APTA Academy of Education
A Component of the American Physical Therapy Association

ACADEMY ROUNDUP

The Official Newsletter for the APTA Academy of Education

A source of news, announcements, and upcoming events for physical therapy educators.

Newsletter Highlights

- **Announcements:**
  - ELC 2026 Survey
  - Mentor the Next Generation of PT and PTA Educators
  - Call for Academy Leadership Positions Open
  - CSM Registration is Open!
    - CSM Hot Topics
  - We Want to Hear from You!
- **Upcoming Events:**
    - Education Research Consulting (Scholarship of Education Special Interest Group - SoESIG)
  - Foundations of Simulation Series
  - FHEL 2027-28 Cohort
    - **Applictions Open!**
- **Upcoming Webinars:**
  - JoPTE Journal Club Session - Nov 3, 2026
  - SIMChat - Nov 5, 2026
  - SIMChat - Dec 3, 2026
  - RFE SIG Journal Club - Dec 8, 2026
- **Welcome New Members!**
- View Our Member Benefits

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share Your Feedback in Our ELC Survey

Thank you for joining us at ELC in Washington, DC! We hope you had a great experience.

Don’t forget to complete the conference survey! You can find it below or in the conference app under Menu → ELC 2026 Survey.

ELC 2026 Survey

Looking for your CEUs? Continuing Education Certificates will be distributed through **APTA's Learning Center**. Stay tuned for more information on how to access in the coming weeks!

Thank you again for attending. We appreciate your feedback!

Mentor the Next Generation of PT and PTA Educators

Help shape the future of physical therapy education by becoming a mentor for the Excellence in Education Certificate Program!

Mentors will:

- Complete mentor training
- Be assigned up to three mentees twice per year, in May and November
- Conduct small group and one-on-one mentoring sessions (10 hours per student)
- Ensure new faculty are committed to excellence in physical therapy education

Mentors must have a minimum of 10 years' experience in physical therapy education.

Click here to apply; first mentoring sessions to begin May 2027. Mentors will receive $250 per mentee.

Call for Academy Leadership Positions Open

Hone your leadership skills as an Academy or SIG leader.
Nominations are open now through November 15.
Learn more

Positions Open For Nomination Include the Following:

Academy
- Treasurer
- Director for Scholarly Engagement
- Nominating Committee Member

Academic Faculty SIG
- Secretary/Treasurer

Anatomy Educators SIG
- Chair (serves on Board of Directors)

- Recording Secretary
- Nominating Committee Member

Clinical Education SIG
- Academic Co-Chair (serves on Board of Directors)
- Member Secretary
- Nominating Committee Member

Interprofessional Education and Practice SIG
- Secretary
- Research Chair
- Nominating Committee Member

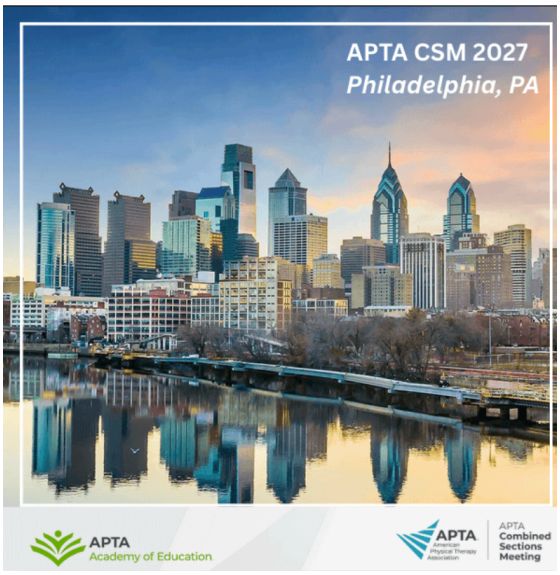
PTA Educators SIG
- Vice Chair
- Nominating Committee Member

Residency/Fellowship Education SIG
- Chair (serves on Board of Directors)
- Treasurer/Secretary
- Nominating Committee Member

Scholarship of Education SIG
- Vice Chair
- Nominating Committee Member

Nominate A Leader

Registration Now Open for CSM 2027!



February 4-6, 2027
Philadelphia, PA

Early Bird Registration ends on November 4, 2026!

Learn More!

Register Now!

CSM Hot Topics

Academy of Education Pre-Conference: Hone Your Mentoring Skills!

Strengthen your institution's teaching, learning, and assessment outcomes with evidenced-informed mentorship practices at the Academy of Education's pre-conference program: Mentorship in Action: Skills, Structures, and Sustainable Models.

Wednesday, February 3, 2027
8 AM – 4 PM

This hands-on workshop will help clinical educators, residency/fellowship faculty, and program leaders:

- Facilitate reflective dialogue to promote clinical reasoning
- Match mentorship strategies to learner readiness and developmental stage
- Support professional identity formation and autonomy
- Use rubrics, reflection tools, and progression models to support programmatic assessment
- Design sustainable mentorship structures within residency, fellowship, and clinical education programs.

Participants will leave with actionable tools, educator-focused strategies, and adaptable resources to enhance mentorship quality and support learner progression across post-professional settings.

Presented by Jennifer D. Lazaro, PT, DPT, NCS and Arielle Resnick, PT, DPT, NCS.

Learn more about this program. **Register** for the pre-conference.

Pauline Cerasoli Lecture: The Legacy We Create: Rethinking Success, Growth and Purpose In Physical Therapy Education

The Pauline Cerasoli Lecture provides a space to reflect on and reimagine our role as educators in physical therapy. This session will explore different perspectives on learner success, challenging attendees to critically examine what "success" means within physical therapy education. As educators, we are not only responsible for developing competent practitioners, but also for shaping environments where learners are seen, supported, and challenged as whole individuals. Attendees will consider how shifting from a performance-focused mindset to a more people-centered approach can enhance learner engagement and long-term personal and professional growth. The lecture will highlight the critical role of productive struggle in learning and the responsibility of educators to intentionally design experiences that foster resilience, adaptability, and deep learning. In parallel, attendees will reflect on their own development as educators, examining how growth as master adaptive learners models the very capacities we aim to cultivate in physical therapy learners. This lecture is intended to inspire and challenge educators to explore how learner success is defined, identify actionable strategies to support whole-learner development, reflect on their own growth as educators, and reconnect with their purpose in an ever-evolving educational landscape.

February 5, 2027 | Friday | 2:00 - 3:30 PM EST

Meet the Speaker:

Stephen Douglas Jernigan, PT, PhD
University of Kansas Medical Center

Stephen Jernigan, PT, PhD, FNAP Dr. Jernigan is an Associate Professor and the Director of Academics for the DPT program in the Department of Physical Therapy, Rehabilitation Science and Athletic Training at the University of Kansas Medical



Center (KUMC). He teaches early courses in the DPT program and coordinates the interprofessional curriculum. His primary research interests include education research and interprofessional education and practice. Steve works alongside colleagues in his department to Leverage Education and Research Now (LEARN) as the lead of the interprofessional LEARN Lab, an education research lab. He also co-leads KUMC's Assessment and Scholarship Committee of the Center for Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research. He has had multiple opportunities, regionally and nationally, to train clinicians and educators in effective interprofessional precepting. He is a Distinguished Scholar and Fellow of the Physical Therapy Academy of the National Academies of Practice. He enjoys collaboratively elevating DPT education and interprofessional education and practice at KUMC.

Learn More!

We Want to Hear from You!

Share your Story. Shape the Future of Physical Therapy Education.

The APTA Academy of Education is launching a series of member spotlight and educational videos, and we want to hear from you!

Our members are the heart of the Academy, and these videos are designed to highlight the ideas, experiences, innovations, and perspectives that are advancing physical therapy education every day. Whether you have a favorite teaching strategy, exciting research findings, volunteer experiences to share, or insights from your Special Interest Group, your voice can inspire colleagues across the profession.

Current video opportunities include:

- Teaching Tip Tuesday: Share practical teaching strategies and educational pearls.
- Meet an Academy Member: Tell your professional story and how Academy membership has impacted your career.
- SIG Spotlight: Highlight the work, resources, and opportunities within your Special Interest Group.
- Research Highlight: Discuss your research and its implications for physical therapy education.
- Volunteer Spotlight: Inspire others by sharing your volunteer journey and leadership experiences.

Participation is easy. Selected participants will join a recorded 10-15 minute video conversation with an Academy representative. Videos may be featured on the Academy's YouTube channel and social media platforms.

This is your opportunity to connect with colleagues, amplify your work, and help strengthen our community of educators.

Ready to participate? Complete an interest form today and let your voice be heard.

Please contact marketing@aptaeducation.org with any questions.

Teaching Tip Tuesday Interest Form

Meet an Academy Member Form

SIG Spotlight Form

Research Highlight Form

Volunteer Spotlight Form

UPCOMING EVENTS

Foundations of Simulation Series



Interested in Adding Simulation to Your Curriculum? The Simulation Networking Community has developed Foundations of Simulation a series of brief, free presentations designed to introduce physical therapy educators and clinicians to core concepts in simulation-based learning. This series provides an overview of essential terminology, simulation modalities, delivery methods, pre-briefing and debriefing practices, and the Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice. Participants will gain foundational knowledge and practical resources to support the design, implementation, and facilitation of simulation experiences across a variety of educational settings.

You can view the series through the Learning Center

View Series

Hone Your Leadership Skills - Apply for the FHEL 27-28 Cohort!

APTA Academy of Education | Fellowship in Higher Education Leadership

Applications are now open for the Fellowship of Higher Education Leadership, a 13-month program designed for current and aspiring leaders in physical therapy education to:

- Improve and apply leadership skills
- Put theory into practice
- Build a network of peers and mentors to support their academic career

The fellowship combines asynchronous modules created by content experts, interactive live office hours and three immersive sessions to prepare PT and PTA faculty for leadership positions.

Learn More **Apply Now!**



JoPTE Journal Club Session

Tuesday | November 3 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM EST

Clinical Anatomy in a Physical Therapist Competency-Based Education Course

Authors will present journal article findings: Clinical Anatomy in a Physical Therapist Competency-Based Education Course: Challenges and Solutions. Jeb Helms, Lindsay Conn, Austin Sheldon, Carl DeRosa, Kelly Macauley

Register Now **Learn More!**

SIMChat

Save the Date | Thursday | November 5 | 3:00-4:00 EST

Join our monthly simulation-focused discussion via Zoom

Hosted by Sharon Dunnivan-Mitchell!

Learn More!

SIMChat

Save the Date | Thursday | December 3 | 3:00-4:00 EST

Join our monthly simulation-focused discussion via Zoom

Hosted by Sharon Dunnivan-Mitchell!

Learn More!

Residency/Fellowship Education SIG Journal Club

Tuesday | December 8 | 8:00 - 9:00 PM EST

Bridging the GAP: Final-Year DPT Preferences

Adriaan Louw, PT, PhD, is an internationally recognized educator and researcher specializing in pain science and pain neuroscience education. He has more than 30 years of teaching experience and has authored or co-authored over 130 peer-reviewed publications.

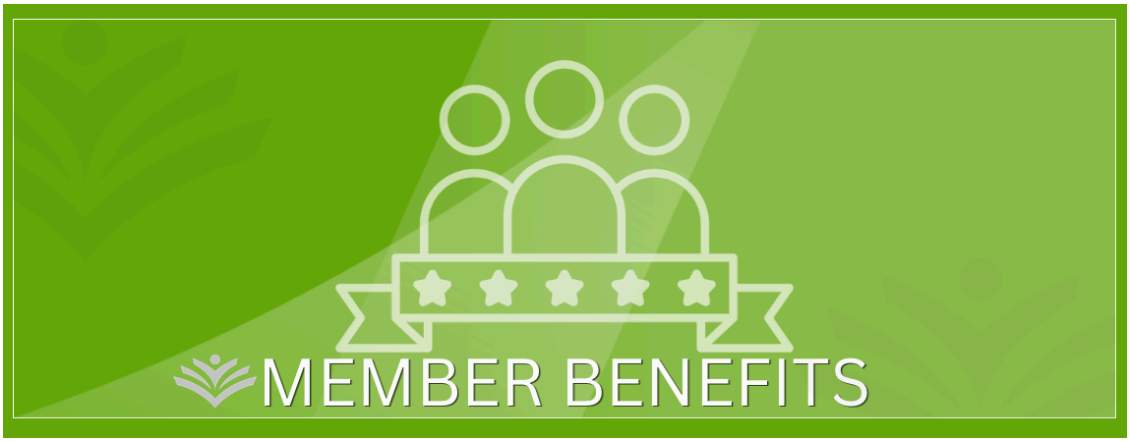
Learn More! Register

Welcome New Members!



- Meredith Abell, SPTA
- Ali Aftabi, DPT
- Tara Michele Andrews, PT, DPT
- Keenan Whitesides Batts, PT
- Micah Berens, SPT
- Jane B. Berger, DPT, MSPT, MSPT
- Jordan Birdsong, PT, DPT
- Katy N. Blessing, PT, DPT
- Karina Burton, SPT
- Alexandra Buwalda, PT, DPT
- Mikayla Calitis, SPT
- Diego O Carbajal, PTA
- Sean Carlucci, PT, DPT
- Mikayla J. Carrillo, SPT
- Ryan Casellini, SPT
- Carrie Monet Cave, SPT
- Samantha Chemsak, SPTA
- Andrew Max Christensen, SPT
- Alyssa Nicole Clinton, DPT, DPT
- Tobias Webb Cook, SPT
- Jonathan R. Crowder, PT, DPT
- Tyler Davey, DPT
- Korinne Alise Dodd, PT
- Amanda M Ecton, SPT
- Wilson Eike, SPT
- Markevian D Evergreen, SPT
- Kaley Grace Ezell, SPT
- Harley Rose Feher, PTA
- Ashley Elizabeth Finke, PT, DPT
- Esther Camille Gilpin, SPTA
- Angela Marie Gonsalves, PT, DPT
- Ayiana Gonzales, SPT
- Madison Woody Ledbetter, PT, DPT
- Jui-Te Lin, PT
- Mason Lowery, SPTA
- Adam Luna, SPT
- Jordan M Stewart, SPT
- Lauren Marksberry, SPT
- Richard Mejia Martinez, SPT
- Julia Mayer, SPTA
- Harper Mayfield, SPT
- Laura Katherine McEachern, PT, DPT
- Jae McReynolds, SPT
- Abigail Mendez, PTA
- Geena Brady Mocniak, PT, DPT
- Natalie V. Morlock, SPT
- Roel Roman Nunez, PT, DPT
- Kimberly M. Ortega, SPT
- Christan Bishop Phillips, PT, DPT
- Bryn Pierce, SPT
- Marguerite Faye Ponda, SPT
- Kathleen M Prine, SPT
- Brynn Renee Rathsam, SPTA
- Ashlyn Grace Riggs, SPT
- Stacey Denise Rittenberg, PT, DPT
- Dylan P. Roman, PT, DPT
- Donovan P Roth, SPT
- Caleb J Ryu, PTA
- Ramon Sanchez, SPT
- Sydney Sanders, SPT
- Caitlyn Scharmer, SPT
- Kilee M Schlak, SPT
- Noah Schnell, SPT

- Sydnee Goodreaux, SPT
- Danae Gouldey, PTA
- Hayden Gray, SPT
- Riley Gurten, PTA
- Rezika Hachour, SPT
- Angela Harper, SPT
- Michael A. Henry, Jr. PT, DPT, PhD
- Abigail S Hernandez, SPT
- Amber D. Herrington, PT
- Joshua J. Holmes, PTA, BA
- Tiffany Dawn Holt, PTA
- Annabelle Hu, SPT
- Lauren Beth Hutchins, PTA
- Khaleah Jeter, SPTA
- Lillie Jobe, SPT
- Kayla Lashley, PT, DPT
- Nicholas Thomas LeBlond, PT, DPT, ATC
- Abigail Sedun, SPT
- Antonia Marie Silva, PT, DPT
- Kalik Y. Skeete, PT, DPT
- Joseph S. Soojian, PT, DPT
- Jilissa Colene Swearingen, SPT
- Andrew C. Thomas, PT, DPT
- Diante Thomas, PTA
- Samuel Troudt, SPT
- Jessica Umhoefer, SPT
- Daria Vitiaz, PTA
- Taylor Dawn Walker, SPT
- Samantha Waltrich, SPTA
- Mia Wang-Herrera, SPTA
- Rebecca-Anne Hope Wayland, PT, DPT
- Kaitlynn Wofford, SPT
- Shi Mei Wu, SPT
- Meredith Young, PT, DPT, PhD
- Alexander E Zieger, SPT



Welcome to the APTA Academy of Education! We hope that through your membership, you'll find your place in a community of life-long learners dedicated to the education of patients, students, colleagues, and communities.

Top benefits of Membership in the Academy:

1. Discounts on section conferences like:

   - **Combined Sections Meeting**
   - **Education Leadership Conference**
   - **Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop**
   - **Academy Webinars**

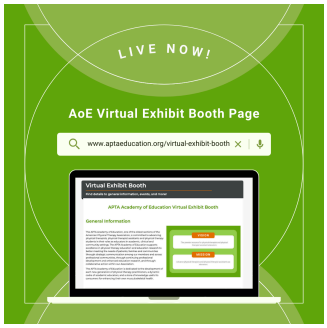
2. Well-established **Special Interest Groups** to meet member needs.

3. Networking and opportunity for Academy **funding and awards**.

Please know that we are here to serve you and are happy to assist you in any way possible. Education is the future of our profession and here in the APTA Academy of Education, "Every PT and PTA is an Educator."

Visit us at **http://www.aptaeducation.org**.

QUICK CLICKS



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Journal of Physical Therapy Education

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