



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:
 - **Call for Reviewers**
 - **Submit Preconference Workshop Proposals Now through April 15**
 - Submissions Open until April 17
- Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop (PTFDW) | [Registration Open](#)
- **Academy Elections Open April 1!**
- Volunteer for the Academy!
- Emerging Leader Nominations
- CSM 2027 Call For Proposals
- Simulation Networking Community Launches Monthly Chats
- SOESIG Education Research Consulting Session
- Call for JoPTE Journal Club Committee Members!
- The Journal of Physical Therapy Education (*JoPTE*) Editorial Fellowship
- **Webinars**
 - **AESIG Journal Club | Mar 19 | 7:30PM**
 - IPEPSIG Journal Club | April 6 | 7:30PM
 - JoPTE Journal Club | April 9 | 4PM
 - RFESIG Journal Club | Jun 9 | 8PM
 - RFESIG Journal Club | Sept 8 | 8PM
 - RFESIG Journal Club | Dec 8 | 8PM
- SIG Spotlight
 - Physical Therapist Educators (PTAE) SIG

ANNOUNCEMENTS



October 16-18 | Marriott Marquis | Washington, D.C.

Call for Reviewers

We are seeking qualified individuals to volunteer their time to review platforms, posters, and education presentation submissions between Monday, April 27th through Sunday, May 17th.

Information provided on this form allows the conference program committee to determine and assign reviewers for particular sessions.

- Reviews will occur online.
- Each reviewer will have approximately 10-15 abstracts to review.
- We are looking for 50-60 reviewers.
- We are seeking qualified individuals to volunteer their time to review platforms, posters, and educational presentation submissions between Monday, April 27th through Sunday, May 17th.

We look forward to having you in our volunteer pool. If selected to be a reviewer, you will receive further information by **Friday, April 24th**.

Thank you for your consideration.
2026 ELC Program Committee

[Apply To Be A Reviewer For ELC 2026](#)

Submit ELC Preconference Workshop Proposals Now through April 15!

The APTA Academy of Education invites proposals for pre-conference sessions for the Education Leadership Conference (ELC). Pre-conference offerings should be designed to advance excellence, innovation, and impact in PT and PTA education and may be submitted for the following formats: Half-Day and Full-Day.

Submission deadline: April 15
Notification of acceptance: anticipated June 2026
Submit proposals to: coordinator@aptaeducation.org

Please see [RUBRIC](#) for more details.

ELC 2026 Submissions Are Open! Submit Your Education Session, Platform, or Poster Today!

This year's conference will feature two types of educational sessions to accommodate different learning styles and preferences:

- Standard Educational Presentations (90 min): Standard educational presentations are scheduled for 1 ½ hours and will occur any of the three days of the conference.
- MicroLearn Educational Session (25-30 min): These compact, focused sessions are 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.

Submissions for poster and platform abstracts are also now being accepted. 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 scheduled throughout the 3 days of the conference.

**SUBMISSION PORTAL FOR ELC 2026:
OPENS MARCH 4th, AND CLOSSES APRIL 17th**

Submit Abstract

Submit Education Session

Submission Guidelines

For technical and non-technical questions about submission requirements, or the submission process, contact info@pteducationleadershipconference.org.

Sign up using the form below to receive informational updates about the 21st Annual Physical Therapist Education Leadership Conference.

Sign Up

2026 Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop (PTFDW)

New to DPT or PTA faculty roles? *You don't have to figure it out alone.*

Join us in Chicago, July 31 - August 1 for the Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop, designed specifically for early-career faculty. These interactive sessions bring new faculty together with experienced faculty facilitators to explore real-world topics including navigating faculty roles and responsibilities, implementing evidence-

informed instructional and assessment strategies, and maintaining a sustainable work-life balance.

You'll leave with practical tools, fresh ideas, and a growing professional network—plus post-workshop networking sessions to keep the conversation (and support) going long after the workshop ends.

[Register!](#)

A promotional banner for a 2026 Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop. The background is a cityscape at dusk with a river and a bridge. The text is overlaid on the image. The main title is '2026 Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop'. Below it, the dates are 'Thursday, July 30 - Saturday, August 1'. The location is 'Northwestern University's Chicago Campus, Chicago, IL'. A green box contains the names and credentials of the faculty facilitators and invited speakers.

2026 Physical Therapy Faculty Development Workshop

Thursday, July 30 - Saturday, August 1

Northwestern University's Chicago Campus

[Chicago, IL](#)

Faculty Facilitators and Invited Speakers:

- Dawn S. Brown, PT, DPT, EdD, OCS, Northwestern University
- Christie Cohoon, PT, DPT, OCS, St. Louis Community College – Forest Park
- Jeremy Houser, PT, DPT, PhD, OCS, Lincoln Memorial University
- Myles Quiben, PT, DPT, PhD, MS, University of North Texas Health Science Center
- Kirsten Potter, PT, DPT, Tufts University
- Tricia Prokop, PT, EdD, CSCS, Bowling Green State University
- Nikki Sleddens, PT, ABD, CEEAA, University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Angela Wallace, PTA, McHenry County College

Workshop Goals:

1. Introduce novice faculty to established roles in the academy.
2. Facilitate professional growth of developing faculty members.
3. Cultivate a network of academic colleagues among workshop participants and facilitators.
4. Create a professional development plan incorporating elements of teaching, scholarship and service.
5. Design instructional activities and assessment methods that reflect contemporary best practices.
6. Examine the integration of cultural humility within the physical therapy

Focused Learning Opportunities:

1. Discussions on balancing responsibilities of teaching, research and service as the new faculty member acclimates to a role in higher education.
2. Applying core principles of teaching and learning, using best practices in course development, student assessments, and student engagement.
3. Fostering professionalism and coaching.
4. Focusing on the unique role of the Director of Clinical Education

curricula.

(DCE) as a member of the faculty team.

5. Individual or small group consulting opportunities with faculty facilitators during the workshop.
6. Post course synchronous networking and follow-up for participants.

Academy Elections Open on April 1!



The Academy of Education's Nominating Committee, led by Chair Tara Haj, has assembled an impressive slate of candidates for the upcoming Academy and SIG elections.

Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the candidates:

[2026 Candidates](#)

Volunteer for the Academy!

Contribute to the Academy of Education by becoming a volunteer! The following position terms that begin on July 1, 2026 are now available.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- Webinar Committee
- Finance Committee

For more information on the positions, please review the Policies & Procedures manual or email volunteerscoordinator@aptaeducation.org.

[Volunteer!](#)

Emerging Leader Award



This recognition honors one emerging leader—either a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant—from each APTA component who has demonstrated exceptional service, leadership, and contributions early in their career. The selected individual will have significantly advanced the mission and vision of the American Physical Therapy Association, their component, and the physical therapy profession as a whole.

[Learn More](#)

[Submit Nomination](#)

CSM 2027 Call For Proposals

Call For Proposals

Submit Today



CSM 2027

Be sure to submit your session proposal by **April 15**, to be considered for next year's CSM meeting February 4-6, 2027 in Philadelphia, PA.

Submit Your
Proposal

[Click here](#) for Academy of Education-specific guidelines.

Simulation Networking Community Launches Monthly Chats

We are pleased to share the launch of SimChats! This monthly meeting is a dedicated space for AoE members with interest in simulation to connect, exchange ideas, and collaborate on best practices. Each session highlights current topics in simulation-based education, offers opportunities for members to share experiences or challenges, and fosters meaningful discussion across diverse roles and settings. Whether you are new to simulation or a seasoned expert, this gathering provides a supportive environment to learn, network, and strengthen our collective impact on healthcare education and patient outcomes.

We will discuss tools for building simulation scenarios and share a new scenario builder that the Simulation Networking Community has been working on.

We will also have an open forum to discuss your questions and ideas related to simulation-based learning.

SimChats Zoom

Upcoming Meetings:

- Thursday, April 9, noon EDT
- Thursday, May 7, noon EDT

Call for JoPTE Journal Club Committee Members!



Join the JoPTE Journal Club Committee!

We are seeking an enthusiastic physical therapy educator to join the Journal of Physical Therapy Education (JoPTE) Journal Club Committee. Committee members play a key role in transforming current JoPTE scholarship into dynamic online learning experiences by identifying timely article topics, inviting authors to present, organizing engaging webinar sessions, developing high-quality continuing education content, and contributing to innovative ideas that elevate PT education.

PTAs are encouraged to apply.

The JoPTE Journal Club Committee Member helps plan, coordinate, market, and deliver up to three virtual journal club sessions per year. Committee members collaborate on article selection, speaker outreach, session design, and live facilitation tasks to ensure high-quality, engaging professional development for PT/PTA educators and clinicians.

Committee members may rotate through functional roles (e.g., session moderator, marketing coordinator, chair) based on availability, interest, and committee needs.

Time Commitment: 1-2 meetings per month typically during the day.

Term: 3-years beginning in July 2026

Interested applicants should submit a CV and a brief letter of interest. This is a great opportunity to collaborate with colleagues, expand your scholarly impact, and support excellence in physical therapy education.

Applications due April 15, 2026. Send to [Jonathan Duellman](#).

Questions?

Contact: [Jonathan Duellman](#)

The Journal of Physical Therapy Education (JoPTE) Editorial Fellowship

Journal of

PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION

The aim of the *JoPTE* Editorial Fellowship is to support education researchers and develop a cadre of peer reviewers and future Editorial Board members who bring diverse perspectives to the Journal.

About

This 12-month editorial fellowship offers early career physical therapy faculty the opportunity to learn about peer review, editing, publication decisions, and serving on an Editorial Board. The fellowship will offer hands on, practical experience and mentorship where fellows will work with the team at *JoPTE* to learn about the process of education research publication as well as the roles of the Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board. Fellows will attend monthly virtual meetings with the *JoPTE* team and will be invited to attend the *JoPTE* Editorial Board meeting held at the Combined Sections Meeting in 2027. There are virtual options for attendance. Fellows responsibilities will include assisting with the management of submissions, proofreading, and completing at least 6 mentored peer reviews over the course of the 12 month fellowship. Fellows will work with the Editor-in-Chief on screening manuscripts for appropriateness, identifying reviewers and then work with seasoned Editorial Board members on making decisions based on reviews, ultimately seeing accepted manuscripts through the publication process. Mentees will have the opportunity to co-author an Editorial at the end of the program.

The fellowship will run from June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027.

Application Details

Criteria: Applicants must currently serve as physical therapy faculty members and need to meet the criteria to serve as a peer reviewer for *JoPTE*, having authored/coauthored at least 2 peer reviewed, published manuscripts. This fellowship experience will hopefully translate to increased success with article submission and publication and fellows may consider serving on an Editorial Board in the future.

If you are interested, please send your CV and a 500-word statement about why you would like to be an *JoPTE* Editorial mentee and your objectives for the program to JoPTEEditor@aptaeducation.org. Be sure to tell us about the diverse perspective you will bring to *JoPTE*.

Applications are due April 30, 2026, decisions will be rendered in May, and appointments will begin in June 2026. We will interview select applicants and appoint up to 2 fellows for 2026-2027.



March 19 | [AESIG Journal Club](#)
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM EDT

[Register](#)

April 6 | [IPEPSIG Journal Club](#)
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM EDT

[Register](#)

April 9 | [JoPTE Journal Club Meeting](#)
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM EDT

[Register](#)

Save The Date

Jun 9 | [RFE SIG Journal Club](#)
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT

Sep 8 | [RFE SIG Journal Club](#)
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT

Dec 8 | [RFE SIG Journal Club](#)
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST

SIG SPOTLIGHT

Physical Therapist Assistant Education (PTAE) SIG

The PTA Educators SIG serves as the advocate and expert resource for the education and role of the PTA. Members provide leadership, mentorship and expertise in teaching and learning to support all persons concerned with education that ensures PTAs are prepared for contemporary practice.

Objectives:

- Provide means to increase and improve communication among physical therapist assistant educators.
- Facilitate and increase opportunities for PTA faculty development and mentoring.
- Facilitate and improve mentoring opportunities for all persons involved in the education of physical therapist assistants.
- Advocate for the role of the PTA as the extender of care for the physical therapist within the profession of physical therapy.

- Promote existing and create additional opportunities for PTA Educator representation in leadership roles at the national level.
- Communicate and collaborate with physical therapist program educators.
- Create and promote ways for the PTAE SIG to impact the APTA Academy of Education's participation and responses to issues related (but not limited) to the education, scope of work, supervision and direction of the PTA at the national level.
- Serve as a resource body with any/all inquiries related to the education and/or utilization of the physical therapist assistant.

Leadership:

Chair: [Jordan Tucker, PT, DPT, EdD](#)

Vice Chair: [Deanne Yates, PTA, PhD](#)

Recording Secretary: [Angela Lippiello, PTA](#)

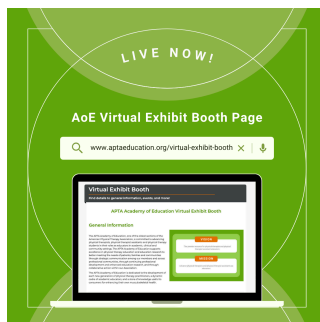
Membership Secretary: [Amanda Heilman, PTA, MHS](#)

Nominating Committee Chair: [Carolyn Shishler, PT, MEd](#)

Nominating Committee: [Beverly Labosky, PTA](#)

Webinar Chair: [Michele Valencia, PT, DPT](#)

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