



**Internal Academic Review 2007-2008
Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program
Internal Academic Review Committee Report to Senate**

The Internal Academic Review (IAR) of the Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program is now complete. The Internal Academic Review Committee (IARC) has taken into consideration all of the submissions related to the IAR of the Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program and respectfully submits the following report. The IARC Report to Senate is intended to supplement the findings of the attached Review Team Report and to provide a mechanism for the Associate Dean of the Program and the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences to jointly report on the progress in addressing the Review Team recommendations (please see the “Outcomes” section of this report).

Summary of the Internal Academic Review of the Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program

The Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program is to be commended for demonstrating leadership by proactively addressing some of the recommendations from the IAR reports. The IARC recognizes the faculty, staff and students for their overall support of the Program.

The IARC notes the Program’s decision to address the following IAR report recommendations: to work to resolve the limited access by third and fourth-year students to Queen’s facilities and student services; to consider forming a curriculum coordination committee to discuss on-going developments in curriculum and to maximize the integration of curricula offered by Queen’s and the Eastern Ontario School of X-Ray Technology; and to improve communications and make positive changes to the website.

The IARC urges the Program to review its admission policy with an eye to retention rates, and supports the IAR recommendation that the Program consider admitting students after completing the first year studies in another program.

The IARC recognizes the efforts of the Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program to remain relevant and responsive to the needs for well-trained professionals in this field.

Attachment:
Review Team Report

Outcomes of the Internal Academic Review of Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program

*Joint response submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences
and the Associate Dean for Life Sciences and Biochemistry*

The Collaborative Program in Life Sciences and X-Ray Technology welcomes the constructive comments and suggestions provided by members of the External Review Team and the Internal Academic Review Committee. Several structural issues have been addressed in light of the Internal Academic Review.

Access to student services

Thanks to the initiative of Associate Dean of Studies, Dr. John Pierce, and Sue Blake in the Faculty of Arts and Science office, X-RAY 310 and X-RAY 410 have been approved for inclusion in the third and fourth years of the curriculum. These are non-credit/no fee courses that enable all students in the third and fourth year of the collaborative program to access the same non-academic benefits offered to students registered in other programs at Queen's University.

Communications

The LISC office has developed a dedicated and up-to-date website for the collaborative program. It includes a description of the program, timely information related to registration and announcements. Other initiatives are designed to help second year students plan for their transition to the Eastern Ontario School of X-Ray Technology.

Curriculum Committee

Given the key role of the anatomical sciences and physics in X-ray technology, it is anticipated that this committee will include one member from each of the Departments of Anatomy/Cell Biology and Physics. These faculty will be joined by two members of the clinical teaching staff at the Eastern Ontario School of X-ray Technology. The Associate Dean of Life Sciences and Biochemistry will chair the committee.

Recruitment and Retention

Efforts to recruit students who have completed their first year of studies at Queen's will be intensified with the goal of expanding the pool of students who aspire to pursue a career in Medical Imaging. These students will be admitted to the collaborative programme on the condition that they complete university courses that are stipulated by the Accreditation agreement with the Canadian Medical Association.

REPORT OF THE REVIEW TEAM ON THE LIFE SCIENCES/X-RAY TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AND EASTERN ONTARIO SCHOOL OF X-RAY TECHNOLOGY

Preamble

As the Review Team, we were charged with assessing the Life Sciences X-Ray Technology Collaborative Program offered jointly by Queens' University and the Eastern Ontario School of X-Ray Technology, in terms of the strengths and weaknesses of its academic quality and suitability of academic endeavour. We were provided as reference material the Internal Academic Review prepared by the Department, as well as the External Consultant's Report on the program. Moreover, members of the committee participated in different sessions during the external consultants' visit December 3 and 4, 2007. Prior to the consultants' visit, the Review Team met to discuss the Internal Academic Review and noted issues that were discussed with the external consultants and representatives of the Department and the Eastern Ontario School of X-Ray Technology.

Assessment

In general, we are in agreement with the assessment of the external consultants. The program is currently well-subscribed, the students are of a high quality in terms of academic achievement, and the program is academically challenging. The students in the program are motivated and are satisfied with the education they are receiving. The program fills an important niche in developing highly skilled individuals needed in the health care sector.

Areas for improvement for the program are mostly structural. The review team strongly supports the recommendation for the appointment of a curriculum committee composed of members of both the Department and the clinical faculty of the Eastern Ontario School of X-Ray Technology. This committee should meet at least twice a year: once before the commencement of, and once at the end of, the academic year. In this way, discussion of possible upcoming problems may lead to their resolution, and an assessment areas requiring improvement based on the previous year's experience can be outlined and possible solutions developed for implementation before the beginning of the next academic year. The review team agrees with the consultants that a regularly updated web site would be a valuable resource to both the students and the faculty. Moreover, a faculty advisor at Queen's and at the Eastern Ontario School of X-Ray Technology should be appointed to assist specifically those students enrolled in the program with issues with library access, guidelines concerning scholarships, and eligibility for athletics (teams and individual). Finally, the program should not be putting emphasis on having the students be able to complete their honours degree. We see it as a strong program in itself and if students chose to complete the life science honour degree they must be made to realize that it will take extra time.

submitted by : Brian Amsden Review Team Chair