

# DECEMBER 2023

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Residency and Fellowship | Pelvic Health Rehabilitation

## President

Andrea Crunkhorn, PT, DPT

## Vice President

Joseph Kardouni, PT, DPT, PhD

## Secretary

Renee Schroeder, PT, DPT

## Treasurer

Kelly Volpenhein, PT, DPT,  
LMT

## Section Chief Delegate

Carrie Hoppes, PT, DPT, NCS,  
OCS

## Section Delegate

Christy Gantt, PT, DPT, LMT

## Executive Director

Catherine Langley, CAE

## SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

### Army

Leigh Ann Lechanski, PT,  
DPT Jon Umlauf, PT

### Air Force

Josh Van Wyngaarden, PT,  
DPT PhD  
Joel Henderson, PT

### CSM Program Chair

Joseph Kardouni, PT, DPT, PhD

### DHA

Carrie Storer, PT, DPT  
Kerry MacDonald, PT, DSc

### Federal Affairs Liaison

Rachel Winthrop, PTA

### Navy/Marines

Alexa Clifton, PT, DPT  
Cortney Shewmaker, PT

### USPHS

TaNesha Nobles McCulley,  
PT, DPT

### Veterans Administration

Peter Glover, PT, DPT  
Nicole Casagrand, PT



# APTA Federal<sup>SM</sup>

## A Section of the American Physical Therapy Association

## APTA Federal President's Message

Andrea Crunkhorn, PT, DPT

APTA Federal members,

I hope your holidays were busy and full with celebrations. We have a lot of news to share so going to jump right in. There are some challenges ahead of us as a Section even while we also have terrific opportunities. Tough news does not get better with delay so first to the challenges.

Our greatest challenge for 2024 and probably into 2025 is finances. We watched CSM costs increase last year and in anticipation worked to reduce our operating cost. While we were successful and we remain financially solvent, there is no way to mitigate the painful CSM cost increases. For example, preconference course AV support increased from ~\$1000 pre COVID to a projected \$7,000/course in Boston. Catering and other costs have also increased. While we've historically done well at CSM, and occasionally made a nice profit, this year at CSM you will see some belt tightening.

What we've done to reduce costs over the past two years:

1. Move the Board's annual strategic planning meeting to online for 2022, 2023 and 2024
2. Increase calendar year 2024 membership dues by 25% for PTs with scaled increases for all others

*OTHER APPOINTED POSITIONS***Communications Chair**

Michelle Jamin, PT, DPT

**Federal Affairs Liaison**Amanda Simone, PT,  
DPT**Membership Chair**James Giebfried, PT,  
PhD**Practice Chair**Rebecca Vogsland PT,  
DPT**PTA Liaison**

Mary Stapert, PTA

**Section Historian**

Pat McAdoo, PT, MEd

**Student Liaison**

Matt Glassoff

3. Peg catering for precon courses to the dollar amount over the break even point for each course in 2023; consider no catering for any precon for 2024
4. Reduce or eliminate catering from APTA Federal events at CSM
5. Invest in a website that will allow other revenue streams (i.e., education) as well as allow us to reduce our digital footprint costs (e.g., moving all Basecamp activities to the website)

Meanwhile, as Chair of the Council of Section Presidents, I've led discussions with APTA on future projected costs for CSM 2025 and beyond, as well as led multiple rounds of review, comment and adjustment to the CSM Agreement between APTA and the Sections and Academies.

APTA Federal remains committed to supporting our members with awards, scholarships and the other benefits of membership. We hope to continue those support activities and will keep you informed as the year progresses.

Now on to the opportunities. Over 2023, the Section accomplished much: a new website, updated Bylaws, an overwhelming response to the call for nominations for new Board and Leadership positions, and selection of the final new leadership position, Research Chair. These are all major milestones for the Section. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to serve our community.

Dr. Iggy Gaunard will be our inaugural Research Chair. Our goal is to highlight, publicize and create a community for federal physical therapy research. There is a great deal of excellent research done in our institutions; let's support it and our researchers.

As part of the new website, the Section purchased a Learning Management System (LMS). This LMS allows us to host education year round. We are working with the SIGs to develop content; if you have content you would like to see please reach out to Joe Kardouni, Education Committee Chair, at [joekardouni@gmail.com](mailto:joekardouni@gmail.com). More to follow in the coming months.

In the newsletter below you will read of the many fantastic things federal physical therapists are doing literally around the globe. We hope to see all of you in Boston in February.

All the best,  
Andrea

## Communication Chair Appointed for APTA Federal

Dr. Katie Qiu, PT graduated High Point University in 2022. She did her clinical rotation at Travis Air Force Base where she started learning more about federal physical therapy career. She then did her orthopedic physical therapy residency at VA Palo Alto where she spent most of her time learning primary care physical therapy roles and starting a primary care physical therapy program at the local clinic. Professionally, Katie has presented multiple posters at CSM, was a speaker for APTA NC annual conference, served at multiple APTA committees such as communication at APTA NC, DEI chair for student assembly. She's hoping to have more younger generation PT to get more involved with the APTA Federal.

## Secretary's Update

Renee Schroeder, PT, DPT

APTA Federal is so thankful for all of the candidates who stepped forward and expressed their will to serve in leadership positions. We had an excellent slate of candidates this year and the future is certainly bright for our Section. Congratulations to the following selections for APTA Federal positions.

Vice-president: Joe Kardouni  
 Treasurer: Stacy Pepitone  
 Chief Delegate: Christy Gantt  
 VA Representative: Peter Glover  
 Army Representative: Jose Durbin  
 Navy/Marines Representative: Pollyanna Crane  
 Air Force Representative: Benjamin Lowry  
 USPHS Representative: Steven Spoonemore  
 USPHS Representative: Zavera Brandon  
 Section Delegate: Andrew Golden  
 Research Chair: Ignacio Gaunard  
 Communications Chair: Katie Qiu  
 PTA Liaison: Debra Ludwiczak-Henry

### SIG Election Results

#### Primary Care:

- Co-Chair: Evan Kelley
- Practice Chair: Layne Compton
- Communications Chair: Jennifer Turner
- Student Liaison: Riley Luetkenhaus

#### Pelvic Health:

- Vice Chairperson: Sarah Prestegard
- Student Liaison: Laura Schmitt

## Membership Dues Increased 25% for 2024

Physical Therapist	31
Physical Therapist Assistant	22
Student Physical Therapist/Student Physical Therapist Assistant	10
Physical Therapist – Post Professional Student	18
PTA Advanced Degree Student (Default amount is PTA dues rate)	11
Corresponding PT/PTA Member (Chapters Only)	
Corresponding Student Member (Chapters Only)	
Life Physical Therapist/Life Physical Therapist Assistant	0/0
Retired Physical Therapist/Retired Physical Therapist Assistant	15/15

## Treasurer's Report

Kelley Volpenhein

Despite a year with escalating meeting costs, APTA Federal has performed well for 2023. We currently have \$198,875 in assets which include a healthy cash balance and fully vested reserve fund. In light of rising costs, we are actively exploring ways to diversify our income streams to ensure continued sustainability rather than relying solely on CSM as our primary revenue source. Our notable contributions this year include supporting the Primary Care SIG's Pain Summit, facilitating CSM travel for expansion, launching a new website platform to enhance member access to upcoming initiatives and maintaining our APTA Federal Newsletter.

## Membership Message

Dr. James Giebfried, PT, DPT, MA, CPH, MBA

The Federal Section has moved through a year of changes in our Website, members and programs.

Each Leadership and Board meetings bring together members representing you and the promise to address your issues today and in the future.

Our member numbers are 1257 strong with 72 interested therapists considering joining us. There are 101,967 total APTA members as of 10/30/23. For more detailed data [VIEW HERE](#).

We embrace the challenges in the year ahead with combined determination, strength, conviction and promise.

We will be at CSM with preprogramming courses and educational programming during the general meeting. We have a Business meeting and a Reception with Army Baylor to meet all who attend the conference. Please come by the Federal Booth 10057 in the Exhibit Hall to speak with us personally, review information for example on Fellowships, see the new website, enjoy our giveaways and door prizes and so much more!!! History buffs note that the first physical therapy convention was in Boston "nearly 102 years ago. The only difference? We changed the date and inserted the upcoming ... place of APTA's first national conference location, the Boston School of Physical Education, held in September 1922."

"The (1st) Convention should do much to straighten out some vexing questions as well as give the Association an added impetus," the notice reads. Among the "vexing questions" that were debated by the 63 attendees (TODAY WE EXPECT 15,000 ATTENDEES, 18 Sections, 420 educational programs and 1300 poster presentations): Should "qualified" male physical therapists be admitted? Should the APTA constitution define minimum requirements for general education and specialized training?

Highlights of the convention included presentations on electrotherapy, exercise therapy, and hydrotherapy, and even a "paper with lantern slides" on posture training by physical therapist Inga Lohne. (Lohne, incidentally, became APTA's second president the following year.) Physician Frank Granger led clinical observations on muscle reeducation at Boston City Hospital." (**Source:** [Looking Back to the Future: APTA's First National Conference](#))

We are eternally grateful to all our predecessors who have brought our profession to the status of a trusted, qualified and caring professional. So, pack those bags, allow and spend plenty of time to immerse yourself in the experience.

# APTA Combined Sections Meeting

Feb. 15-17 / Boston, MA



## 2024 Combined Sections Meeting Conference & Exposition Overview

APTA CSM 2024 will be held Feb. 15-17, 2024, in Boston, Massachusetts, at the [Boston Convention and Exposition Center](#) (BCEC).

Programming for the APTA Combined Sections Meeting is designed by APTA's 18 [specialty sections and academies](#).

Build your network and knowledge at the largest physical therapy conference of the year. Gain access to programming designed by APTA's 18 specialty sections and academies, special events exclusive to APTA CSM, and networking opportunities with your peers. [Discounted registration rates end Jan. 10.](#)

Here you can search or browse events scheduled for this meeting and create your own schedule of events. To find a session, either check the Browse by Day link on the navigation list or use the Browse by Program section. Entry into each session at the meeting is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that preconference courses do require separate registration.

## Federal Physical Therapy Programming

### Tuesday, February 13, 2024

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-17717** *Implementation of Integrated Primary Care Physical Therapy Models: A Workshop*

**\*1-day Preconference Course**

Steven Lynn Spoonemore, PT, DPT, Katie O'Bright, Jennifer C. Turner, PT, DPT, Carleen Elizabeth Jogodka, PT, DPT, Preston Roundy, PT, DPT, Sherman Auyeung, PT, DPT, Thaa de Ornelas, PT, Brandon Irving Peterson, PT, DPT, ATC, Steven Wentz, PT, Joseph John Kucksdorf, PT, DPT and Katie Langyi Qiu, PT, DPT

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-18441** *Driving Clinical and Readiness Excellence in Every Physical Therapist: The Motion/Musculoskeletal Triage E2E Solution*

**\*1-day Preconference Course**

Ian Euclid Lee, PT, DSc, MBA, Christopher Boyer, PT, DPT, Carrie Ann Storer, PT, DPT and Thomas Petersen

### Wednesday, February 14, 2024

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-17947** *Observational Gait Analysis Workshop*

**\*1-day Preconference Course**

Anat Kristal, PT, MSPT, PhD, Robert S. Gailey, PT, PhD, FAPTA, Ignacio Alejandro Gaunard, PT, MSPT, PhD, Allison Hoy Symsack, PT, DPT, Jessica S. Haynes, PT and Kurt Gruben

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-18792** *Point-of Care Musculoskeletal Ultrasound: An Introduction and Hands-on Course*

**\*1-day Preconference Course**

Jon A. Umlauf, PT, DPT, DSc

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-19305** *Department of Veterans Affairs Physical Therapy Breakout*

## Thursday, February 15, 2024

### 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

#### **FD-17912** *Sex after Surgery: The Intersection of Tissue Healing and Activities of Daily Living*

Stephanie Fournier, PT, DPT, Sarah Elaine Baker, PT, DPT, DSc, Chelsea Jordan, PT, DPT and Jason Silvernail, PT, DPT, DSc

### 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

#### **FD-19257** *APTA Federal Amputation SIG Board Meeting*

### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

#### **FD-17501** *Amputation Care Yearly Research Evidence Update*

Benjamin Jacob Darter, PT, PhD, Sheila Marie Clemens, PT, MPT, PhD, Charissa A. Doerger, PT, LP and Ignacio Alejandro Gaunaurd, PT, MSPT, PhD

### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

#### **FD-18573** *Physical Therapists as First Contact Providers: Optimized Outcomes, Faster Return to Activities, and Improved Experience*

Amanda Louise Wolfe, PT, DPT, Christina Koreerat, PT, DPT, Nancy C. Henderson, PT, DPT, Nicholas Koreerat, PT, DPT and Richard Burton Westrick, PT, DPT, DSc

### 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

#### **FD-19258** *APTA Federal Leadership Meeting*

### 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

#### **FD-19259** *APTA Federal Board Meeting*

### 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

#### **FD-18684** *Put Me in Coach! The Value of Formal Mentorship for Developing PT Residency Programs*

Ru Gakhar, PT, Amy Michelle Firestone, PT, DPT, Timothy Erickson, Alice Holder and Beau Bruce Whitt, PT, DPT

### 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

#### **FD-18794** *Preventing and Managing Shoulder Injuries in Wheelchair Athletes*

Samanda Vasquez, PT, DPT, Marisa Pontillo, PT, DPT, PhD and Jennifer Gruenhagen, PT, DPT

### 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

#### **FD-18945** *APTA Federal Platform Session - 1*

### 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

#### **FD-19261** *APTA Federal Human Performance Optimization SIG Meeting*

## Friday, February 16, 2024

### 6:30 AM - 7:45 AM

#### **FD-18922** *APTA Federal Business Meeting*

### 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

#### **FD-17196** *Managing the Miserable Minority: Mitigating Post-Concussion Syndrome*

Carrie W. Hoppes, PT, DPT, ATC, PhD, Anne Mucha, PT, DPT, MS and Kathryn Schneider

### 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

#### **FD-18521** *Life Span Approach to Rehab for the Tactical Athlete*

Dr. Haley Worst, PT, DPT, EdD, Nancy C. Henderson, PT, DPT, Jennifer Emberton, PT, Kristen Zosel and Jenna Weinsten

### 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

#### **FD-18542** *Blueprint for Fit After Limb Loss: World's Best Therex*

Jonathan J. Glasberg, PT and Leif M. Nelson, PT, DPT

### 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

#### **FD-19262** *APTA Federal Primary Care SIG Meeting*

### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

#### **FD-18307** *Two Legs Are Better Than One: Therapeutic Interventions to Improve Prosthetic Gait, Ramps, and Stairs*

Jacqueline Lark Moore, PT, MPT, ATC, DScPT, PhD, Scott Michael Love, PT, DPT, DHS and Angela Cummings Morgan, PT, DPT

### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

#### **FD-18725** *The Relationship between Sleep and Body Composition and Musculoskeletal Health*

Bradley Michael Ritland, PT, DPT, PhD, Stefan Pasiakos, Julie Hughes and Joseph Rahmon Kardouni, PT, PhD

### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

#### **FD-19270** *APTA Federal Platform Session 2*

### 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

#### **FD-19263** *Student Info Session with APTA Federal*

**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

**FD-19264** *APTA Federal Residency/Fellowship SIG Meeting*

**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-17594** *Interprofessional Community Reintegration for Patients with Upper or Lower Limb Loss*

Renee Diane VanVeld, PT, DPT and Brooke O'Steen, OTR

**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-17698** *Clinical Reasoning: Where Do We Begin? Are We Teaching Best Practices?*

Joshua P. Halfpap, PT, DPT, DSc, Jon A. Umlauf, PT, DPT, DSc and Christopher S. Allen, PT, DPT

**6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

**FD-19265** *APTA Federal/Army Baylor Reception*

## Saturday, February 17, 2024

**7:00 AM - 8:00 AM**

**FD-19266** *APTA Federal Pelvic Health Rehab SIG*

**8:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

**FD-17497** *Optimizing Recovery: The Role of Adaptive Sports in the Rehabilitation of Active Duty Army Soldiers*

Krystal Lee Morris, PT, DPT, KeithAnn Halle, PT, DPT, Casey Margaret Turner, PT, DPT and Yvonne Larochele, PT, DPTSc, MEd

**8:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

**FD-18776** *Creating Balance Using Energy Medicine While Providing Physical Therapy for Chronic Pain and Trauma Populations*

Allison Kellish, PT, DPT, PhD and Sherri Nicolas

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**FD-19269** *Army Officers Meeting*

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**FD-19300** *APTA Federal Amputation SIG Business Meeting*

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**FD-17713** *Primary Care Physical Therapy: A Proven Model of Care Within the Veterans Health Administration*

Evan E. Kelley, PT, DPT, Mark Alan Havran, PT, DPT, Ashley Rae Cassel, PT, DPT, Christopher Lee Rowedder, PT, Brandon Irving Peterson, PT, DPT, ATC, Blaine Fitzgerald and Amanda Beth Simone, PT, DPT

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**FD-17960** *Optimizing Return to Duty and Performance of the Tactical Athlete After ACL Reconstruction*

Jamie Bush Morris, PT, DPT, DSc, Michael Scott Crowell, PT, DSc, Erin Marie Miller, PhD, Paul Kuwik, PT, Kelly Scott, PT, DPT and Brian Robert Kreisel, PT, DPT

**1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

**FD-19267** *Army Physical Therapy - Interested Candidate Town Hall*

**1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**

**FD-19268** *Navy Physical Therapy: It's Not Just a Job, It's an Adventure*

**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-17845** *Holistic, Interdisciplinary Care Coordination in the Rehabilitation of the Person Living with Limb Loss*

Patricia A. Young, PT, MSPT, Jaisie Ilara Ruth Stevens, PT, DPT and Joseph Webster

**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-19271** *APTA Federal Platform Session 3*

**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-19272** *APTA Federal Residency and Fellowship Case Presentations*

Joseph Rahmon Kardouni, PT, PhD, Ru Gakhar, PT, Alice Dorworth Holder, PT, DPT, MHS and Amy Michelle Firestone, PT, DPT

# Quality Physical Therapy Care

Visit us on the web at  
[www.aptafederal.org](http://www.aptafederal.org)



## Veterans Affairs PT Update

*Peter Glover and Nicole Casagrand, Veterans Affairs Service Representatives*

The Veterans Health Administration physical therapy continues to focus on expending residency opportunities and physical therapy working in primary care. Please see the comprehensive list of Veterans Affairs residency programs for Neurologic, Geriatric, Orthopaedic, and Primary Care in the residency special interest group of the newsletter. Patient Aligned Care Team Physical Therapy continues to be a central focus for the VA. Please see the area of the newsletter for the Primary Care Special

Interest Group.

See special CSM programming for Primary Care PT:

**February 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Tuesday | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**FD-17717 Implementation of Integrated Primary Care Physical Therapy Models: A Workshop  
 \*1-day Preconference Course**

**Steven Lynn Spoonemore, PT, DPT, Katie O'Bright, Jennifer C. Turner, PT, DPT, Carleen Elizabeth Jogodka, PT, DPT, Preston Roundy, PT, DPT, Sherman Auyeung, PT, DPT, Thaa de Ornelas, PT, Brandon Irving Peterson, PT, DPT, ATC, Steven Wentz, PT, Joseph John Kucksdorf, PT, DPT and Katie Langyi Qiu, PT, DPT**

Thank you to all the VA Physical Therapists that are members of the Federal Section of the APTA.





**VA**

U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



## Advance your clinical practice through VA residency training

This is a comprehensive list of all VA residency programs including accredited, candidate\* and developing\*\*. Please apply through RF-PTCAS.

<b>Ann Arbor, MI</b> Cardiopulmonary		<b>Bay Pines, FL</b> Orthopaedic	<i>QR Not Available</i>	<b>Birmingham, AL</b> Geriatric	
<b>Boston, MA</b> Neurologic, Geriatric, Orthopaedic		<b>Cheyenne, WY</b> Orthopaedic		<b>Cincinnati, OH</b> Orthopaedic, Geriatric, Neurologic, Cardio-Pulmonary	
<b>Cleveland, OH</b> Orthopaedic, Geriatric		<b>Columbia, SC</b> Orthopaedic		<b>Denver, CO</b> Geriatric, Neurologic, Orthopaedic	
<b>Des Moines, IA</b> Geriatric, Primary Care	<i>QR Not Available</i>	<b>Durham, NC</b> Orthopaedic, Geriatric, Neurologic		<b>Gainesville and Jacksonville, FL</b> Orthopaedic and Geriatric	
<b>Greater LA, CA</b> Orthopaedic		<b>Long Beach, CA</b> Neurologic		<b>Madison, WI</b> Cardio-pulmonary, Geriatric	
<b>Milwaukee, WI</b> Neurologic, Orthopaedic		<b>Minneapolis, MN</b> Neurologic, Geriatric, Primary Care		<b>Mountain Home, TN</b> Orthopaedic, Geriatric	
<b>New Orleans, LA</b> Orthopaedic, Neurologic		<b>Northern CA</b> Geriatric		<b>Oklahoma City, OK</b> Orthopaedic	<i>QR Not Available</i>
<b>Orlando, FL</b> Orthopaedic		<b>Palo Alto, CA</b> Geriatric, Orthopaedic		<b>Portland, OR</b> Orthopaedic	
<b>Richmond, VA</b> Neurologic		<b>Salt Lake City, UT</b> Orthopaedic	<i>QR Not Available</i>	<b>Seattle, WA</b> Neurologic	
<b>St. Louis, MO</b> Geriatric, Neurologic, Cardio-Pulmonary		<b>Tampa, FL</b> Neurologic, Orthopaedic, Geriatric, Acute Care*		<b>Washington, DC</b> Orthopaedic	



# VA RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS

This is a comprehensive list of all VA residency programs by specialty including accredited, candidate\* and developing\*\*. Please apply through RF-PTCAS.



## ACUTE CARE

Tampa, FL

## CARDIOVASCULAR & PULMONARY

Ann Arbor, MI  
Cincinnati, OH  
Madison, WI  
St. Louis, MO

## GERIATRICS

Birmingham, AL\*  
Boston, MA  
Cincinnati, OH  
Cleveland, OH  
Denver, CO  
Des Moines, IA\*  
Durham, NC  
Gainesville & Jacksonville, FL  
Madison, WI\*\*  
Minneapolis, MN\*  
Mountain Home, TN\*\*  
Northern CA\*\*  
Palo Alto, CA  
St. Louis, MO  
Tampa, FL

## PRIMARY CARE

Des Moines, IA\*\*  
Minneapolis, MN\*\*

## NEUROLOGIC

Boston, MA  
Cincinnati, OH  
Denver, CO  
Durham, NC  
Long Beach, CA  
Milwaukee, WI  
Minneapolis, MN  
New Orleans, LA\*\*  
Richmond, VA\*  
Seattle, WA\*  
St. Louis, MO  
Tampa, FL

## ORTHOPAEDICS

Bay Pines, FL\*\*  
Boston, MA\*  
Cheyenne, WY\*  
Cincinnati, OH  
Cleveland, OH  
Columbia, SC  
Denver, CO  
Durham, NC  
Gainesville & Jacksonville, FL  
Greater LA, CA  
Milwaukee, WI  
Mountain Home, TN  
New Orleans, LA\*  
Oklahoma City, OK\*\*  
Orlando, FL  
Palo Alto, CA  
Portland, OR  
Salt Lake City, UT  
Tampa, FL  
Washington DC



## Air Force PT Update

Joel Henderson, Air Force Service Representative

Federal physical therapy practice is both demanding and rewarding. Each military branch and federal organization come with their own benefits, and it is important to be as informed as possible when choosing to pursue military service. This information on benefits for United States Air Force physical therapists is current at the time of writing this update, but is always subject to change. Talking with your health professions recruiter would be the appropriate place to start. As always, my

standard disclaimer is that any opinions provided in this post are purely those of this author and not those of the DoD or Department of the Air Force.

### Financial Incentives:

- Student Loan Repayment: Individuals with federal student loans obtained while completing their entry level physical therapy degree may apply to participate in the Health Professions Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP). Currently, this involves up to \$80,000 total (\$40,000/year over two years), minus taxes which are taken out initially prior to disbursement.
  - [AFIT / Civilian Institution Programs / Health Professional Loan Repayment Program](#)
- New Accessions Bonuses: This varies in availability and quantity per year based on needs of the Air Force and budget.
  - [Defense Finance and Accounting Service > MilitaryMembers > payentitlements > Pay Tables > HPO1 \(dfas.mil\)](#)
- Board Certification Pay: This currently is \$8,000/year, for the following ABPTS specialties: Cardiopulmonary, Clinical Electrophysiology, Geriatrics, Neurology, Orthopedics, Pediatrics, Sports, Women's Health, Wound Management, Oncology.
  - [VOLUME 7A, CHAPTER 5 \(defense.gov\)](#)

**Educational Opportunities:** There are opportunities for post-professional educational programs where members are competitively selected. The number of participants and availability of program participation also is subject to change based on needs of the Air Force. The programs which have historically had USAF PTs are:

- US Air Force Tactical Sports and Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy Fellowship
  - [USAF TSOMPT Fellowship - Air Force Academy Athletics \(goairforcefalcons.com\)](#)
- Army-Baylor University Doctoral Fellowship in Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy
  - [Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy \(DScPT\) | Military-Baylor Graduate Programs | Baylor University](#)
- Baylor University - Keller Army Community Hospital Division 1 Sports Physical Therapy Fellowship
  - [Sports Medicine Physical Therapy \(DScPT\) | Military-Baylor Graduate Programs | Baylor University](#)
- Funded PhD programs: location, availability, and area of study varies based on needs of the Air Force

**Career Experiences:** Military service offers no shortage of opportunities in leadership, expanded scope of practice, varied duty stations and deployed locations, and clientele with demanding job tasks. Each individual's career will be unique to them, but one of the primary threads common amongst servicemembers is the importance of flexibility – being able to adapt and push forward in every circumstance.

If you have any questions regarding USAF physical therapy practice, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself, as one of the APTA Federal USAF service representatives ([hendersonjoel91@gmail.com](mailto:hendersonjoel91@gmail.com)), or to your local healthcare professions officer recruiter.



## Army PT Update

*Jon Umlauf, Army Service Representative*

### **AWARDS:**

LTC Carrie Hoppes, Army-Baylor DPT Program Director, and her collaborative team won a prestigious Innovation Award at the Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation, and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) in Orlando, FL on 27 NOV – 3 DEC 2023. Their team won for the Praxis Research Project, a virtual reality-augmented vestibular rehabilitation

for warfighters with dizziness /imbalance post-concussion.

The Army Surgeon General recently bestowed the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) "9A" proficiency designator upon candidates who have attained full professional status and national prominence in their field to the following physical therapist Army officers:

LTC SARAH BAKER (65B)

LTC BARBARA BUJAK (65B)

LTC JOHN MASON (65B)

LTC WILLIAM PITT (65B)

The "9A" Proficiency Designator is the highest recognition for professional excellence in the Army Medical Department.

### **NEW ARMY CAREER MAP PUBLISHED:**

The Army Physical Therapy Community recently conducted an overhaul on the 65B career map in Army Career Tracker. Major changes were made to key developmental and broadening/strategic billet assignments with updated terminology for unit types, position titles, and long-term health education and training (LTHET) offerings. The military treatment facility positions were prioritized at the top as foundational to emphasize that these positions are critical prior to progressing to broadening and operational assignments to build strong clinical and leadership skillsets that enable readiness. The institutional domain of functional training section was also modified to reflect the most current short course offerings in the US Army and the Department of Defense and now highlight specialty board certification, individual professional continuing education courses, and research activities. This updated 65B career map will provide support to officers and leaders in counseling sessions and while competing in the AIM marketplace. It is available for download at the Army Career Tracker website.

### **MUSCULOSKELETAL ULTRASOUND:**

The availability and utilization of musculoskeletal (MSK) ultrasound are growing across the PT profession as an emerging area of practice. Handheld ultrasounds provide a low-cost portable means for military PTs to perform MSK ultrasound in field environments. Join CPT Jordan Pruitt (pictured) and MAJ Jon Umlauf at CSM in 2024 for a hands-on introductory course on [MSK Ultrasound Course](#), where they will share how MSK ultrasound can assist PTs in making better-informed rehabilitation decisions at the point of injury.

### **INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ARMY AS A DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY OFFICER?**

Contact an Army Medical Department (AMEDD) recruiter to learn more about the required qualifications, to process and application, and/ or to discuss available recruitment incentive options. If you would like to speak to an active duty Army Physical Therapist about their experience please contact the [Army Physical Therapy Personnel Engagement Work Group](#).

## APTA FEDERAL SIG UPDATES



Welcome to our new Student Focus Group Chair Kaitlyn Rose! Katie succeeds Christine Ortiz who has now graduated and will be a practicing PT for the U.S. Army. Katie is a second year DPT student at the University of Kentucky and is looking forward to carrying on Christine's amazing work. Additionally, congratulations to the AC SIG's former Research Chair,

Dr. Iggy Gaunuard who recently accepted the Research Chair position on the APTA Federal Board.

The Amputation Care SIG has been holding productive monthly board meetings for collaboration on ideas to promote optimal care of patients with amputations through future educational offerings, and promotion of the SIG at national conferences to expand membership. We are discussing the formation of an education sub-committee led by Practice Chair Angela Morgan in cooperation with Board members and external experts in amputation rehabilitation. These efforts can contribute to future residency, certification, or credentialing initiatives. More to come on these topics!

From our board, we want to thank our membership for being a part of a community that can be counted on to promote our profession in amputation care. Thank you for all you do for beneficiaries with limb loss and limb difference.



Our mission is to serve as leaders in advocating for Physical Therapists by providing an avenue for information exchange, networking, and professional development from a primary care PT perspective.

Recent board election brought on some fantastic clinicians and leaders:

- Co-Chair – Dr. Evan Kelley (re-elected)
- Co-Chair – Dr. Dave Macchia (Who will complete Dr. Bob Long's term.)
- Communications Chair – Dr. Jennifer Turner
- Practice Chair – Dr. Layne Compton
- Student Liaison – Riley Luetkenhaus

The rest of the board:

- Research Chair – Dr. Alysson Cavanaugh
- Advanced Practice Chair, Steve Wentz
- Education Chair, Katie O'Bright

We want to extend deepest gratitude to those who served on the board and continue to contribute to our SIG:

- Dr. Steven Spoonemore
- Dr. Micah Wong
- Dr. Daniel Kang
- Dr. Bob Long

Aside from the elections, it has been a busy quarter. APTA Federal and the Primary Care SIG, in partnership with Baylor University, Waco, TX had its first Primary Care Summit and Think Tank September 30<sup>th</sup>. We had attendees from across the federal service, private sector, and academia. It was such a resounding success, planning for the next Primary Care Summit in September 2024 has already begun.

Our collaboration with other sections and SIGs has resulted in three different webinar opportunities. October 18<sup>th</sup>, Dr Rachel Wellon, LSU, and her colleagues from the Neuro Section, Vestibular SIG provided a one-hour webinar: Vestibular Essential for Primary Care. Their content provided relevant, “Monday Morning” evaluation tools valuable to not only primary care clinicians, but any clinician who may encounter vestibular dysfunction. November 16<sup>th</sup>, our partners with the Imaging SIG hosted a webinar: Colorado Physical Therapists are Ordering Imaging...and the Sky Has Not Fallen!!! And finally, Dr Wellon and Dr. Helena Esmonde returned with a Vestibular ECHO webinar with two compelling cases.

Not to settle on one format for information delivery, our Research Chair, Dr Alysson Cavanaugh, has been releasing The Abstract of the Month since August of this year. These abstracts and article present current and relevant literature meant to spark discussion and engagement.

The hits keep coming. On November 16<sup>th</sup> the primary care specialist certification petition was finally submitted to the ABPTS/ABPTRFE review board after more than four years of hard work. Kudos to Dr Ashley Cassel, Petition Chair, and her team of SMEs for reaching this milestone. Funds have been allocated for this last step of phase 2 of the submission. The petition is now being submitted to the appropriate representatives on ABPTS and ABPTRFE for the next review process. We push on.

And finally, CSM 2024. There will be a lot of great content to attend. Put this one on your calendar: Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> Pre-Conference Implementation of Integrated Primary Care Physical Therapy Models: A Workshop (FD-17717). And on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, the Primary Care SIG will have its annual Member Meeting from 10:00 to 11:00 (FD-19262). Last but no least: Primary Care Physical Therapy: A Proven Model of Care Within the Veterans Health Administration, Saturday, the 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-1:00. If you can't attend CSM this year, consider taking some of the asynchronous offerings.

If you want to learn more about the Primary Care SIG, visit us at [Primary Care \(memberclicks.net\)](https://memberclicks.net). While you're at it, simply join.



### **2023 Residency & Fellowship Recruitment Event**

The APTA Federal Residency and Fellowship Special Interest Group hosted its first virtual residency recruitment event this past month. The aim of the event was to increase recruitment efforts for federal physical therapy residency programs and showcase the value of completing a federal residency program. The event was considered a success with over 100 participants and 27 residency programs represented. The SIG hopes to expand this event in the future and offer an annual opportunity for further facetime with potential applicants.

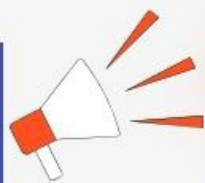
### **APTA CSM 2024 offerings**

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 3 to 5pm – “Put Me in Coach! The Value of Formal Mentorship for a Developing PT Residency Program”

Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> 3 to 5pm - Resident Platform Presentations



Pelvic Health  
Rehabilitation SIG



# CALL FOR MENTORS!



## APTA FEDERAL PHR SIG IS STARTING A MENTORSHIP PROGRAM!

Our vision for this mentorship program is to facilitate growth within pelvic health rehab across Federal agencies. This program will connect experienced clinicians with novice pelvic health therapists to foster professional development and clinical excellence in the field.

### **Mentor Requirements**

Federal Employees with a minimum of 3 years experience practicing in pelvic health rehabilitation and/or advanced certification in pelvic health (WCS, PRPC, etc.)

### **Program Expectations**

Mentorship program will last approximately 18 months  
Mentor and mentee will be expected to establish goals, meet at regular intervals, discuss clinical cases, and facilitate professional learning

*Remember: Mentorship time counts for MOSC credits in your WCS renewal!*

**INTERESTED? COMPLETE THE MENTOR APPLICATION FORM TODAY!**

**[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/NJJPDKT2QLMW4JC77](https://forms.gle/NJJPDKT2QLMW4JC77)**

*Want to become a mentee?  
Stay tuned for more information!*