

# Terms of Reference for Academic School of Pharmacy Review

## Background

The University of Otago has initiated a comprehensive review of the School of Pharmacy, to assess its overall effectiveness, quality of programs, and alignment with the institution's mission and strategic objectives. The purpose of this review is to provide insights, recommendations, and a roadmap for continuous improvement across undergraduate pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences, postgraduate programs, including pharmacist prescribing, international partnerships, the pharmacy clinic, and financial sustainability.

## Objectives

The primary objectives of the Academic School of Pharmacy Review are:

- a. Evaluate the overall academic performance and standing of the School of Pharmacy across undergraduate pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences, and postgraduate programs, including pharmacist prescribing.
- b. Assess the alignment of the School's programs with national and international standards for pharmacy education.
- c. Review the faculty and staff composition, qualifications, and effectiveness in delivering quality education and research across all programs.
- d. Evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of infrastructure, laboratories, and other facilities supporting the School's academic and research activities.
- e. Examine the School's contributions to research, community engagement, and collaboration with external stakeholders, including international partners.
- f. Assess the operations and effectiveness of the pharmacy clinic, if applicable.
- g. Evaluate the financial sustainability of the School of Pharmacy and the responsible utilization of resources.

## Scope of the Review

The comprehensive review will encompass, but is not limited to, the following key areas:

### Curriculum design, delivery, and assessment methods

- Evaluate the relevance and currency of the curriculum for undergraduate pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences, and postgraduate programs, including pharmacist prescribing.
- Assess the effectiveness of teaching methods, including the integration of technology and active learning strategies.
- Review the assessment methods used to measure students' comprehension, critical thinking skills, and practical abilities.

## **Faculty and staff qualifications, performance, and professional development**

- Examine the qualifications, credentials, and expertise of faculty members across undergraduate and postgraduate programs.
- Evaluate faculty performance, including teaching effectiveness, research productivity, and contributions to professional development.
- Assess the availability and effectiveness of professional development opportunities for faculty and staff.

## **Student enrolment, progression, and success rates**

- Analyse trends in student enrolment, considering factors such as diversity, demographics, and geographic representation.
- Evaluate student progression rates and identify any barriers to timely program completion.
- Assess the success rates of graduates, including licensure exam pass rates and post-graduation employment placements.

## **Research output, publications, and collaborations**

- Evaluate the quality and quantity of research output from the School of Pharmacy faculty.
- Assess the impact of research publications and the extent of collaboration with other academic institutions, industry partners, and healthcare organizations.
- Examine the integration of research activities into the academic programs.

## **Infrastructure, laboratories, and technological resources**

- Assess the adequacy and functionality of physical infrastructure, including classrooms, laboratories, and research facilities.
- Review the availability and utilization of advanced technological resources for teaching, learning, and research.
- Identify any deficiencies or areas for improvement in infrastructure and technological support.

## **Financial sustainability and resource utilization**

- Examine the financial sustainability of the School of Pharmacy, considering budget allocation, revenue sources, and cost-effectiveness.
- Evaluate the utilization of resources, including faculty and staff time, physical space, and financial resources.
- Identify opportunities for optimizing resource allocation to enhance overall efficiency.

## **International partnerships**

- Evaluate existing international partnerships and collaborations, assessing their impact on academic programs, research, and student experiences.
- Identify opportunities for expanding and strengthening international collaborations.

## **Pharmacy clinic**

- Assess the operations and effectiveness of the pharmacy clinic, if applicable, including its contribution to student education, community service, and research.

## **Methodology**

The review will employ a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, including document analysis, surveys, interviews, site visits, and comparative analysis with benchmark institutions.

## **Deliverables**

The review will result in a comprehensive report that includes:

- a. Executive summary highlighting key findings and recommendations.
- b. Detailed analysis of each review area, including strengths and areas for improvement.
- c. Recommendations for enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the School of Pharmacy.
- d. Action plan for implementing identified recommendations.