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:**
  - U.S. Department of Education Final Regulations
  - RFE-SIG Award Deadline - Extended to November 15
  - Mentor the Next Generation of PT and PTA Educators
  - Call for Academy Leadership Positions Open
  - CSM Early Bird Registration Ends Today!
    - Clinical Educators: Apply for CSM Pre-Conference Scholarship
    - CSM Hot Topics
  - We Want to Hear from You!
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Foundations of Simulation Series
  - FHEL 2027-28 Cohort
    - **Applictions Open!**
- **Upcoming Webinars:**
  - SIMChat - Nov 5, 2026
  - SIMChat - Dec 3, 2026
  - RFE SIG Journal Club - Dec 8, 2026
- **SIG Spotlight!**
  - Scholarship of Education Special Interest Group (SoESIG)
- View Our Member Benefits

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Final Rule Regarding Accrediting Agencies Released



The U.S. Department of Education has released its **final regulations** addressing the federal recognition of accrediting agencies.

APTA and CAPTE are reviewing the final rule closely. Based on our initial assessment, the provisions most relevant to CAPTE do not appear to differ significantly from those included in the proposed rule released in August.

The release of the final rule does not change CAPTE's current accreditation standards or accreditation decisions. CAPTE continues to fulfill its responsibility as the profession's accrediting body for physical therapist and physical therapist assistant education programs.

APTA and CAPTE will complete a thorough review of the final regulations and their implications for CAPTE and the physical therapy education community. We will share additional information and next steps as that review is completed.

RFE-SIG Award Deadline



Nominations for the 2027 Distinguished Mentor in Residency/Fellowship Education Award have been extended through **November 15**.

Nominees must:

- Be a member of the Academy of Education who is currently engaged or has demonstrated life-long engagement in residency/fellowship education.
- Have distinguished himself or herself in a clinical specialty area as evidenced by mentoring experience, continued education, practice, patient outcomes and/or residency/fellowship outcomes in an ABPTRFE accredited program.
- Have been engaged in Residency/Fellowship mentoring for at least 3 years

Click **here** to nominate someone for this award.

Mentor the Next Generation of PT and PTA Educators

APTA Academy of Education

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

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

Nominate A Leader

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

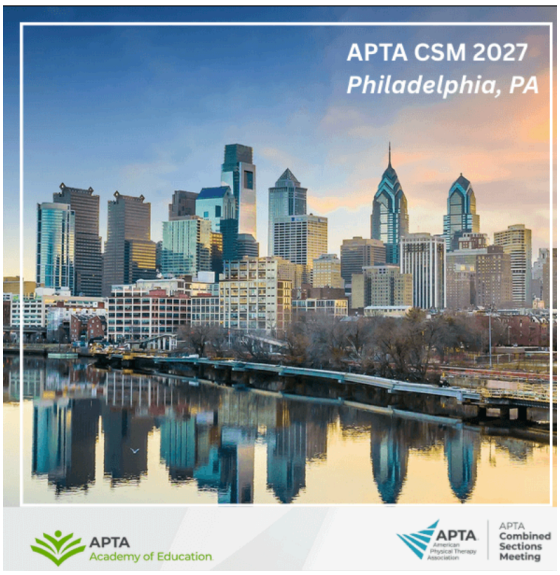
Interprofessional Education and Practice SIG
- Secretary
- Research Chair
- Nominating Committee Member

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

Registration Now Open for CSM 2027!



February 4-6, 2027
Philadelphia, PA

Early Bird Registration ends TODAY on November 4, 2026!

Learn More!

Register Now!

Clinical Educators: Apply for CSM Pre-Conference Scholarship

CE SIG Pre-Conference Scholarship Opprotunity!

The CE SIG has an Education Impact Initiative Award available for up to $500 registration for attendance of a pre-conference at CSM in Philadelphia, PA.

The deadline for the application is 11/16/2026. Click **here** to apply.

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

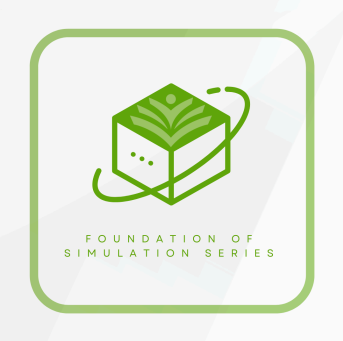
SIG Spotlight Form

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!**



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

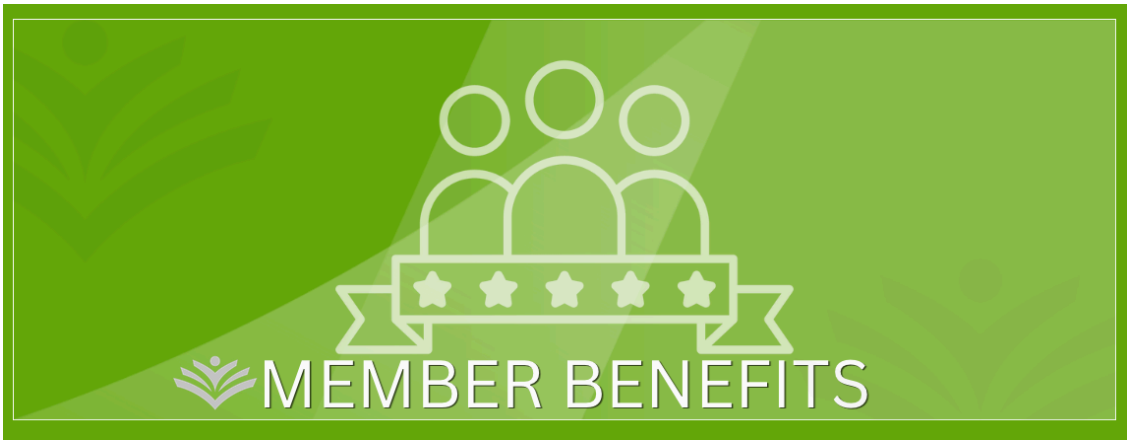
Adriaan Louw, PT, PhD, is an internationally recognized educator and researcher specializing in pain science and pain neuroscience education. He has more than 30 years of teaching experience and has authored or co-authored over 130 peer-reviewed publications.

Learn More! Register



Scholarship of Education Special Interest Group (SoESIG)

The Scholarship of Education Special Interest Group of the APTA Academy of Education provides a forum where both academic and clinical educators will promote and enhance the quality of educational scholarship in physical therapist education. The SIG seeks to foster the development of educational researchers and facilitate collaboration and translation of research to educational practice.



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**

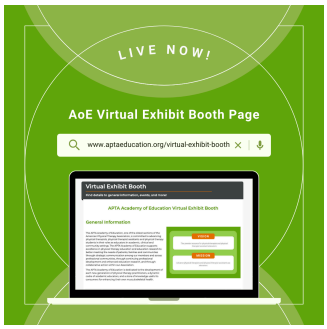
2. Well-established **Special Interest Groups** to meet member needs.

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



Check out our Virtual Exhibit Booth!

Learn More



How to Post Research Projects in EduSphere

Learn More



Journal of Physical Therapy Education

Learn More

Never miss the APTA Academy of Education Newsletter

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CLASSIFIEDS

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CURRENT LITERATURE

Check out the latest information and trends in physical therapy educational research on the JoPTE website and follow @JOPTEjournal on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to keep up with newsworthy educational content and publications!

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