

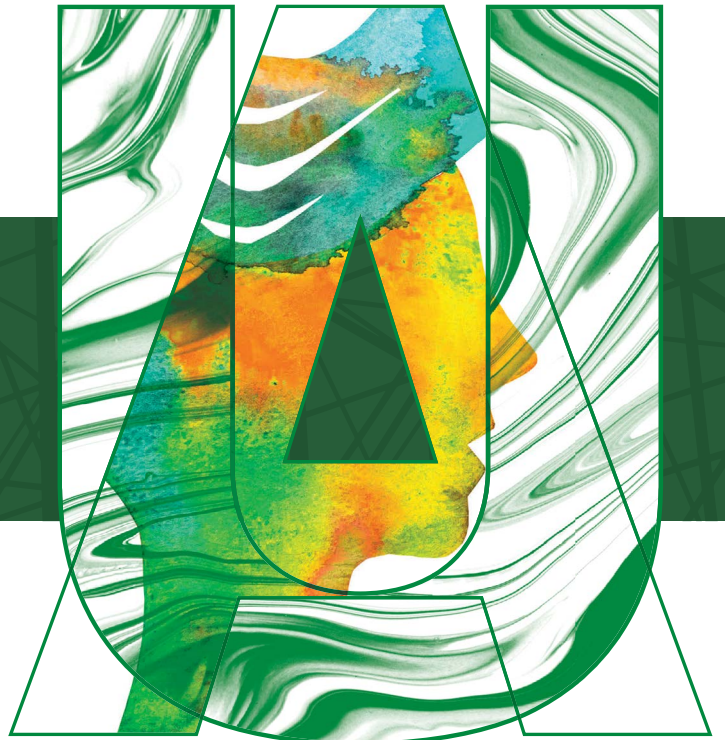


**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**

2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Department of Physical Therapy
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
College of Health Sciences



SEPTEMBER 2024



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Message from the Department

Welcome to the University of Alberta's Department of Physical Therapy Annual Report for 2023-2024!

We invite you to learn more about our outstanding academic programs, award-winning faculty, and innovative research from the past year. As Alberta's only physical therapy training program, we partner with therapists and colleagues across the province while operating out of our three campuses in Edmonton, Calgary, and Camrose. We also collaborate broadly with national and international partners.

With an enduring legacy of innovation in the physical therapy community, our department has made important contributions to physical therapy training (satellite campuses, internationally educated bridging program, distance learning). We have contributed to better understanding and treatment of musculoskeletal, neurological, and cardiorespiratory conditions. We are also leaders in cancer rehabilitation, pediatric physical therapy, and rehabilitation-related health services research.

We continued our commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and broader commitments to equity, diversity, and inclusion. We hosted a retreat at the Indigenous Peoples Experience at Fort Edmonton Park, continued our collaboration with Treaty 8 First Nations and took further steps towards Indigenizing our curriculum.

We are thankful for our community partnerships, including community instructors, alumni, and donors who support our work. Feel free to contact us with questions, concerns, or ideas to help us improve. You can email Doug at doug.gross@ualberta.ca and Mark at mark.hall@ualberta.ca.

Dr. Doug Gross

Chair & Professor
Department of Physical Therapy

Dr. Mark Hall

Associate Chair & Teaching Professor
Department of Physical Therapy

Our Mission

With an overarching focus of creating a diverse and inclusive environment, elevate the Department of Physical Therapy (and the profession) through four strategic themes: develop and strengthen teaching, foster partnerships, enhance research and knowledge translation/implementation.

Our Core Values

- Focus on people, creating an inclusive community
- Teaching for the 21st century
- Partnerships
- Research and technology



MATTHEW GOERTZEN: **PHYSIO TO THE STARS**

To this rehab instructor, every patient – and every student – is special, and the sometimes tragic but often exciting intersections between his personal and professional lives have made both richer.

[Read the full story](#)



2023-24 HIGHLIGHTS

The Corbett Hall Student Physical Therapy Clinic is pictured above. At this non-profit clinic operated within the Department of Physical Therapy, PT students take primary responsibility for providing assessment or rehabilitation under the supervision of licensed physical therapists.

Awards and Honours

CAREER AWARDS/HONOURS

Dr. Jaynie Yang. [Distinguished Alumni Award](#) from Queen's University, School of Rehabilitation, October 2023

Dr. Lesley Pritchard. Invited to give the [Cyndy Miles Memorial lecture](#) at the American Physical Therapy Association, Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy Annual Meeting, Omaha, Nebraska

TEACHING AWARDS

Prof. Matt Goertzen. Received the [RMSA Teaching Award](#)

Dr. Crystal MacLellan. Received the FRM Innovative Teaching Award

RESEARCH AWARDS

Dr. Karim Fouad. Dave Lostchuck Memorial Award for excellence in SCI research, the Canadian Spinal Research Organization

Dr. Eric Parent. On a team that won the 2024 SOSORT award from the International Society on Scoliosis Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Treatment. One of two winners among 10 nominees chosen from 170 submissions. Covers cost of open access publishing in *European Spine Journal*.

Dr. Doug Gross. Presenting on behalf of a team including department members Hall M, Bostick G, Wieler M received Best Oral Presentation Award at the international research conference PREMUS in Bengaluru, India, Sept. 20 - 26, 2023.



STUDENT-TURNED-PROF SHARES HER MEMORIES

Joan Loomis enjoyed a 30-year career in the Department of Physical Therapy – first as a student, then a teaching faculty and finally as associate chair of the department until her retirement in 2008.

[Read the full story](#)

Community Engagement

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Prof. Jacky Chow. College of Physiotherapists of Alberta Council member until May 2024. Selected to join the board of directors of [Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada](#) (PEAC)

Dr. Eric Parent. Scientific chair of the SOSORT 2024 international conference (held in Boston)

Publications

110

peer-reviewed publications, many involving trainees

+100

conference presentations, including several keynotes and plenary sessions



BLACK STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION FORMED IN THE FACULTY

In addition to bringing awareness to potential applicants, the group supports current students, who can sometimes feel isolated and lonely as the only Black person in a cohort.

[Read the full story](#)

Grant Funding

\$93,814,824	Ongoing principal and co-principal investigator funding
\$3,485,112	New peer-reviewed funding as principal or co-principle investigator
\$3,744,457	New funding as co-investigators



SITTING LESS, MOVING MORE HELPS STROKE PATIENTS

University of Alberta research is creating new recovery advice for stroke patients based on a precision health approach.

[Read the full story](#)

Teaching

CORBETT HALL PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENT CLINIC

The student clinic continues to grow. This year it started a mentorship stream with new graduates.

99%

of graduates successfully completed the written national Physiotherapy Competency Exam on the first attempt

578

unique PTs supervised placements

641

student placements

281

unique placement sites

THANK YOU

The Department of Physical Therapy would like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** to all the physical therapy clinicians who supervised students in our department.

Leading with Purpose.



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