While recognizing that external funding of a graduate student is limited to four years and respecting the desired time to completion of those in the PhD program, the department of Kinesiology acknowledges the value of a foreign research experience for those PhDs who intent to seek a postdoctoral position. Length of the foreign experience can be as little as 3 weeks to a maximum of 4 months.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Student must have completed necessary course work including KIN 714, and maintained an acceptable average while doing so.
- Student must submit a formal proposal to his/her supervisory committee outlining the benefits and consequences (+/-) of such a sojourn.
- Student and committee must explore in depth the effects that an extended absence will have on the student’s progress and develop a plan to help the student complete his/her PhD in a reasonable time frame.
- It is preferable, but not essential, that the foreign experience lead to publication(s). Upon return, the student is expected to present at the Departmental Seminar Series.
- Student and supervisor must arrange, in a timely manner, the release of the student from TA duties for the academic term in which absence occurs.
- Supervisory committee shall not unreasonably deny a student’s request for foreign experience.
- Appropriate paperwork must be complete and filed with the department office, and permission must be obtained from School of Graduate Studies a minimum of one month before the foreign sojourn is to begin.

TIMING

- Ideally, this opportunity should be undertaken at the end of the 2nd year with remote collaboration continuing into the 3rd year.

COSTS

- While it is not mandatory, it is suggested that the supervisor cover a portion of the travel expenses, and that the host institution/laboratory cover a portion of accommodation.
- The student is expected to apply for all applicable travel awards and to finance any remaining costs.
- All these suggestions vary depending on the location of the foreign experience and the funding available to the supervisor.

February 12, 2010 / rc