

Admissions

Changes for Next Admissions Cycle

We love getting feedback! Some internship sites provided feedback about what would help make the scheduling of interviews more efficient next year during admissions. We have already mapped out a timeline of changes to implement next year which should make the process go a bit more efficiently. The goal is to block out times for each phase of the process and for sites to know in advance which applicants will be interviewing; thus you will receive materials ahead of time. This allows sites to coordinate with their interview committee and have times blocked out on a schedule for when applicants call to schedule. Overall, this is going to push back the entire admissions process by a few weeks and when interviews are in person, the entire admissions process will most likely not wrap up until the end of March. *Keep in mind, when interviews are in person, the process will take longer because we must allow for applicants to make travel plans accordingly. Anne Marie will be emailing the detailed document to all preceptors, but it will also be available on the [Clinical Preceptors website](#) for everyone to review.

PED Reporting

The JRCERT recently implemented a change for reporting program effectiveness data (PED). The JRCERT requires PED to be accessible via the program website home page, which required us to make revisions. We are also required to use a template for more consistent reporting among all programs. To view the data, go to the [program website home page](#) and scroll down until you see the 'Program Effectiveness' toggle and refer to the 5 year data PDF document.

Program Committees

Advisory Committee

The program advisory committee meets annually (or as needed). We discuss various program related issues, updates, concerns, accreditation, curriculum changes, etc. We are always looking for individuals who want to participate on the advisory committee. The current advisory committee is listed on the program website. We also have a password protected website where our agenda, notes, and minutes are placed.

Assessment Committee

The program assessment committee meets 1-2 time(s) per year. The goal is to develop an assessment plan for each cohort based on the program mission and goals. As part of programmatic accreditation, we collect and review data for all cohort assessment plans routinely. Our meetings involve developing new plans for the upcoming cohort, reviewing current plans and available data collection, and finalizing plans that are completed. We have a password protected website where our agenda, notes and minutes are placed.

**If you are interested in participating on either program committee, please contact Nishele.

Social Media

Just a reminder that our program has a [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) page. If you have an account, please follow us. On our Facebook page, we post updates regularly while also posting job openings for current students and/or alumni. If you have a job opening or something you would like to share on our program FB page, contact Nishele.

Clinical News You Can Use

Clinical Instructor Evaluations

In 2020, a new clinical instructor evaluation was implemented. Students were asked to voluntarily participate in evaluating their clinical instructor(s) at the end of the program. Thirteen of 24 students completed the evaluation. These evaluations will remain in Typhon for the clinical instructors to view.

This year we are requiring the students to complete at least one clinical instructor evaluation per semester. When a student submits an evaluation of a clinical instructor, they receive an email from the Typhon Group Notification System stating: Response submitted for a Typhon Group evaluation. The student submitting the evaluation, the clinical instructor evaluated, and program officials can view the evaluation.

How Clinical Instructors view an evaluation:

Log in to Typhon and click on the My Evaluations and Surveys link

You will initially see all of the surveys that you can fill out for the student on the left. In the upper right-hand corner click the View History button

There you will see 2 tabs:

- Taken By Me - will show you all evaluations that you have completed for students.
- Taken About Me - will show you the evaluations that students have completed about you. You will have the opportunity to write in any comments.

Here is a [video link](#) showing how to access the evaluation.

Clinical Site Visits

One clinical site visit is conducted by the Clinical Coordinator each year. Typically, these visits are scheduled starting in mid-February through May. Prior to the visit, Anne Marie sends an agenda so the preceptor and student know what will be discussed. During the site visit, Anne Marie will request a tour, meet the physics/dosimetry staff, and then meet with the clinical preceptor and student(s) individually. This year all clinical internship site visits are being conducted virtually again. Anne Marie has been scheduling these virtual meetings during the month of April. She will want to speak to the Clinical Instructor(s) independently, the student independently and discuss the Typhon evaluations and clinical logs. She will also want to confirm that the student has a dedicated workspace and treatment planning system during their clinical hours and access to the treatment planning system for additional projects and labs. If any concerns are noted during the virtual visit a second follow up meeting, and potentially an on-site visit, will be requested.

AAMD Annual Meeting Presenter Educational Session for Clinical Staff

Anne Marie will be a presenter at the annual AAMD meeting in June. Due to the virtual meeting format, many of the sessions will be pre-recorded and available to view at your leisure. Anne Marie will be presenting *Standardizing Treatment Planning Labs for Assessment of Clinical Skills* to demonstrate the use of ProKnow for student clinical labs and assessment. This session will be approved for MDCB continuing education credit.

MEDICAL DOSIMETRY | SPRING NEWSLETTER 2021

Clinical Adjunct Faculty Appointments

Just a reminder that anyone at our clinical internship affiliates can apply for clinical adjunct faculty appointments at UW-La Crosse. *Why would you want to do this?* For some individuals, this is important to add to their CV or resume but you also have some benefits at UW-L (particularly the library). We have the information listed on the [Clinical Preceptor Website](#) welcome page. You will see a link for Clinical Adjunct Faculty Appointments. Contact Nishele if you are interested.

Incoming Cohort 2022 Updates

During the recent admissions cycle, there were 62 applicants reviewed for admission (Phase I).

Program officials completed the initial review and determined only 35 applicants were eligible to proceed to Phase II of interviews. After Phase II, we accepted 28 students, 3 alternates, 1 withdrew their application, and 3 were rejected. Two of the 28 declined the acceptance and 1 alternate filled a seat.

It is always possible that we have internal-only applicants who are accepted late spring, adding to enrollment. This may be 1-3 additional students.

Despite COVID, it appears the upcoming cohort enrollment is 'on track' with typical enrollment standards for our program.

Student Research Projects

Spring semester always brings many questions about student research projects. I thought I would clarify some of the common questions or concerns we receive every year. I'll just highlight the key points, but if you have questions about this, feel free to contact Nishele.

- Student research projects are required as part of the graduate program at UW-L.
- Student research projects are typically groups of 2-3 students; not all students are at the same facility, but they will share tasks for the research project.
- Students will complete IRB training at UW-L. If they are required to go through the IRB approval process at the internship site for the research project, they should do so.
- This research is a **student** project, and should not be considered a facility project for the internship staff. The advisors are UW-L staff, as required by UW-L. In addition, clinical advisors are hired and familiar with our program research process.
- Students can reach out to staff in the clinic for suggestions or assistance from time to time; just as they would for any clinical mentoring throughout the year. This does not necessarily qualify clinical staff as being an advisor or author on the student project.
- If a clinical staff person would like to be part of advising, they must reach out to Nishele in the spring before the project begins. Being a clinical-based research advisor means you would need to be familiar with all aspects of our process, AMA formatting, reviewing all revisions, attending calls, etc.

MEDICAL DOSIMETRY | SPRING NEWSLETTER 2021

Research Advising Zoom Meetings

During two weeks in April, the students met with the research instructors/advisors via Zoom meetings. They were able to present their research topic via a Research Proposal Document (RPD). During the meeting, they explained their topic, provided a background on the literature review, explained methodology and research design, and answered questions. These virtual meetings were very productive and students were very well prepared.



Recent Publications

Featuring recent publications from our students & staff.

- Yiga T, Lin TG, Williamson B, Lenards N, Hunzeker A, Tobler M, Zeiler S, Fellows A. A case study of evaluating bilateral lung dose for VMAT treatment planning using a partial sagittal arc. Med Dosim. In Press; Published online January 18, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.meddos.2020.12.004>
- We also have 3 additional accepted papers soon to be In Press.

