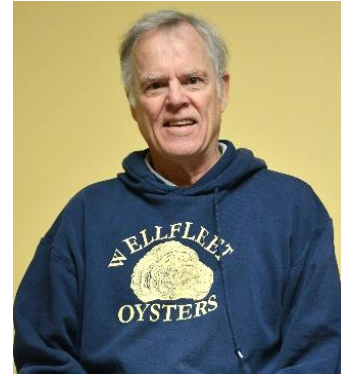


Martin Ferguson-Pell, Ph.D.

Professor, Rehabilitation Medicine,
University of Alberta
Executive Director, Alberta Bone and Joint Institute



Biography

Martin Ferguson-Pell was appointed Dean of the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine in 2007 and completed his first 5-year term in 2012. During his first term the faculty expanded in Edmonton and established, using synchronous video-conference-based systems, satellite programs in physical therapy and occupational therapy in Calgary and at UofA's Augustana Campus, Camrose, Alberta. The faculty's first endowed chair was established in musculoskeletal rehabilitation and a second shortly afterwards in rehabilitation for members of Canadian Forces and Veterans. In 2010 he was also appointed to the role of chair of the Health Sciences Council. While chairing the Council the \$500M Edmonton Clinical Health Academy was opened creating a state-of-the-art, multi-disciplinary setting dedicated to the education of health professionals.

In June 2012, after the successful review of his first 5-year term as dean, he was seconded from the second term of his decanal role for one year and appointed Acting Provost and Vice President Academic. This term was subsequently extended for an additional 6 months.

The end of his term as Acting Provost coincided with the final year of President Indira Samarasekera's second term. There were a number of initiatives she wanted to complete. These included establishing the Peter Lougheed Leadership College, making significant changes to graduate programs, planning transition to a responsibility based budgeting model, establishing President's Visiting Committees and advancing UofA's leadership in digital learning. Ferguson-Pell was appointed Senior Advisor to the President to drive forward these initiatives in preparation to handing them over to her successor at the end of her term in 2015.

On July 1, 2015 Ferguson-Pell formally assumed the role of Vice Principal of the Peter Lougheed Leadership College working closely with former Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell. After successfully establishing the College they completed their terms in these roles June 30 2018.

Ferguson-Pell is a biomedical engineer and credentialed clinical scientist. He is a Co-PI of the Smart Network, a large University of Alberta interdisciplinary team

with a focus on neuromuscular conditions. He is also Executive Director of the Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute.

He has dedicated his academic career to the application of technologies for people with physical disabilities, studying underlying causes of secondary complications and to reducing their incidence. He designed and developed a new Rehabilitation Robotics Laboratory in the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy and uses virtual reality systems to simulate the biomechanical and physiological conditions faced by long-term wheelchair users and elite wheelchair athletes.

His research team is also developing methods for delivering assessments and treatments using tele-rehabilitation, extending the scope of care that can be delivered remotely using advanced IT systems and advanced, easy to use sensor systems. These technologies are now being piloted across Alberta in collaboration with Alberta Health Services.

Previously Ferguson-Pell was appointed in 1995 as founding ASPIRE Chair in Neuromuscular Restoration and Rehabilitation (Disability and Technology) at the Institute of Orthopaedics and Musculoskeletal Science at University College London. He was also Director of Research for the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (NHS Trust). He held these positions from 1995-2007. Prior to this appointment he was Director of the Center for Rehabilitation Technology, a centre he created at New York State's Helen Hayes Hospital, which integrated research, education and clinical services for people with complex disabilities. He completed a BSc in physics (1973) at Exeter University in UK and then a PhD in biomedical engineering at the University of Strathclyde (1977), where he subsequently was appointed lecturer for 5 years.