

Grant Recipient Name: *Lynn English, PT, MEd, DPT*  
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Grant period: *2008-2009*

### Physical Therapy Clinical Education Internationalization

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#### Specific Aims of the Project

1. The University of Kentucky Physical Therapy Program will expand international clinical opportunities for Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students to include Australia.
2. Students from the UK DPT class of 2009 will participate in the first Australian international internship in 2009. Subsequent internships for future classes are expected.
3. The University of Kentucky Physical Therapy Program will assist Bond University in establishing at least two sites in the US who will accept Bond students for clinical affiliations.
4. During the 2008 Australian visit, UK PT faculty will provide Australian physical therapy clinical instructors continuing education concerning teaching and learning in the clinical environment.

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#### Progress on Project Objectives

**Objective 1:** *The University of Kentucky Physical Therapy Program will establish relationships with at least two clinical teaching sites in Australia.*

**Progress toward meeting objective:** *We have one student assigned to a clinical site for 2009, and two sites anticipated for 2010.*

**Objective 2:** UK PT faculty will examine sites and choose those which exhibit characteristics consistent with excellence in physical therapy practice as defined by the current Guide to Physical Therapist Practice.

**Progress toward meeting objective:** *I traveled to Sydney and Gold Coast, Australia in December 2008. I visited hospital and outpatient sites, discussing the level of supervision and care provided in each. The following sites are anticipated to meet the standards of the University of Kentucky:*

Westmead Private Hospital, Sydney

Mungovan/ Breckenridge Physiotherapy, Sydney

John Flynn Hospital, Gold Coast

Gold Coast Hospital- Two locations- (Robina, Southport) A new hospital is being built at Griffith and will likely replace the Southport site.

Tweed Hospital

I met with the directors and Center Coordinators of Clinical Education at each facility.

I was assisted by Pam Teys, Director of Clinical Education for Bond University. And Sean Mungovan, owner of Mungovan/Breckenridge Physiotherapy.

**Objective 3:** *Clinical instructors affiliated with Bond University will attend a continuing education course the content of which includes teaching and learning information for use during student affiliations.*

**Progress toward meeting objective:** *This was not necessary, as the Director of Clinical Education at Bond, Pam Teys has established an online course for clinical instructors.*

**Objective 4:** Two students in the DPT Class of 2009 will participate in a clinical education course in Australia.

**Progress toward meeting objective:** *One student from the Class of 2009 will be affiliating in Sydney June 8-August 14, 2009. Two additional students (Class of 2010) will affiliate in either Sydney and /or Gold Coast during the summer of 2010.*

*In exchange I am arranging for two students from Bond to affiliate in the US in 2010.*

**Objective 5:** *Students participating in the clinical course in Australia will use a Blackboard site created for the course to participate in a discussion with classmates and instructors concerning their experience.*

**Progress toward meeting objective:** *This will be established later in May 2009.*

#### **Objective 6**

*At the completion of the course, students will demonstrate integration of knowledge and skills including comparison/contrast of the US and Australian healthcare system and physical therapy practice.*

**Progress toward meeting objective:** *Our first student will complete this assignment in August 2009.*

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### **Progress on Outcomes**

#### **Outcomes**

Students selected for the Australian internship opportunity will:

1. Complete a pre-clinical survey identifying knowledge about topics to be explored during the international internship.

**Progress toward outcome:** *This is still to be developed.*

2. Complete a written assignment designed to encourage integration of knowledge about American and Australian health care and physical therapy practice.

**Progress toward outcome:** *To be completed August 2009*

3. Present this information to students and faculty upon their return.

**Progress toward outcome:** *To be completed August 2009*

Measurement: Project success will be measured by

- 1) Success in establishing the collaborative relationship with quality clinical sites (DCE will evaluate)
- 2) Grading of the student written project and the presentation based on criteria/rubric established by the instructor (DCE and Associate will evaluate)
- 3) Student evaluation of the clinical experience (already exists in the course structure)
- 4) Australian Clinical Instructor/Center Coordinator evaluation of the experience( DCE will seek this information specifically after the student completes the course.

## **Project Summary**

The clinical education program in the College of Health Sciences Physical Therapy Division offers students diverse opportunities to apply and integrate the foundation knowledge gained in the academic program by experiencing professional practice in 38 states and two foreign countries. To support the internationalization plans of the University of Kentucky (UK) and to continue to enhance and strengthen our clinical education program, we propose to expand the international component. To that end we have formed a partnership with Bond University in Queensland, Australia, the first Doctor of Physical Therapy academic program in that country. Two members of Bond University faculty have traveled here to consult with our faculty on curricular and accreditation issues. We have begun to plan for our faculty to visit Bond in order to teach a clinical instructor education course for clinical instructors, and to establish a clinical exchange in which students from Bond University would experience clinical work in the US, while UK students would complete a clinical course in Australia.

In order to establish relationships with clinical sites consistent with our students' needs, I did visit several Australian sites and discussed UK educational objectives /possible collaboration with the faculty from Bond as well as Clinical Directors and Educational Coordinators. Faculty from Bond agreed to lay the groundwork to allow us to accomplish this.

It was initially anticipated that I would present educational content about clinical teaching to some clinical instructors in Australia, but this was not necessary, as the Bond University faculty had a program in place to serve this need. Bond faculty will assist UK faculty in verifying the qualifications of the instructors when the students are assigned.

In 2009, Sarah Woodward of the Class of 2009 will affiliate in Sydney, Australia at Westmead Private Hospital and Mugovan/Breckenridge Physiotherapy outpatient clinic for a total of 10 weeks.

We have also begun to explore sites for two Bond University students to affiliate in the US in 2010, and anticipate two UK students affiliating in Sydney and or Gold Coast in the summer of 2010.

I also discussed with Nancy Low Choy, the director of the Bond University Physiotherapy Program the possibility of collaborating to discuss benchmarking of international study programs for PT students. She may visit UK to discuss this further in the summer of 2009 while traveling abroad to give a presentation.