Undergraduate Physical Therapy Research Education Experience (UPTREE)

DESCRIPTION
The UPTREE provides selected undergraduate students enrolled in the Bachelor’s of Health Science degree program with a pre-physical therapy focus the opportunity to explore and participate in physical therapy research. Students who are selected to participate in UPTREE work with Physical Therapy Program faculty and graduate students on various aspects of research that may include literature reviews and critical appraisals of physical therapy research, grant writing, data collection, data management, scientific writing, poster or platform development, scientific presentations, and publications.

UPTREE students have opportunities to work with faculty on a variety of physical therapy research topics that include musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiopulmonary, integumentary, oncology, pediatric, and geriatric conditions. UPTREE students present their work at the “Meeting of the Minds” Undergraduate Research Conference and at the Oakland University Student Convocation. Students also attend the Physical Therapy Research Day in May.

This is experience is not for credit and UPTREE students spend about 60—75 hours per semester participating in the research experience. UPTREE students and their faculty mentors can apply for stipends through the Provost’s Undergraduate Research Grant; however, stipend awards are competitive and not guaranteed. Students who receive grants may spend significantly more time working on research to fulfill the grant requirements.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
- Current enrollment in the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences degree program with a pre-physical therapy focus
- OU Honor’s College student or Presidential Scholar status
- Junior or senior standing
- Completion of Psych 250 and STA 225 (3.0 or higher GPA is preferred but not required)
- Demonstrate a strong interest in research
- Ability to commit to 60—75 hours in the term of the UPTREE experience

APPLICATION
The application process includes the following:
- Complete the application form (see page 2 of this document).
- Acquire one written recommendation from an Oakland University academic faculty member
- OU Transcripts (may be advising copy with GPA).
- Resume

APPLICATION DEADLINES
Applications are due electronically to the UPTREE Program Coordinator, Dr. Melodie Kondratek, (mdkondra@oakland.edu) on or before:
- The October 15 (for winter UPTREE experience)
- The March 30 (for spring or fall UPTREE experience)

SELECTION NOTIFICATION
UPTREE applicants will be notified of the selection outcomes electronically within three weeks after the application deadline.
Please complete the following one-page application. Return the application electronically to Dr. Melodie Kondratek (mdkondra@oakland.edu) by the specified deadlines. The process is highly selective and competitive and completion of this application does not guarantee an award.

UPTREE APPLICATION FORM

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I. Statement of interest in physical therapy research.
Please discuss your interest in physical therapy scholarly activities (research) and your reasons for applying for the UPTREE experience. Include your proficiency with and prior experience in scholarly activities (if any). (Limited to 1540 characters)

II. Recommendation from an Oakland University academic faculty member.
Applicant: Please obtain one letter from an OU faculty member that you have had as a professor. Ask the faculty member to comment on your potential to function as a critical thinker and to work independently. It is preferred that this letter be sent in the form of an e-mail to Dr. Melodie Kondratek at mdkondra@oakland.edu.

Faculty member name: __________________________ Email: __________________________

III. Attach resume and copy of advising transcript.

For further information contact:
UPTREE Program Coordinator:
Melodie Kondratek, PT, DScPT, OMPT

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Physical Therapy Program
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