



# 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

- 2025 Academy Elections are OPEN!
- Federal Advocacy Updates
- April is National Advocacy Dinner Month
- CESIG is proud to announce the updated SCCE Manual!
- Upcoming Webinars | April 3 & May 1
- IPEP Seminar Series | April 8
- SOE SIG: Third Education Research Consulting Session
- JoPTE Journal Club Meeting | April 10
- Student Council Liaison Needed
- Resource for Tracking Executive Orders
- ELC 2025 Submissions are Open!
- Volunteer for the Academy!
- NEW Member Benefit - Online Community
- Abstract Reviewers Needed for CSM
- NEW! Education Impact Initiative Project
- SIG Spotlight
- *Save The Date: GAMER 2026*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Academy Elections Are Now Open!**  
*Please look for a ballot from [AssociationVoting.com](https://AssociationVoting.com)*

## 2025 ELECTIONS

NOMINATION  
SLATE



April 1 - 15. You should have received an emailed ballot April 1 from: **AssociationVoting.com** with instructions. Please e-mail: [aoe-execdir@aptaeducation.org](mailto:aoe-execdir@aptaeducation.org) if you don't receive a ballot. ***Make your voice heard!***

[View 2025 Nominations](#)

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## Federal Advocacy Updates

Academy of Education Federal Affairs Liaison Allison Smith has provided a comprehensive update on APTA's recent advocacy efforts regarding the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, cuts in the Department of Education, efforts by the National Institutes of Health to cap indirect costs for disability and rehabilitation researchers at 15 percent, and a variety of bills under consideration that would affect physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

[Read Full Report](#)

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## April is National Advocacy Dinner Month

Each spring, PT and PTA programs nationwide host an APTA National Advocacy Dinner, aimed at educating students about advocacy, current initiatives, and the importance of being advocates throughout their careers. Click the button below for resources and information about how to host one at your program!

[Learn More](#)

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## The CESIG is Proud to Announce:



The updated SCCE Manual: *"Roadmap to Being a SCCE"* is now complete! The SCCE Manual is a resource for SCCEs of all experience levels as well as for clinical sites of all sizes.

The CESIG would like to thank everyone who worked on this project with special thanks to Karen Bock and Dawn Anderson for spearheading the project!

[Download Manual](#)

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## **EMPOWER: The Impact of Mentorship on a Student's Professional Journey**



Thursday | April 3 | 7-8PM ET

[Register](#)

### *Learning Objectives:*

1. Describe common challenges of DPT and PTA students who are from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds or are considered academically “at-risk” upon admission to the program.
2. Summarize the structure of one paid mentorship model aimed to support DPT and PTA students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds.
3. Explore if this Program, or a similar Program, can be implemented on your own campus.

### *Speakers:*

*Angela Spontelli Gisselman PT, PhD, DPT ;  
Melissa Burgemeister, PT, DPT, ATC*

## **From Concept to Action: Implementing a Clinical Teaching Competency Framework in Physical Therapy Education**



[Register](#)

Thursday | May 1 | 7-8PM ET

### *Learning Objectives:*

1. Understand the process of developing and validating a competency framework.
2. Recognize alignment between the clinical teaching competencies within current ACAPT and APTE priorities.
3. Develop strategies to apply the competency framework to various clinical education initiatives (e.g. Clinical faculty development, determining CI

**Speakers:**

*Katherine Myers PT, DPT, PhD*

*Catherine Bilyeu PT, DPT, PhD*



## Introduction to Interprofessional Education: Enhancing Collaboration Across Professions

Explore the fundamentals of Interprofessional Education and Practice (IPEP) in this engaging one-hour webinar designed to promote effective collaboration across health professions. Discuss the principles of IPEP and its importance in improving patient outcomes. The webinar features a panel of renowned experts, each bringing unique perspectives and real-world experience in interprofessional education. Following their presentations, attendees will have the opportunity to engage in a live Q&A session, allowing for deeper exploration of key concepts and tailored advice.

Whether you're a healthcare educator, practitioner, or student, this session will equip you with foundational knowledge and inspire you to integrate interprofessional approaches into your professional journey.

This webinar is ideal for educators, healthcare professionals, students, and administrators interested in fostering collaborative practices to enhance learning and patient care

**Tuesday | April 8 | 7-8PM ET**

**Register**

### *Learning Objectives*

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

1. Articulate the key principles and goals of interprofessional education and its role in improving teamwork and collaboration across disciplines.
2. Discuss how interprofessional education contributes to better health outcomes, enhances professional communication, and prepares learners for collaborative practice.
3. Recognize the essential elements of successful interprofessional education initiatives, including team-based learning, shared decision-making, and mutual respect among professions.
4. Discuss actionable insights from expert panelists on integrating IPE into educational programs or practice settings..

**Speakers:**

*Shelley McKearney, BS*

*Kim Dunleavy, PhD, PT, FNAP*

*Shelley Cohen Konrad, PhD, LCSW, FNAP*

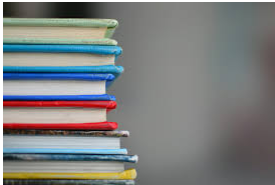
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Journal of

# PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION

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## Join the JoPTE Journal Club!

April 10 | 4PM ET

*A Snapshot of Attitudes Toward Generative Artificial Intelligence in Physical therapy Education* by Richard Severin, PT, DPT, PhD & Kendra Gagnon, PT, PhD

[Register](#)

[Read the  
Article](#)

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## The SOE SIG is Hosting: Third Education Research Consulting Session

For those seeking mentoring, this is a drop in session and you can come and go at anytime during the hour. To attend, use this link on **April 22 at 7PM ET**:



[Zoom Link](#)

Passcode: 047210

We will have consultants with experience in a variety of areas of educational research and you can use this time to meet with them and discuss your ideas, questions etc. The session will have breakout rooms and the consultants will each be in a breakout room. The main Zoom room will have information on the consultants and their expertise.

- **We are currently seeking both consultants and participants.**

You do not have to be an "expert" in your field, you simply need to have SOME experience with conducting and presenting/ publishing educational research.

[Consultant Sign  
Up](#)

[Researcher Sign  
Up](#)

If you have any questions about the event, reach out to SOE SIG chair

## Student Council Liaison Needed



The Academy of Education is seeking a student to serve as its representative to the APTA Student Council. The Academy will cover any travel costs associated with position.

[Apply](#)

[Learn More](#)

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October 17-19 • Kansas City, MO

## ELC Submissions Are Open

Submit Your Education Session, Platform,  
or Poster Today!

### Choose from two types of Educational Sessions:

#### **Standard Educational Presentations (90 min):**

Standard educational presentations are scheduled for 1.5 hours and occur any of the three days of the conference.

#### **MicroLearn Educational Sessions (25-30 min):**

MicroLearn sessions are compact, focused sessions designed to deliver quick insights, practical skills, and actionable takeaways. Authors will be paired with two other MicroLearn submissions of similar topics to make up a complete 90-minute session.

Or choose an abstract session:

**Posters** are displayed for an entire day during the conference, with presenters scheduled for 45-minute time slots either in the morning or afternoon.

**Platform** presentations are 15-minute oral presentations schedule throughout the three days of the conference.

**Submission portal for ELC 2025 opens March 3 and closes April 18.**



Please see the submission links below.

[Abstract Submissions](#)

[Educational Submissions](#)

For technical and non-technical questions about submission requirements, or the submission process, contact [info@pteducationleadershipconference.org](mailto:info@pteducationleadershipconference.org).

Sign up using the form below to receive informational updates about the 20th Annual Physical Therapist Education Leadership Conference.

[Sign Up](#)

# VOLUNTEER FOR THE ACADEMY!

Contribute to the Academy of Education by volunteering! The following positions are available beginning July 1st:

- Awards Committee Member
- Social Media Coordinator
- JoPTE Social Media Coordinator
- Finance Committee Member
- Professional Development Committee PTA Member
- Two Research Committee Members
- JoPTE Journal Club Chair, Vice Chair, and Board Liaison
- Two Webinar Committee Members



For more information on the positions, please review the Policies & Procedures manual or email [volunteerscoordinator@aptaeducation.org](mailto:volunteerscoordinator@aptaeducation.org).

[Apply Here](#)

## NEW Member Benefit - Online Community

The Academy of Education is excited to announce it has launched an online community to help our members better connect with each other. All members have already been added to the general member community, and those who are members of SIGs have been added to the SIG communities.

[Access the Community](#)

Your login will be the same as your login for the Academy of Education website. Here are a few simple steps to get acquainted with the new platform:



1. Start a discussion or respond to someone else. If you have questions you'd like to ask your peers, [click here](#) and watch the responses come in! You can also use the "post message" link in the discussion emails you'll receive. Share your expertise and connect with peers by responding to other people's posts.
2. **Set your messaging, email, and privacy preferences.** If at any time you'd like to change your preferences, go to your profile -> Update Your Profile -> My Account.
3. **Update your profile.** Your profile is already loaded, but feel free to update as you see fit on the profile page.

*We hope you enjoy this new tool to help you connect with your peers!*

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## NEW! Education Impact Initiative Project



Steven G. Lesh and Michele Valencia are collaborating on a project through the APTA Academy of Education's Education Impact Initiative to highlight innovative DPT/PTA collaborations and professionals with diverse disabilities excelling in education or clinical practice.

We're seeking interested participants in two key areas:

- 1) Unique and innovative DPT/PTA partnerships in education or clinical settings.
- 2) DPT/PTA professionals with diverse disabilities who've mastered educational or clinical environments.

Interested? Share your story by completing the form in the link below. Questions? Reach out—we'd love to connect!

[Share Now!](#)



# SIG SPOTLIGHT



**APTA**  
Academy of Education

Clinical Education  
Special Interest Group

The CESIG shall serve as a resource and forum for individuals who are or have an interest in academic faculty. The Academic Faculty SIG will facilitate networking, mentoring, and sharing of resources for all individuals interested in the roles, responsibilities, teaching, scholarship and service of academic faculty.

## CESIG Objectives:

- To provide a vehicle for increasing and improving communication among clinical educators.
- To increase the participation of clinical educators in the APTA Academy of Education.
- To provide continuing education in areas pertinent to clinical evaluation and teaching.
- To foster problem solving in clinical education using the scientific method.
- To promote cooperative efforts among educational programs and clinical sites in scheduling, evaluation, and continuing education.
- To develop guidelines for the continuing development and evaluation of academic and clinical faculty involved in clinical education.
- To serve as a resource body involved in acquiring, cataloguing, and disseminating information relating to clinical education in physical therapy.

For more information on the CESIG, please get in touch with Clinical Co-Chairs Elsa Drevyn PT, DPT and Julie Gruden PT: [chair-cesig@aptaeducation.org](mailto:chair-cesig@aptaeducation.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Mark Your Calendars for our Annual GAMER  
Workshop:**

# GAMER

Grantwriting and Mentorship in Education Research

**January 22-24, 2026**

(Travel days are January 21 and 25, 2026)

**Charleston, South Carolina**

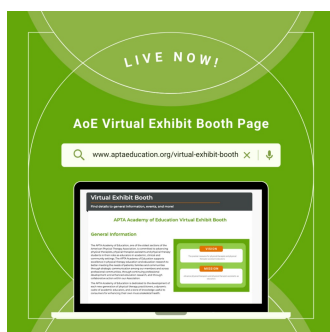
We bring together a nationally recognized multidisciplinary group of mentors and consultants as faculty, including representatives from potential funding sources to support participants work. The workshop provides guidance in developing robust, clear and theoretically grounded research questions, grant proposals and career research agendas. The workshop will also facilitate inter-professional, and intra- and inter-institutional collaborative research networks and projects for education researchers in *Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology*.

**Our wonderful sponsors!**



Please contact **Rick Segal** if you have any questions.  
[segal@musc.edu](mailto:segal@musc.edu) | [www.gamereducationresearch.com](http://www.gamereducationresearch.com)

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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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