

# RESIDENCY & FELLOWSHIP EDUCATION SIG

## APTA ACADEMY OF EDUCATION

### RFESIG Committee

How has the SIG leadership changed?

Page 2

### R/F Education Research

The impact of fellowship training

Page 3

### New RFESIG Podcast!

Plus links to all RFESIG podcasts

Page 4

### ABPTRFE Updates

How does ABPTRFE communicate with you?

Page 5

### R/F SIG Corner

Page 6



Building bridges of collaboration and communication across specialty areas for advancing residency and fellowship research, mentoring, and curriculum.

This summer brings a new committee member, a new podcast, and a new perspective on the world. It has been a challenging year for all of us, and while things will never be like they were before the pandemic, the virtual world has afforded many of us new opportunities to connect with each other.

I would like to recognize Jason Zafareo and Cheri Hodges for their amazing contributions to the RFESIG. Jason was an integral member in the creation and expansion of the RFESIG’s Think Tank. Cheri had to creatively network and vet candidates to run for committee positions while the world was shut down due to the pandemic. Thank you both for your hard work, insight, and time spent toward the SIG and its members.

Enjoy our latest issue!

*Sara Virella Kraft, Chair*

## RFESIG Leadership

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### Chair

Sara Virella Kraft, PT, DPT, MHS,  
NCS, ATP

### Vice Chair

Christina Gomez, PT, DPT, OCS,  
SCS, FAAOMPT, CSCS

### Treasurer/Secretary

Chrysta Lloyd, PT, DPT, OCS,  
FAAOMPT

### Membership Secretary

David Nolan, PT, DPT, MS, OCS,  
SCS, CSCS

### Nominating Committee Chair

Tara Dickson, PT, DPT, PhD

### Nominating Committee

Laura Zajac-Cox, PT, DPT, NCS

### Program Committee

#### Co-Chairs

Eric Monsch, PT, DPT, NCS  
Ryan Pontiff, PT, DPT, OCS,  
FAAOMPT

### Scholarly Research

#### Committee

Raine Osborne, PT, DPT, EdD,  
FAAOMPT

### Communications Committee

Seeking nominations

## Thank you!

### Outgoing Leadership

The RFESIG would like to thank **Jason Zafereo** and **Cheri Hodges** for their leadership over the past few years. Their passion for improving the SIG and helping the profession was apparent throughout their time on the committee. We will miss you both and looking forward to future collaborations!

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### Incoming Committee Members

Welcome **Laura Zajac-Cox**! Laura is the director of the Neurologic Residency at Emory University. She was elected to the RFESIG's Nominating Committee.

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### Committee Updates

Previously the Communications Lead, **Christina Gomez** was elected to the Vice Chair position.

**David Nolan** remains the Membership Secretary position after re-election.

**Tara Dickson** now holds the position of the Nominating Committee Chair.

## Featured R/F Research

### An orthopedic manual physical therapy fellowship training's impact on professional development, involvement, personal lives, and income — A survey study.

Julie M. Whitman; Mark Shepherd; Brett Neilson; T.J. Janicky;  
William J. Garcia; Seth Peterson & Barbara J. Stevens  
Journal of Manual & Manipulative Therapy. 2020. vol.28(5), 287-297.

**Introduction:** Little research exists investigating the personal and professional outcomes of postprofessional physical therapy (PT) training. Therefore, the purpose of the current descriptive, web-based survey study was to determine self-reported outcomes from a postprofessional PT fellowship program, including graduate professional, educational, and research involvement; perceptions of the impact of training on clinical and professional attributes; changes in employment and income; and barriers to training.

**Methods:** Graduates of a part-time, hybrid-model, multisite orthopedic manual PT fellowship program were invited to complete the web-based survey. Descriptive data analyses were performed for all quantitative data, and responses to questions were analyzed and categorized into themes.

**Results:** Of the 77 fellowship graduates, 75 (97%) completed the survey. Graduates were involved in teaching; 43% (32/75) filled lead instructor roles in PT education programs. Further, 75% (57/75) were involved in research. The mean (SD) and median (range) increase in annual gross income was \$9560 (\$17,545) and \$2500 (\$0-\$125,000), respectively. Perceived areas with the largest impact of training included clinical reasoning, patient-centered and evidence-based practice, and professionalism. Life balance and family commitments were frequent barriers during training.

**Discussion:** Graduates noted substantial perceived professional, clinical, and financial benefits to fellowship training. Limitations included lack of a control group and surveying participants from a single program. Future research should determine the influence that program and participant-related factors have on personal and professional lives of graduates and on clinical outcomes

**Have you or a colleague published a study or presented a poster related to residency or fellowship education?**

Email an abstract to  
Raine Osborne

[rfeducationsig@gmail.com](mailto:rfeducationsig@gmail.com)

*Submissions are accepted on an ongoing basis*

## Not a member?

### Join the RFESIG!

All Academy members can easily join the SIG by clicking [here](#).

Not a member of the APTA Academy of Education?

All members of the APTA can join the Academy [here](#).

## New Podcast

Learn about the virtual site visit when seeking ABPTRFE accreditation or re-accreditation

### [Episode 7. Navigating the Virtual Site Visit](#)

We met with Linda Csiza to learn all about the process.

### Missed a podcast?

Catch up on all episodes of our podcast at any time.

### [Episode 1. Navigating the Annual Continuous Improvement Report](#)

Guest: Linda Csiza



### [Episode 2. The RFESIG Think Tank: The When, the Why, and the How](#)

Guests: Christina Platko & Vanessa Mirabito-Gerner

### [Episode 3 — Part One. COVID-19: What Resources are Available for R/F Education](#)

Guests: Linda Csiza, Matt Haberl, Kathleen Geist & Jim Moore

### [Episode 3 — Part Two. COVID-19: Looking to the Future of R/F Education](#)

Guests: Elaine Lonnemann, Cameron MacDonald & Mark Shepherd

### [Episode 4. Catching Up with the Residency & Fellowship Research Collaborative](#)

Guests: Gail Jensen, Greg Hartley, Matt Briggs & Raine Osborne

### [Episode 5. The RFESIG Business Meeting at ELC](#)

### [Episode 6. The In's and Out's of RF-PTCAS](#)

Guests: Ryan Bannister, Stephen Kareha & Kirk Bentzen

## COVID-19 Resources

APTA Guidance —  
click [here](#)

Academy Guidance —  
click [here](#)

ABPTRFE Guidance —  
click [here](#)

Podcast with Linda Csiza on  
ABPTRFE's virtual site visit —  
click [here](#)

Orthopedic Residency &  
Fellowship (ORF-SIG)  
COVID-19 Manual —  
click [here](#)

ACAPT Guidance —  
click [here](#)

APTA Academy and Section  
Resources —  
click [here](#)

World Confederation for  
Physical Therapy  
Resources —  
click [here](#)

## ABPTRFE News

The American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) regularly communicates through their APTA Hub Community page. Read on for a few of the updates recently posted on their page.

**The Resident Competency Evaluation Instrument** is now live. View it [here](#).

**ABPTRFE Policy 13.5** is now in effect. The policy requires all sites planning to add a practice site must seek ABPTRFE approval first. For more information, click [here](#).

**Continuing Education Opportunity — The virtual Reimagining Physical Therapist Education** conference held in April, 2021, is now accessible for APTA members for free. Click [here](#) to access it.

### Want early access to ABPTRFE news?

All APTA members can join the  
ABPTRFE's APTA Community.

Check it out [here](#).

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## R/F SIG Corner

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### **Pediatric Residency & Fellowship SIG — APTA Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy**

Updates from the RF SIG meeting on April 7, 2021:

- The APTA Pediatric RF SIG represents members from 26 accredited and 3 developing programs, as well as any other members of APTA Pediatrics (students and professionals). Actions taken at the most recent ABPTRFE meeting included:
- Programs receiving Candidacy status
  - Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Pediatric Residency
- Programs receiving Re-accreditation status
  - Pediatric Residency at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital
  - The Johns Hopkins Hospital and George Washington University Pediatric Residency

Twenty accredited programs participated in our annual uniform announcement process and will be accepting our 2021-2022 cohort over the next few months. Our consortium continues to grow its content to help support newly developing and accredited programs with quality structured learning modules. The consortium will add an additional 7 modules to the existing 7 modules offered annually. The resident led journal club meets quarterly (west and east coast groups) to discuss current, evidence-based studies and the application of findings to inform clinical practice.

### **Neurologic Residency & Fellowship SIG — APTA Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy**

We had great success in March with our Common Offer Date trial run. We received feedback that perhaps having a "date" might send the wrong message to potential applicants, knowing that if they were given a spot several days after that date, they would know they were not the first choice. Next year, we may revisit the idea of doing a Common Offer Week instead.

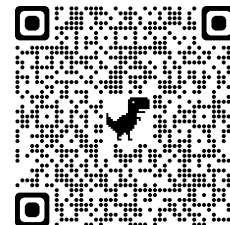
This fall, we hope to have a webinar on Mentoring, with several experienced mentors in a round-table format answering tough questions about this challenge component of residency. Additionally, we plan to update our Residency Compendium, which is jam packed with didactic resources, templates for developing programs, forms for mentorship and clinical reasoning, etc.

## Orthopaedic Residency & Fellowship SIG — APTA Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy

Want to meet great people in Residency and Fellowship Education? The ORF-SIG is seeking qualified applicants to continue what the ORF-SIG has started!

### President

- Work with AOPT Leadership in meeting their strategic goals and initiatives
- Effectively collaborate with the VP and Committees on ORF SIG updates
- Lead Membership and Committee Meetings
- Meet Amazing People!
- Requirements: must be an AOPT Member, serve a 3-year term



### Nominating Committee Member

- Identify qualified members of our ORF SIG to serve in one of three elected positions: President, VP and Nominating Committee
- Assist in Sub Committee Positions
- Gain invaluable experience with ORF SIG leadership
- Requirements: must be an AOPT Member, serve a 3-year term

For more information, contact Bob Schroedter at [bob@movethrurhab.com](mailto:bob@movethrurhab.com).

### ABPTRFE Frequently Asked Questions Documents:

Recently the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) released updates to their Policies and Procedures including some changes to the Primary Health conditions and CoVid-19 accreditation recommendations. The ORF-SIG was able to work with the Chair of ABPTRFE, Mark Weber, and the Lead Accreditation Specialist, Linda Csiza, where they provided some further elaboration on several Frequently Asked Questions. Check out these documents here:

- Policy 13.5 Addition of Practice Sites FAQ
- Primary Health Conditions / Medical Conditions List FAQ
- CoVid-19 Temporary Guidance FAQ
- Program Sustainability: Applicant Sharing and Recruitment FAQ

As the RFESIG continues to collaborate with all R/F SIGs to advance residency and fellowship education, we encourage our members to learn about other R/F teams.

[Geriatric Residency and Fellowship SIG — Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy](#)

[Neurologic Residency & Fellowship SIG — Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy](#)

[Oncologic Residency SIG — APTA Oncology](#)

[Orthopaedic Residency and Fellowship SIG \(ORF-SIG\) — Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy](#)

[Specialization SIG — American Academy of Sports Physical Therapy](#)

[Task Force on Residencies and Fellowships — Academy of Acute Care Physical Therapy](#)

[Pediatric Residency & Fellowship Information — Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy](#)

[EMG/NCV Residency Information — American Academy of Clinical Electrodiagnosis](#)

"One of the most important things for any leader is to  
 never let anyone define who you are."  
 -Ginni Rometty

## Member Resources

- **RFESIG website** - Learn more about our SIG [here](#).
- **Our Hub Community** - Join us [here](#).
- **Think Tank Compendium** - Click [here](#) to access resources to enhance your residency or fellowship program. All APTA members have access to the Think Tank.



**Please note:** The RFESIG Think Tank is an ongoing effort and will continue to review resources for inclusion in the Compendium. If you would like to share a resource with the Think Tank, please click [here](#).

\*We kindly ask that you cite the originating program for each resource that you incorporate into your R/F program.

- **R/F Director & Coordinator Mentorship Program** - Click [here](#) to join the RFESIG's mentorship program geared toward leaders of R/F programs.

**Thank you to our members!**

The RFESIG continues to grow and now has 321 members.

**Everyone is welcome!**

Invite residency and fellowship graduates, faculty, and program directors across all specialty areas to join our SIG.

Questions? Comments?

Contact us at  
[rfeducationsig@gmail.com](mailto:rfeducationsig@gmail.com)