



# 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:

- PTA Honor Society Nominations Deadline | **Today!**
- Two Weeks Away from ELC 2025!
  - **ELC 2025 Volunteer Sign Up for Exhibit Booth!**
  - Volunteers Needed!
  - Call for Academy Booth Volunteers!
  - SOE SIG | Education Research Consulting Session at ELC
- Webinars
  - New! IPEP Seminar Series - Part 3 of 4: Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPE in the Clinic)
  - **Save The Date:** IPE Webinar Series - Part 4: Intraprofessional Education: Models of Success
- Join the Academy's Leadership!
- Call for Research Grant Proposals and Award Nominations Open!
- Call for ELC Chair
- FHEL Applications Open From October 1 - March 1
- CSM 2026 Registration is Now Open!
- Get To Know the APTA National Leader Nominees
- SIG Spotlight
  - Academic Faculty SIG

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# PTA Honor Society Nominations Open

## Deadline: Today, October 1



The Phi Tau Alpha Honor Society recognizes physical therapist assistant students who have not only demonstrated high academic standards, but have embodied the core values of the physical therapy profession. Students meeting the requirements outlined below should contact their program faculty to determine the next steps for applying for possible induction into the honor society.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

**Nominations** to the honor society are only open to students in programs in which at least one member of the faculty is a current member of the Academy of Education. Applicants must complete and provide proof of ALL items on **Applicant Checklist**, including:

- GPA - 3.5 minimum for all applicants (This GPA calculation is limited to PTA coursework ONLY)
- **Recommendation Form:**
- Students must have two Recommendation Forms submitted to be considered for the PTA Honor Society. To be considered for the Honor Society, all ratings should be in the "Exemplary" or "Superior" categories. All recommendation forms must be from a PTA Program Stakeholder, including clinical or academic stakeholders. Examples include:
  - Clinical Instructor during a full-time clinical experience
  - Clinical partner who held primary responsibility for assessing the student applicant
  - Full time or part time faculty
  - Adjunct instructor
  - Lab assistant or adjunct clinical proctor
  - PTA club advisor
  - PTA program Advisory Committee Member

[Learn More and Nominate](#)

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# ELC 2025

October 17-19 • Kansas City, MO

**The countdown for ELC begins!** Just a few weeks away and we're so excited to welcome you to one of the most anticipated gatherings in education leadership. Whether this will be your very first **ELC** or you've joined us many times before, we know there's always a mix of excitement and questions as the conference draws

near.

**Registration ends Tuesday, October 7! If you do not register by October 7, you will need to register at the conference.**

**Register**

## **Volunteer Sign Up for Exhibit Booth!**



Volunteering at the booth is a fun, easy way to provide service to the Academy as you get to know fellow attendees who stop by the booth. You don't have to be an Academy "expert", as we'll provide answers to FAQs from other years. Consider signing up with a colleague or PT/PTA school classmate - it's a great way to find an hour for catching up during the busy ELC schedule.

**Take Initiative and Volunteer!**

## **Call For Volunteers for ELC!**



As we prepare for the upcoming ELC 2025, we are reaching out to our community for volunteers to assist throughout the conference. Your support is crucial in ensuring a smooth and successful event.

We are seeking volunteers to help with various tasks, including registration and moderating Platform and MicroLearn sessions. If you are interested and available to contribute, please sign up using this Google Sheet: [ELC VOLUNTEER SIGN UP](#). Your participation as a volunteer is greatly appreciated. Closer to the conference dates, we will reach out to confirm your availability and provide further details regarding your volunteer assignment.

Thank you in advance for supporting ELC 2025. Should you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact Mary Beth Holmes [mbholmes@bu.edu](mailto:mbholmes@bu.edu)

**Volunteer!**

Don't miss your chance to save! The [early bird deadline](#) for the 2025 Physical Therapy Education Leadership Conference (ELC) is fast approaching.

**Register**

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## Education Research Consulting Session at ELC 2025

The Scholarship of Education (SoE) SIG is hosting another education research consulting session at ELC on Friday October 17 during the lunch break at ELC in Kansas City.

This is a short term mentoring session. 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 room will be set up in round tables and the consultants will have signs indicating areas of 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**



For researchers looking for guidance, advice, or short term mentoring.

**Researcher Sign  
Up**



## **IPEP Seminar Series – Part 3 of 4: Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPE in the Clinic)**



**Join Us | Wednesday, October 8 | 7 PM - 8 PM ET**

### **Course Description:**

Interprofessional practice is important for students to learn how to work together to provide comprehensive patient-centered care. Collaborative team-based education has been shown to improve patient outcomes:

- Develop safety awareness and communication skills.
- Strengthen teamwork.
- Improve knowledge of other professions.
- Prepare students for practice in the real world.
- The panelists are from two interprofessional clinics, Center for Life Skills through Ithaca College which serves people who had a stroke and Creighton Pediatrics from Creighton University which serves children. Through interactive discussion, participants will learn how an interprofessional clinical setting and a

faculty based pediatric practice provides students with the skills needed to practice with other professions.

### Learning Objectives:

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

1. Describe the benefits of interprofessional practice as they relate to patient centered care.
2. Identify the roles and contributions of different health professionals within the Center for Life Skills and Creighton University's Pediatric Clinic.
3. Explain how student engagement in interprofessional practice prepares them for real world practice.
4. Reflect on institutional strategies to promote interprofessional collaboration in their own setting.

[Register](#)



## **IPEP Webinar Series – Part 4:** **Intraprofessional Education:** **Models of Success**

**Save The Date | October 29, 2025 | 7PM - 8PM ET**

Speakers: Myles Quiben; Jessica Niemann; Jennifer Davia; Beverly McNeal

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## **Join the Academy's Leadership!**



Academy of Education Leadership Nominations are open now through Saturday, November 1! If you or someone you know would make a great leader, learn more and nominate!

**All terms are for three years and begin July 1, 2026.**

[Learn More](#)

[Nominate A Leader](#)

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## **Call for Research Grant Proposals** **Deadline: Tuesday, October 21**

Research grants are available to assist APTA Academy of Education members in conducting research that investigates a question of importance to the advancement

of education in physical therapy. In addition to research related to physical therapy education (DPT, PTA), questions related to the education of patients/clients, licensed PTs/PTAs or PT/PTA students will also be considered.

### **Research Grant**

These grants continue to provide proposers potential financial resources of up to \$25,000 for larger projects with a with an experienced research team. Proposals for the larger grants continue to require that the proposal demonstrate that the project can be completed within one year and that the research team has the requisite experience and expertise to achieve success.

### **Small Seed Grant**

These small grants are intended to support the work of new and aspiring scholars pursuing financial resources of up to \$10,000 to support smaller or pilot projects. These small grants can also be used to provide financial resources for planned larger projects that need to gather pilot data. In either case, grant applicants need to demonstrate how the project is investigating a question of importance to the advancement of education in physical therapy and situate the proposal within a larger research objective.

[Learn More and Apply](#)



## **Call for Award Nominations**

### **Deadline: Wednesday, October 15**

The Awards Committee is pleased to announce the call for nominations for APTA Academy of Education Awards. Members are urged to consider these opportunities for themselves and for their colleagues.

### **Adopt-A-Doc Scholarship Award**

Reflects the Academy's commitment to increase the number of doctoral prepared faculty teaching in PT and PTA education programs.

### **Award for Leadership in Education**

Is the highest honor given by the Academy and recognizes an individual who is widely recognized as a leader in physical therapy education.

### **Polly Cerasoli Lectureship Award**

Acknowledges an individual who exemplifies the passion and commitment to the advancement of physical therapy education modeled by Dr. Polly Cerasoli.

### **Distinguished Educator in Physical Therapist Education Award**

Honors an individual who exemplifies excellence in academic or clinical teaching.

### **Distinguished Educator in Physical Therapist Assistant Education Award**

Honors an individual who exemplifies excellence in academic or clinical teaching.

### **Distinguished Mentor in Residency/Fellowship Education Award**

Recognizes excellence in Residency/Fellowship mentoring.

### Education Professional Service Award

Recognizes significant service to the APTA Academy of Education

### Outstanding Clinical Instructor Award

Recognizes an outstanding clinical instructor who demonstrates exceptional skills in teaching, communication, interpersonal relationships, professional competence, mentoring, modeling, and professionalism.

### Outstanding Site Coordinator for Clinical Education Award

Recognizes an outstanding Site Coordinator for Clinical Education (SCCE) who consistently demonstrate exceptional skills in the supervision and education of Clinical Instructors through mentoring as well as serving as a role model for Clinical Education.

### President's Award

Honors an individual who has provided exemplary service or noteworthy contributions in advancing the vision, mission or goals of the APTA Academy of Education.

*Individuals who are current members of the Academy of Physical Therapy Education Board of Directors, the APTA Board of Directors, or APTA Staff are not eligible for these awards and may not participate in the nomination process.*

[Learn More and Apply](#)

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## Call for ELC Chair



The Education Leadership Conference (ELC) Committee is seeking a volunteer chair from the Academy of Education to serve a three-year term beginning **Thursday, January 1, 2026**.

Apply and submit your CV and statement of interest by **Friday, October 31**. The ELC chairs will conduct interviews with applicants in December.

[Apply](#)

Please direct any questions about the position to:  
[aoe-execdire@aptaeducation.org](mailto:aoe-execdire@aptaeducation.org)

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## FHEL Applications Open October 1 - March 1



### Fellowship for Higher Education Leadership Accepting Applications for 26-27 Cohort

Registration is now open for the Fellowship of Higher Education Leadership, a program designed for current and aspiring directors and leaders in physical therapy education to enhance leadership skills, connect theory and practice and access mentorship from experienced PT education academic leaders. The 13-month program 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](#)

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## CSM 2026 Registration Now Open!



### Join us for the 51st Annual APTA CSM February 12th - 14th in Anaheim, California.

This year, we're on a mission to excellence, pushing boundaries, and expanding horizons in physical therapy. Be a part of the largest physical therapy conference in the nation! Connect with thousands of PTs, PTAs, and students, and explore programming and events you won't find anywhere else.

[Register](#)

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## Get To Know the: APTA National Leader Nominees

The Academy applauds its members who are on the slate for their desire to serve APTA at the national level:

- **Secretary:**
  - Daniel Dale
- **Vice Speaker:**
  - Robin Dole
- **Directors:**
  - Lori Bordenave
  - Lisa VanHoose
- **Nominating Committee Members:**
  - Sharon Dunn
  - Tarang Jain
  - Arvie Vitente

[View Nominees](#)

Learn more about the APTA National Leaders Nominees.

**Election begins Monday, October 20.**

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# SIG SPOTLIGHT

## Academic Faculty SIG



The Academic Faculty SIG 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.

- Provide a mechanism for encouraging and enhancing communication among academic faculty and those interested in academic faculty.
- Facilitate and increase opportunities for academic faculty development and mentoring.
- Create and promote mechanisms for academic faculty to participate in the APTA Academy of Education.
- Serve as a resource body on issues related to academic faculty.
- Promote cooperative efforts among academic faculty

### *Leadership:*

Chair: [Derek Liuzzo PT, DPT, PhD](#)

Vice Chair: [Jamie Dehan PT, PhD, DPT, MS](#)

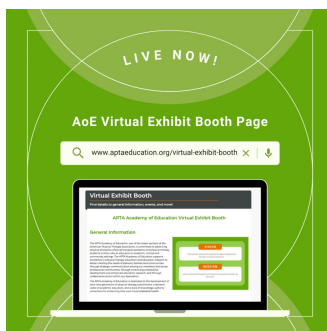
Secretary: [Heather Green, PT, DPT](#)

Nominating Committee Chair: [Stephanie Eton PT, DPT, GCS](#)

Member Engagement Coordinator: [Kirsten Potter, PT, DPT, MS](#)

The Academy of Education **Thanks You!**

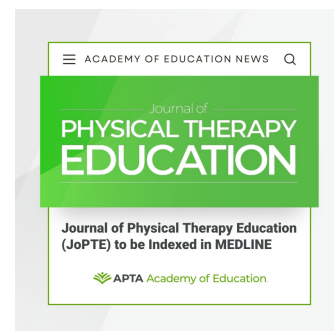
## QUICK CLICKS



Check out our  
Virtual Exhibit Booth!



Participate in your  
Colleagues' Research



Journal of Physical  
Therapy Education to be  
Indexed in MEDLINE

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