy.

INCOME			
Source	FY 2006/07	FY 2007/08	FY 2008/09*
Wages/Benefits	650,533	987,160	1,006,903
Productivity/Growth	223,403	267,345	272,692
Differential Tuition 120 students	578,640	622,200	634,644
TOTAL INCOME	1,452,576	1,876,705	1,914,239
EXPENSES			
Source	FY 2006/07*	FY 2007/08*	FY 2008/09*
Salaries/Wages	901,670	1,35,450	1,158,159
Benefits	270,624	381,380	389,008
Library	1,804	1,804	1,840
Equipment	18,221	22,000	22,440
Travel	20,000	22,000	22,440
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,212,319	1,562,634	1,593,887

* The proposed 2008/09 budget includes a conservative 2% increase

Because the change is simply from Division to Department and there are no additional programmatic changes, the funding sources will remain the same as they currently are. These funding sources include:

1. State appropriations
2. Differential tuition
3. Enrollment growth
4. Special course fees
5. Grants and contracts

There will be no internal University or College reallocation associated with this program. Given that the essential structure of the program will remain the same, there will be no specific impact on the existing Division budget as a result of a change to Department status.

10.4.1. Signature Page to Accompany Proposals Providing Board Notification - This signature page, with all appropriate signatures included, must be attached to proposals submitted for Board notification.

Institution Submitting Proposal: The University of Utah

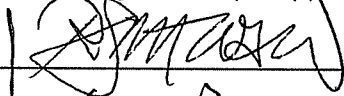
College, School or Division affected: College of Health

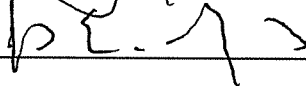
Department(s) or Areas(s) affected: Physical Therapy

Change Description: Division of Physical Therapy to Department of Physical Therapy

Proposed Beginning Date: Fall 2007

Institutional Signatures (as appropriate):


_____, Department Chair


_____, Dean or Division Chair

_____, Chief Academic Officer

_____, President

_____, Date