

APTA MICHIGAN SHORELINES

A Publication of APTA Michigan | Volume 49 No 2 | Summer 2022

All the Buzz about Bias!



President's Message

Edward Mathis, PT, DPT



In my last Shorelines message, I reflected on the importance of practicing gratitude for positivity and stress management. Today, I'd like to continue encouraging a reflective process, this time towards a review of our biases and through the announcement of a new chapter initiative.

As you may know, the State of Michigan has enacted a new rule requiring all health care professionals to complete 2 hours of implicit bias training (for those of us in a two-year licensure cycle) starting on June 1st. This rule applies to both new and renewing licensees.

While the initial reaction is likely to chafe a bit at another requirement to practice in Michigan, I would like to challenge our readers to use this new rule as an opportunity to reflect on their beliefs and be open to changing the way they think and practice. If we are to live up to our profession's core values truly, we need to

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consider how accountable we are if we let our biases get in the way. Do we recognize and refrain from acting on one's social, cultural, gender, and sexual biases? Do we demonstrate excellence through conveying intellectual humility? Taking a course in implicit bias allows us to learn about common ways that we may miss the mark. It can teach us about the intersectionality of bias that can affect care, including Race/Ethnicity, Gender, Sex Orientation, Religion, Culture, Body Morphology, Age, Ability/Disability, and Socioeconomic Status. It can help us grow as physical therapy professionals to help us best serve the communities within Michigan where we live, work, and play.

I hope that we all take the time to reflect on this crucial topic. I am happy to report that the chapter will continue to offer continuing education experiences in interactive/virtual and live formats throughout the next year to help you meet this requirement. More information can be found on our website: aptami.org.

I am also excited about APTA Michigan's involvement in the Michigan Moves Month that began in May 2022. "Michigan Moves Month," to be observed during May, is a new annual initiative with the vision and mission to promote and encourage every Michigander of every ability to embrace diverse forms of human movement in the pursuit of an active and healthy lifestyle.

Overarching Message: Movement is essential to leading a healthy and fulfilling life. Because of this, several physical activity stakeholders in the state came together to unify their voices around its importance.

Goals:

1. Bring together all physical activity stakeholder groups in the state to amplify a unified message regarding the role movement plays in physical and mental health.
2. Create and disseminate a variety of education and opportunities for movement-based activities during May.
3. Begin to shift the perceptions of lawmakers, the media, and the public at large regarding the role the fitness industry, physical education, parks/recreation, and physical therapy play in making people healthier through movement.

Link to Gubernatorial Proclamation: May 2022: Michigan Moves Month

Physical Activity Stakeholder Groups & Supporting Organizations

- Michigan Fitness Club Association (trade association for commercial health/fitness clubs in Michigan)
- SHAPE MI (Society of Health and Physical Educators)
- mParks (advocacy organization for Michigan's parks and recreation community)
- APTA Michigan
- American Heart Association
- Priority Health
- Medical Fitness Association
- Governor's Council on Physical Fitness
- Michigan Fitness Foundation

Thank you to everyone that participated, and we look forward to repeating these efforts in May 2023!

Thank you very much for being a member of our chapter, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Fall Conference at Boyne Mountain Resort in October!

In service,

Edward Mathis, PT, DPT
President, APTA Michigan

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) Committee

Bana Odeh PT, DPT, Chair, and Jayla Moore, SPT, Vice-Chair

The new implicit bias requirement in Michigan, starting June 1st, 2022, will require physical therapy professionals to take an implicit bias course as part of licensure renewal. An implicit bias is a personal, unconscious judgment based on their race, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, religion, or disability that may affect how one is treated. The goal of implicit bias training is to raise awareness of the mental shortcuts we take when judging individuals.

We all are prone to implicit bias, and it is something we all can work to mitigate. Having bias does not make you a "bad" person; much of it is learned without your conscious awareness. What is essential is to recognize the behavior, understand how it may affect your patients, and how you can become aware of it. Once you realize your biases towards a group of individuals, you can start to self-reflect on those behaviors or thoughts you have had towards those individuals.

I wanted to share a personal example of implicit bias in hopes of spurring more self-reflection among our members. At my current job as an outpatient physical therapist, I often ask patients about their comorbidities during the initial evaluation and what their activity level is typically. I recently noticed that I get surprised when a patient who is overweight tells me they exercise regularly or when they do not have diabetes or hypertension. The bias I had was that someone who has a higher BMI would not engage in healthy behaviors and would have adverse health outcomes, despite this not being the case for many individuals. If my bias went unrecognized, it could affect my expectation of a patient's progress and how I treat them without me even realizing it. As clinicians, it is our responsibility to know that health comes in all shapes and sizes. Our job is to look at the patient as a whole and not just their diagnoses.

APTA Michigan's DEI Committee has been working to offer implicit bias courses that satisfy state licensure requirements at an affordable price to our members. There will be a virtual, upcoming course on June 9th, 2022. You can find it under aptami.org in the continuing education tab under webinars. We hope to see you then!

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License Renewal and Implicit Bias Training Updates

Julia Rice, CAE, IOM APTA Michigan Executive Director

The online license renewal portal, MiPLUS, opened May 1 for PT/PTA license renewals. There are some important changes to note:

New Renewal Dates

The entire renewal system is changing from licensees renewing at the same time each year (by July 31) to a system where the renewal date is based on the date of the licensee's original license.

Based on the old system, your license would have lasted two years from the 2022 renewal to July 31, 2024. **Based on the new system**, your next renewal will depend on your original license issue date. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)/ the Bureau of Professional Licensing (BPL) is extending licensure periods during this adjustment period.

For example, if your original license was issued in May and you renew in June or July 2022, your next renewal will be May 2025.

Given the extended renewal periods, APTA Michigan contacted the BPL to inquire about Professional Development Requirement (PDR) credits needed for renewal.

The question posed to BPL: If a licensee renews this year and the next renewal period is 34 months instead of 24 months, would the licensee be required to earn more than 24 PDR credits?

The response: No, the licensee would only be responsible for 24 PDR credits for this extended renewal cycle. Important note: This is the current LARA/BPL policy. If there are any changes, licensees will be notified by email.

Implicit Bias Training

2022 Renewal

- If you renewed before June 1, you did not need this training for renewal.
- If you are renewing on June 1 or later, you will need to have completed 1 hour of Implicit Bias Training for your 2022 renewal. This represents 1 hour/year since the promulgation date of the new rule - June 1, 2021. This applies to recent grads who had a license issued in 2021 who must renew this year.

2023 Renewal

- You will need 2 hours of Implicit Bias Training for your renewal.

Training FAQs

Q: Does an online course that I can take any time (on-demand) satisfy the Michigan requirements?

A: No. The course must be live and include real-time interaction between the speaker and participants. In-person courses or live webinars will meet the Michigan criteria.

Q: Where can I find this training?

A: APTA Michigan is offering a [live webinar on June 9](#) to satisfy the requirement. Another option would be attending Fall Conference at Boyne Mountain Resort, where an in-person session will be offered. Additional opportunities will be posted on the website under webinars and events.

Payment Update

Chris Nawrocki, Payment Director, APTA MI, and Barb Herzog, APTA Payment Specialist



As we move into the later part of spring of 2022, your payment committee continues to push collaboration with various parties, including insurers, UM programs, and our APTA MI committees. It has been a busy late winter of information, and below is a quick summary.

First, we want to update the current active volunteer payment committee members:

Chris Nawrocki, Payment Director

Barb Herzog, APTA Michigan Payment Specialist

Committee members include Ed Mathis, President APTA MI, Mike Shoemaker, Scott MacDonald, Jake Jakubiak Kovacek, Dave Gilboe, Marty Sytsema, Michelle Marlow, Peter Van Well, Brian Gilbert, Matt McFadden, Phil Shuyten, and Josh Halas. We thank them for their time and efforts to keep reimbursement for PT services a top priority.

On April 6th, in the BCBSM Record, BCBSM stated they had contracted with SecureCare, a network performance management company, to manage outpatient services for PT, OT, ST, physical medicine, and chiro services starting July 5th. This is for BCBS commercial and Medicare Plus Blue members only. SecureCare is based out of Omaha, Nebraska, and your APTA payment committee worked extensively in exploring better UM options with BCBSM than the previous eviCore model. Per the release, SecureCare will be sending welcome packets and the next steps in registering with them in the coming weeks. Of further note, practitioner reimbursement will be adjusted by a 2.25% increase starting July 1st. This increase is based on the Medicare resource-based relative value scale for 2022. BCBSM encourages providers and practitioners to review the fee schedule and its effect on individual codes or groups of codes. Go to WebDenis for further information. SecureCare jumped in and became a PPS National Conference sponsor in the fall of 2021 and was a major sponsor at APTA Michigan fall 2021 and spring conference in April 2022 in Kalamazoo. If you want to dig deeper into SecureCare, you can find more information at securecarecorp.com.

Of great news and significance in Michigan, the "Health Can't Wait" SB 247 passed due to remarkable work from many health care parties, including your physical therapy legislative committee. This bill limits the amount of pre-authorization rules and the arbitrary and unknown clinical criteria used by an insurer or their UM program. This is scheduled to take effect on June 1st, 2023. More information on its impact on PT will be forthcoming.

On a national level, The Medicare Physician Fee Schedule final rule for 2022 added five CPT codes for remote therapeutic monitoring (RTM). Physical therapists providing outpatient therapy under Medicare Part B may bill these codes under Medicare, and the codes also may be billable under commercial insurance plans. The new codes are available in the Medicine Section of the CPT Manual as of January 1st. CMS had initially proposed that PTs could not bill these codes, stating that they represented "incident to" services. APTA challenged that assumption in its comments to CMS, and in the final rule, the agency relented, establishing that PTs are permitted to bill the codes. APTA has published a story and practice advisory on the specific guidelines for use, reporting, and billing of these codes and some case examples. The payment committee is working on a clinical presentation of RTM codes for this fall conference. Look for that pending information this summer.

More national-level news. The APTA-supported version of the Medicare Sequestration bill was passed in December. This bill sets out three major (but temporary) relief provisions:

- CMS will receive a 3% appropriation for 2022 to partially offset its planned 3.75% cut to the conversion factor used to set payment for codes used by providers.
- Implementation of a looming 4% across-the-board "pay as you go" cut mandated through budget rules will be postponed until 2023.
- A temporary moratorium on the 2% Medicare sequestration cut required by law since 2011 as a deficit spending mechanism will continue through part of 2022. The moratorium will last until April, when a 1% sequestration will return, with the full 2% sequestration reduction beginning in July. Given that sequestration cuts are baked into the Medicare system, the temporary reprieve has amounted to a slight payment increase for providers since the moratorium was implemented in 2020.

As PT professionals, we ask each one of you to get involved at APTA Michigan. Join a committee that interests you; we have lots of room to accommodate you! As a unified group of professionals who put our patients first, we can impact the communities we serve. Don't know where to start? Please send us an email of your interest(s) at contact@aptami.org.



Enjoy our pending Michigan summer, the best of our seasons!

Keeping Up with Lansing- Legislative Advocacy Update

Abigail Skallerud, PT, DPT, BA Political Science Legislative Director Report



Greetings!

Bias is experienced across all facets of society, and physical therapy is no exception. Within Michigan, we have taken strides to hold ourselves, our profession, and other disciplines we interact with more accountable through legislative initiatives that have recently become law. It is on us to appreciate how and where bias can present itself, so we are more capable of identifying and addressing it. As the laws are presented below, take a moment to reflect on the thoughts and biases you may have about each topic.



1. Implicit Bias Continuing Education Re-Licensure Requirement

- a. A 2 credit per renewal cycle requirement that goes into effect June 1, 2022, by LARA
 - i. It must have a live interactive component.
 - ii. Separate from and in addition to the 24 PDR renewal requirement

2. Human Trafficking Continuing Education Re-Licensure Requirement

- a. A one-time one-credit requirement by LARA that is separate from and in addition to the 24 PDR renewal requirement

3. PTs and PTAs are now designated Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect.

- a. What does it mean to be a mandatory reporter?
 - i. If you suspect child abuse or neglect, you are now legally required to report it to authorities and are protected under the law when you act out of good faith.
- b. Want more education for you or your clinic?
 - i. Resources
 1. <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/adult-child-serv/abuse-neglect/childrens/mandated-reporters>
 2. https://aptami.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/MR_Guide_to_Detailed_Reportin3.14.19_653727_7.pdf

4. Prior Authorization PA 60

- a. Establishes prior authorization parameters for insurers (does not include Medicare or Medicaid) and prescribers
 - i. Includes:
 1. Establishing a standardized electric/internet-based prior authorization transaction process
 2. Prior authorization requirements are based upon peer-reviewed clinical review criteria updated at least annually.
 3. Establishing a timeline for insurer authorization response and expiration
 - a. An authorization is valid for no less than 60 days
 - b. Non-Urgent Requests: Authorization will be automatically granted after nine days until May 31, 2024, after which it is seven days
 - c. Urgent Requests: Authorization will be automatically granted after 72 hours
 4. Establishing requirements on denials and appeals
 5. Insurers must publish a list of all benefits that require prior authorization.
 6. Insurers must annually report to the Department of Insurance and Financial Services an aggregated list of prior authorization data, including the number of requests, denials, top 10 denied services, and top 10 reasons for denial.

Interested in Getting More Involved? We Want You!

Our legislative efforts are most successful with the verbal and written outreach of the APTA Michigan membership to their elected officials. Join the Legislative Advocacy Committee! We are looking for PT, PTA, and student members interested in diving into the topics driving legislative change, educating others about the impact of proposed bills on our profession, and helping develop future initiatives. Interested? We would love to have you join us! Email APTA MI at contact@aptami.org or myself, Abigail (Abby) Skallerud, at abigail.skallerud@gmail.com.

Together, we can be the voices of change for our profession and our patients. Thank you for continuing to help drive our profession forward.

MPT Political Action Committee Update

Kathleen Walworth, PT, DPT | MPT-PAC Chair



The Michigan Physical Therapy Political Action Committee would like to congratulate the 2022 winners of the MPT-PAC College Wars: Wayne State University (DPT program), who brought home the prestigious "Golden Goniometer" and Delta College (PTA program) for winning the coveted "Golden Gait Belt." We would also like to commend Delta College as the first PTA school to out-fundraise the winning DPT school in College Wars history.

The Student SIG organized a fantastic social at Burdick's following the Student Conclave. In all, their efforts raised \$1,430 for the MPT-PAC. Thank you to all of the students who participated. Your support of the PAC does not go unnoticed!

The MPT-PAC is completely funded through individual donations - none of your membership dues will ever find their way to our bank accounts. We do not receive funding from APTA Michigan or APTA National's PT-PAC. MPT-PAC focuses our spending on impacting legislation at the state level. Funding goes toward specific practices within the state of Michigan, such as unrestricted Direct

Access, prior authorization reform, and auto no-fault reform. The APTA National PT-PAC focuses its efforts on larger scale reforms such as the PTA payment differential. We encourage our members to consider donating to both groups to support efforts both locally and nationally.

Donations to MPT-PAC can be made through our secure portal at www.mptpac.org. Please consider a club-level donation of at least \$100 to support these essential legislative advocacy efforts if you are able.



Chief Delegate Update

Caroline Gwaltney, PT, DPT, CWS



Your elected delegates have been busy with engaging conversations about potential motion concepts and keeping up with House of Delegates Hub as motion concepts and information are shared. The motion concepts won't be officially published until the end of May, so we don't yet know which concepts will be brought before the House this summer. Once the motions are published, the Michigan delegation will resume our group meetings to discuss our thoughts, ideas, suggested edits, etc. These discussions are an integral part of our work to prepare for the House. Listening to various viewpoints is beneficial as we seek to understand each motion's scope, purpose, and resources needed. Some of the topics addressed in this year's motion concepts are:

- Medication prescriptive authority and PT practice
- Amending the "Direction and Supervision of the Physical Therapist Assistant" document to include utilization and collaboration
- Equitable disability accommodations for the NPTE
- Digital Health
- Addressing the gender pay gap in PT practice across the United States
- Establishing that the APTA is an LGBTQ+ inclusive organization
- Improving access to PT for Medicaid beneficiaries
- Evaluation of continuing education programs to ensure evidence-based practice
- Direct to Employer (D2E) services

As you can see, we have a lot to talk about! If you would like more information or would like to share your thoughts with the delegation, please reach out to me or another delegate. We are always interested in hearing from our members! You can also view the published motion concepts by searching for Packet I on the APTA website after May 25th.

Federal Affairs

Lyndsey Crosbie, PT, DPT | Federal Affairs Liaison

APTA Michigan is looking for individuals interested in federal legislative affairs to serve as Key Contacts for 2022. Key Contacts are members of APTA Michigan who develop and maintain relationships with their federal legislators about issues important to our profession. If you're interested in advocating for our profession, we need you on our team! Key Contacts for all Michigan congressional districts are needed, but we especially need volunteers from Congressional Districts 02, 07, 08, and 13 (Congressmembers Bill Huizenga, Tim Walberg, Elissa Slotkin, and Rashida Tlaib). The time commitment is 1-2 hours per month or less. For more information, contact Lyndsey Crosbie at Crosbie.Lyndsey@gmail.com.



Communications Committee Update

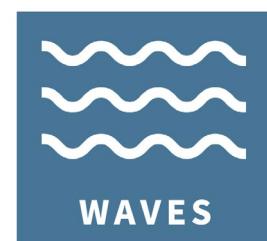
Andy Wicks, PT, DPT | Waves Co-Host/Producer

Waves, the podcast of APTA Michigan, continues to put out new episodes featuring interviews with movers and shakers in the world of physical therapy. Recent episodes include:

- Pain and Coloring Books with Dr. Devra Sheldon
- Being a PT in Alaska with Dr. Rachel Jermann
- Mentorship for Pre-PT students with Dr. Mike Ukoha
- Physical Therapy in the Emergency Department with Dr. Rebekah Griffith

We are always looking for possible guests and topics! You can find Waves on social media by searching for @aptamiwaves or www.aptami.org/podcasts.

The APTA-MI Communications Committee continues to work toward its strategic plan. The Committee is excited to welcome its two newest members, Jamie Phillips and Anna Krinke. We are always looking for volunteer members. Please reach out to contact@aptami.org if you are interested in attending one of our virtual meetings!



OFFICIAL PODCAST OF
APTA MICHIGAN

APTA MICHIGAN SOCIAL MEDIA

APTA Michigan has been ramping up its efforts to keep members informed on chapter news while spotlighting cool things that members are doing in and outside of the clinic.



Follow the APTA Michigan on Facebook by liking "APTA Michigan", "APTA Michigan Eastern District", "APTA Michigan Western District", "APTA Michigan Northern District", "APTA Michigan Upper Peninsula District", and "APTA Michigan Student Relations Committee".



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Membership Update

Jorgeann Koenig, PT, DPT | Director for Membership and Academic Engagement



The membership committee has some exciting new activities underway this Summer:

- Quarterly virtual journal clubs will be coming your way! Did you know that you can earn FREE PDR credits for reading journals and applying them to your practice? This initiative will help engage our members and help to facilitate knowledge translation – the process by which applications are learned in research and readily integrated into clinical practice settings! If you have any suggestions for topics, please get in touch with APTA-MI!
- We are attempting to make an in-person membership presentation offer to all of the PT and PTA programs in the state! We need volunteers to present at Mid-Michigan College and Delta College! We don't have any current volunteers that live in that area of the state! If you feel passionate about APTA and APTA-MI membership and would like to volunteer, please reach out to me at hadde1jm@cmich.edu - there is a presentation already made and ready to go!

- The membership team plans to send a postcard with a QR code to join to a large portion of non-member licensees in the state highlighting APTA's new monthly payment rates as low as \$36/month for PT members and \$21.25/month for PTA members. If you prefer to pay monthly rather than yearly, this is an option for current members as well! If you know of anyone who would benefit from being a member – please encourage APTA-MI membership! We are only as strong as our members! As our past APTA President Sharon Dunn once said, "If we don't take care of our profession, nobody will." If they have questions that you're unsure how to answer, please send them our way!
- As always, the membership committee is accepting new volunteers – this is a great way to get involved in our association, and you can earn up to 4 PDR credits by participating in at least 50% of the activities and being an active, engaged volunteer!

We hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Conference Update

Shannon Kleinert, PT, DPT | APTA Michigan Director of Conferences

Thank you to everyone who spoke and attended the Student Conclave, Pain Summit, and Spring Conference! The APTA Michigan Conference Committee is looking for course submissions for Fall Conference at the beautiful Boyne Mountain Resort on October 21-22nd. If you are interested in submitting, please go to aptami.org, Events, and then Course Proposals Form for more details. Submissions are due by June 17th.



APTA Michigan Partners Program

Consider signing up to be recognized as a supporter and partner of APTA Michigan. This is an excellent opportunity to engage with our members in multiple ways at a reduced cost. See below for details. Email contact@aptami.org if you would like to become a Partner!

Platinum Partner: \$4000 (Value = \$7000) (individual values of options noted below)

Logo on the APTA Michigan Website	\$2000
Logo included in all member eblasts.....	\$1000
Complimentary Exhibit Space at Spring and Fall Conferences	\$1500
2 Complimentary Registrations for Spring and Fall Conferences	\$800
Half Page Ad in each issue of Shorelines	\$1200
Complimentary Mailing List Rental	\$200
4 Complimentary 30 day Classified Ads/year	\$200
Partner Recognition at the beginning of 3 APTA Waves Podcasts	\$150

Gold Partner: \$2500 (Value = \$3750)

Logo on the APTA Michigan Website	\$1500
Complimentary Exhibit Space at either Spring or Fall Conference	\$750
1 Complimentary Registration for Spring and Fall Conferences	\$400
Quarter Page Ad in each issue of Shorelines	\$800
Complimentary Mailing List Rental	\$200
2 Complimentary 30 day Classified Ads/year	\$100
Partner Recognition at the beginning of 2 APTA Waves Podcasts	\$100

Silver Partner: \$1000 (Value = \$2000)

Logo on the APTA Michigan Website	\$1000
50% Discount on Exhibit Space at either Spring or Fall Conference	\$375
1 Complimentary Registration for Spring or Fall Conference	\$180
Quarter Page Ad in one issue of Shorelines	\$200
Complimentary Mailing List Rental	\$200
1 Complimentary 30 day Classified Ads/yea	\$50
Partner Recognition at the beginning of 1 APTA Waves Podcast	\$50

Health & Wellness Task Force

Suzette Smith, PT,DPT, CLT, Chair

Want to level up your wellness? Check out this summer reading list. The health and wellness task force compiled a list of our favorite wellness books. These books have motivated us and positively impacted our wellness. We want to share these valuable books with you! Happy reading.

Mindset
by Carol Dweck

Daily Stoic
by Ryan Holiday

Daring Greatly
by Brene Brown

Upstream
by Dan Heath

From Strength to Strength
by Arthur Brooks

The Gifts of Imperfection
by Brene Brown

Full Catastrophe Living
by Jon Kabat-Zin

Radical Compassion
by Tara Brach



APTA Michigan Institute for Education and Research

Andy Wicks, PT, DPT, APTA-MI Institute President

The APTA Michigan Institute for Education and Research presents annual grants, scholarships, and awards to students, clinicians, and researchers throughout Michigan.

If you are interested in applying for a grant or scholarship or would like to nominate someone for an award, the deadline to do so is August 1! Winners and recipients will be honored at the APTA Michigan Fall Conference. More information can be found at www.aptami.org. Hover over the "About Us" menu and click on "APTA Michigan Institute."

If you would like to donate to the APTA Michigan Institute for Education and Research Endowment Fund, you can do so on our website (www.aptami.org/grants-scholarships). Your money will go directly to supporting the students, clinicians, and researchers throughout Michigan and helping further the profession at home and beyond.



Pain SIG

Dustin Karlik, PT, DPT, Vice-Chair

We just finished up the pain summit in April. The turnout for this event was good, with around 100 people attending each of the speakers' presentations. As we continue throughout the year, we plan to provide two webinars for further education on pain: "The Basics of Pain Science" and "Pain Science and Pelvic Health." In addition to the webinars, we continue to put out monthly Clinical Pearls, where we dive into some popular topics within pain. See our Pain SIG website to view this information.

A few things to consider as we continue to explore implicit bias within the profession of Physical Therapy are:

- Are we giving all of our patients a fair chance at improving their pain?
 - Example: Are we withholding a treatment due to our assumption of what the patient wants versus what they need?
- Is our education about pain being heard and interpreted correctly?
- What biases do I have or does my patient have that may impact their care?

We know that everybody has biases that will impact their ability to treat patients. However, we can take time to explore our own biases and acknowledge them to help limit their negative impact.



Dr. Evan Parks discussing Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) at the Pain Submit

District News



EASTERN DISTRICT

Melissa McCourt, PT, DPT, CBIS, NCS | Eastern District Chair

As we strive to be a more engaging and responsive leadership team, we ask that our members please fill out this quick survey regarding the needs and wants of our district.

https://waynestate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6mL9RHjFFdBoTeS

We have been trying to be more present on social media, so please check out our Facebook page for updates on what's going on with the APTA-MI, especially in the Eastern District. We will continue to post about upcoming courses being offered and volunteer opportunities!

Mark your calendars for September 10, 2022. The Eastern District will be hosting a live CEU event at Wayne State University about Long Covid and the acute care perspective on working with patients diagnosed with Covid. We will post updates on our social media page as the plans unfold.

Stay safe, and see you soon

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NORTHERN DISTRICT

Sarah Patterson PT, DPT | Northern District Chair

The Northern District is looking forward to more events in the summer and fall. We will have our 4th Annual Northern MI Sports Medicine Symposium on October 8th, which will feature multidisciplinary speakers on various orthopedic topics. This symposium will also include

a pain credit. We are also looking forward to having another course, "Orthopedic Considerations in Neurological Diagnosis: Parkinson's Disease," in the fall or winter. The date for this course is TBD at this time. Please look for more information on our Facebook page as it becomes available. We are always looking for more involvement in the district and would love your feedback on continuing education events or social events that you would like to see. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to me at ropers16@gmail.com

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WESTERN DISTRICT

Cameron Faller, PT, DPT, CSCS | Western District Chair

The Western District had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Michael Shoemaker to present a continuing education event at the end of February related to classifying the clinical presentation following COVID-related hospitalization. We had just over 100 participants attend this event and were able to engage in an excellent discussion of sharing helpful resources available to several communities within Michigan.

As part of our mission and goals for the Western District, we plan to continue delivering meaningful continuing education events for all our members. Our next event takes place on June 9th, where we plan on hosting an implicit bias live training webinar. This event will be able to satisfy the licensure requirements needed for all members renewing after June 2022. Since this is such an important topic, we welcome all clinicians to this event. Please feel free to check the webpage for more details!

The Importance of Classifying the Clinical Presentation Following COVID-Related Hospitalization

Dr. Mike Shoemaker,
PT, DPT, PhD





Upper
Peninsula
District

UPPER PENINSULA

Jessica Chouinard, PT, DPT | Upper Peninsula District Chair

Although Implicit Bias may seem like a popular buzzword at the moment, it would be challenging to underestimate its importance. The Physical Therapy Code of

Ethics includes the following principles that necessitate Implicit Bias training as an ethical responsibility:

- Principle #1: Physical therapists shall respect the inherent dignity and rights of all individuals
 - 1A. Physical therapists shall act in a respectful manner toward each person regardless of age, gender, race, nationality, religion, ethnicity, social or economic status, sexual orientation, health condition, or disability.
 - 1B. Physical therapists shall recognize their personal biases and shall not discriminate against others in physical therapist practice, consultation, education, research, and administration.
- Principle #2: Physical therapists shall be trustworthy and compassionate in addressing the rights and needs of patients and clients.
 - 2B: Physical therapists shall provide physical therapy services with compassionate and caring behaviors that incorporate the individual and cultural differences of patients and clients.
- Principle #8: Physical therapists shall participate in efforts to meet the health needs of people locally, nationally, or globally.
 - 8B: Physical therapists shall advocate to reduce health disparities and health care inequities, improve access to health care services, and address the health, wellness, and preventive health care needs of people.

We all have biases that can potentially negatively impact patients. The patients who need our help the most are also the most likely to experience bias in the medical setting: individuals with disabilities, individuals of varying body sizes, individuals with low socioeconomic status, and individuals with varying education, among others.

The first step toward challenging our biases is to recognize them. Project Implicit is an international collaboration between researchers interested in implicit social cognition – thoughts, and feelings outside of an individual's conscious control. As part of Project Implicit, you can choose tasks and receive feedback on Implicit Bias regarding race, religion, sexuality, mental health, and more. To take any of the surveys within Project Implicit and receive feedback on implicit biases you may have, please use the link below:

Select a Test (harvard.edu)



APTA Michigan Classifieds

The place to find physical
therapy jobs in Michigan. APTA
Michigan members receive a
discount on job postings. The
cost is just \$50/month. Go to
[aptami.org/classifieds!](http://aptami.org/classifieds)

School News

Andrews University

Submitted by Bill Scott, PT, MSPT

The Andrews University DPT program was delighted that one of our own was awarded the APTA Michigan Outstanding Clinician Award this past year. Dr. Gregory Almeter is the orthopedics coordinator for our program. Dr. Almeter has consistently shown dedication to the growth of our students as a teacher and mentor. He has contributed to the overall development of orthopedic skills and, most importantly, contributed to the development of clinicians that are caring individuals. We are proud to have him as part of our family and congratulate him on this accomplishment.



Motion is Medicine 5k and Fun Run



Dr. Gregory Almeter
PT, DScPT, OCS

Students from the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program have been putting their skills to use through service. Andrews University and the Senior Center of St. Joseph partner in providing exercise classes for patients with Parkinson's Disease in the southwest Michigan area. Our students look forward to assisting Rocco Sarli, PTA, to deliver meaningful education and movement to the Parkinson's clientele each week. Students also can volunteer at the Monthly Herbie Clinic in Niles, MI, to provide physical therapy services to the uninsured and other medical professionals in the area. This has proven to be an excellent way for our students to have interprofessional experiences during their time in the program and give back to our local community.

The Class of 2023 initiated the first annual Motion is Medicine 5k and Fun Run here on campus. This experience was to bring the community together to raise money for the Herbie Clinic and the school. This event was highlighted by a challenging course and live music to welcome us to the finish line. The event successfully raised \$1500 for the Herbie Clinic and brought 100 participants to campus.

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Baker College, Metro Campus

Submitted by Sue Tomica, PT, DPT

After two long years, we are happy to have a sense of normalcy back this year! Since Baker College has consolidated the Allen Park, Clinton Township, and Auburn Hills campuses, Baker College of Auburn Hills is now known as Baker College Metro Campus. Congratulations to our 2021 graduates who completed the PTA Program in December. We have a small but strong group of 13 PTA students in our 2022 cohort heading out on their first clinical experience at the end of May.

Some highlights for this year include:

- We welcomed Elizabeth Closser, PTA, as Director of Clinical Education of the Metro PTA Program this April. She comes to us with expertise in neurological rehabilitation with extensive experience as a Clinical Instructor.
- The Metro PTA students participated in a "Developing Empathy for Older Individuals with Sensory Deficits" activity which included discussions about aging, disability, and implicit bias.
- The Metro PTA students collaborated with Oakland University's DPT students and undergraduate students to review neuroanatomy in the cadaver lab.
- Baker College PTA Programs (Auburn Hills/Metro, Owosso, Muskegon) present our Annual Clinical Appreciation Event on May 17 with a virtual presentation on Implicit Bias.
- The Metro PTA Program is excited about our upcoming move to the new Royal Oak campus this fall! Updates for the new campus can be found [here](#).

Thank you to all our clinical faculty committed to mentoring our students and taking them to the finish line!

School News

Baker College – Owosso Campus

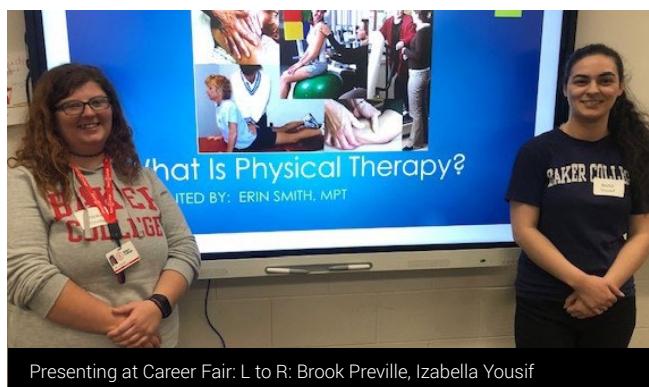
Submitted by Erin Smith, BHS, MPT

Baker College is back to 100% in-person classes, and the mask mandate has also ended. The PTA students much appreciate spending more time on campus, participating in study sessions, and being able to see all of their classmates' and instructors' faces.

- As part of our functional mobility class this past Fall, our students spent time combing the campus for situations that did not meet ADA Guidelines. They are currently in the process of developing a report to share with campus leadership.
- We had six students attend the Student Conclave in Kalamazoo on April 1st. The students enjoyed the topics presented and came back to our Cardiopulmonary class with some "fun facts" they had learned to share with their classmates.
- Two of our students had the opportunity to attend a middle school career day and talk about the wonderful field of physical therapy and the differences between PT and PTA.
- We are happy to report that all of our 2021 graduates actively seeking employment have been hired! Many of our graduates had to choose from 2-3 offers, which is very reassuring as our profession navigates through the recent changes in reimbursement for PTA services.



Student Conclave L to R: Andrew Carpenter, Jim Rumsley, Brooke Preville, Maggie Olander, Molly Nevins, Izabella Yousif



Presenting at Career Fair: L to R: Brook Preville, Izabella Yousif

Central Michigan University

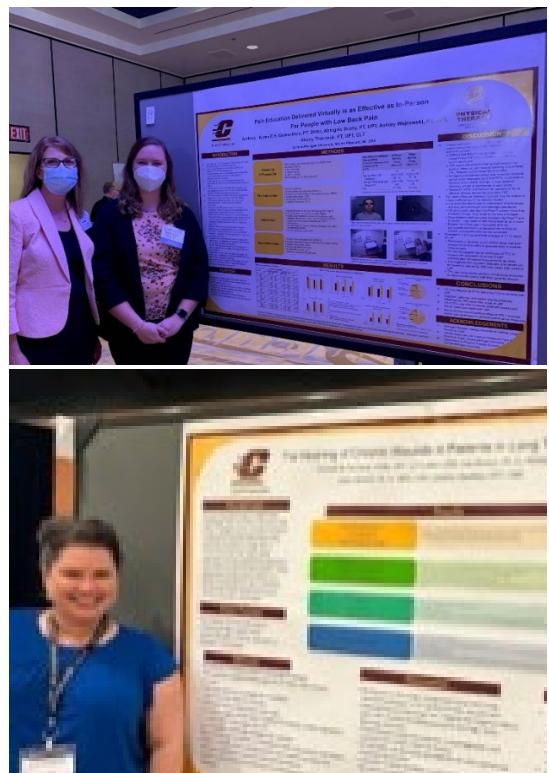
Submitted by: Rochelle Kopka (Bourassa), DHSc, DPT, CLT-LANA, CWS

The faculty and students at Central Michigan University's Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy have not let a pandemic slow their research and community-service involvement. Recent CMU DPT graduate Abby Flamino ('21) and adjunct faculty member Monica Aho, DPT, lobbied on behalf of students with disabilities for the Michigan High School Athletic Association to allow athletes in wheelchairs to compete in high school athletics. MHSAA, in turn, added wheelchair races to the track and field season and a new Paralympic swim event!

The class of 2023 has also been busy. Ally Duley, Jenna Baase, Mitch Anderson, Madison Kulik, Zarine Minwalla, and Brady Griffith won the CMU Community Engagement Partnership - Graduate Award for their work with MPFit and the MOVE! Exercise class.

We want to offer a word of congratulations to some of the faculty in the DPT program here at CMU. Dr. Jamie Haines was recently promoted to Associate Professor and received tenure status! Dr. John Andraka received the CMU Excellence in Teaching Award for 2022! Dr. Caroline Gwaltney received the CMU Excellence in Teaching Award for 2021!

Dr. Rochelle Kopka (Bourassa) presented research findings on 'The Meaning of Chronic Wounds in Patients in Long Term Care' in collaboration with Dr. Laura Santurri, Dr. Lisa Borrero, and Dr. Caroline Gwaltney at the Symposium on Advanced Wound Care in Phoenix, AZ. Dr. Gwaltney also presented her research on 'Establishing Nitrite to Nitrate Ratios in the Clinical Wound Samples of Subjects



School News

Central Michigan University (cont'd)

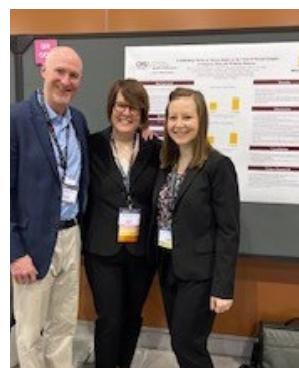
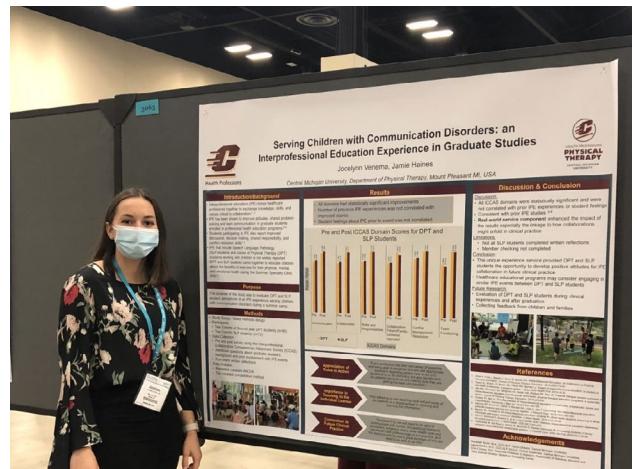
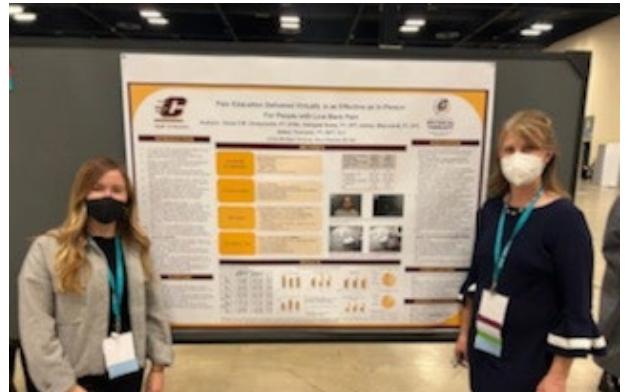
With and Without Diabetes,' in collaboration with CMU DPT Alumni Emily (Cook) Compagner and Ashley (Kennedy) Meshigaud; UP Health System - Portage surgeon W. Wade Liston, Michigan Technological University Biomedical Engineering doctoral alumnus Dr. Maria Kwasiga; and MTU faculty Dr. Smitha Rao and Dr. Megan Frost. Their research was selected to be a part of the Grand Rounds at the Symposium!

Current students, alumni, and faculty represented CMU at the Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in San Antonio, Texas, February 2-5. Front row (L to R): Ashley Wejrowski ('21), Nadia Wahid ('17), Haven Westra ('24), Jocelynn Venema ('22). Back row (L to R): Sophia Grossnickle ('24), Hunter Lamarch ('24), Karen Grossnickle, MSPT, DHSc, Director of Clinical Education and Associate Professor.

Jocelyn Venema ('22) presented the findings of her research conducted with Dr. Jaime Haines, Department of Physical Therapy, examining the collaboration and inter-professional experience of Doctor of Physical Therapy students and Speech-Language Pathology students. Their research identified the development of positive attitudes for future collaboration in clinical practice. These findings were presented at the 2022 Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in San Antonio, TX, February 2-5.

Karen Grossnickle, PT, DHSc, DPT faculty member, and Abbigale Brady, PT, DPT ('21) presented findings from their research project conducted with Ashley Wejrowski, PT, DPT ('21) and Abbey Thornock, PT, DPT, CLT ('20) at the American Physical Therapy Association - Michigan Chapter Annual Fall Conference at the Motor City Casino, Detroit, MI on October 15 as well as the 2022 Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in San Antonio, TX, February 2-5. Their work identified that a therapeutic pain neuroscience education session positively altered the beliefs and attitudes people with chronic low back pain have about their low back pain and their ability to manage it.

On Friday, May 6, the faculty and staff in the DPT program held the 26th Annual Research and Case Report Colloquium to recognize and celebrate the research and clinical case reports of the class of 2022!



School News

Delta College

Submitted by Chris Hausbeck, PT, DPT

As another academic year ends, I am reminded of the commitment from our many clinical partners/instructors, employers, and community supporters. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to knowledge sharing. Therapists, if you are within driving distance of Delta College and have ever contemplated becoming a clinical instructor, please get in touch with us. It's a fantastic way to give back to the profession, foster professional growth, and earn (free) PDRs.

In January, we partnered with our friends at MidMichigan College and Kellogg Community College to host a Scorebuilders review course on campus.

In March, the first-year students held a successful food drive to collect donations for the student food pantry at Delta College.

Our students attended the APTA-MI Student Conclave and Pain Summit in April and were proud to bring home the coveted golden gait belt for most money raised from a PTA program!

We celebrated the accomplishments of our second-year students at an in-person pinning ceremony and commencement on April 29, 2022.

The first-year students are looking forward to having the summer off from classes. Still, they plan to stay busy with community events such as fundraisers, 5K charity walks/runs, volunteering at the local Paralympic games, and doing a river clean-up. They are also eagerly planning another Color Run for September 2022.

The program would like to acknowledge Riley Graham as the recipient of the 9th annual Outstanding Achievement as a PTA Student award. Riley exemplifies all of the APTA value-based behaviors for the PTA and is well-deserving of the award.

In closing, the Delta College PTA faculty would like to congratulate its graduating class of 2022! Please join me in celebrating the accomplishments of these new healthcare professionals: Malia Alonzo, Alissa Berthiaume, Blake DeSander, Riley Graham, Courtney King, Miranda Lienau, Faith Maurer, Emily Meschke, Jacinda Rezler, Brady Suszko, and Rachel WeisbARTH. Congratulations graduates!



PTA class of 2022 with the program faculty

Grand Valley State University

Submitted by Bonni Kinne, PT, DHSc

On April 30th, we celebrated the many accomplishments of the Class of 2022 at our annual DPT Celebration. During this event, the following students were recognized for receiving Graduate School Citation Awards: Lillian Lieffers (Academic Excellence in the Degree Program); Sebastian Vanderest (Outstanding Publication); Zachary Capulong (Excellence in Service to the Community or Profession); Jammie Hernandez (Excellence in Leadership and Service to GVSU); and Joshua Olson (Promoting Diversity and Inclusion at GVSU). Other students who received recognition were: Hayley Hall (Niemeyer Award), Malorie Vasseur (Excellence in a Discipline), and Rebecca Prevost and Troy Venneman (Phi Kappa Phi). We'd also like to congratulate Kaitlyn Reed from the Class of 2023 (Solstice Scholarship) and Professor Cathy Harro (Graduate Student Association Outstanding Teacher Award).

Earlier in April, the Class of 2023 (under the direction of Margaret Boerst, Kara Harrington, Jennifer Jenkinson, and Sophia Kleinheksel) hosted the 26th Annual Wheel Run Together 5K. It was the first time this event was held in person since 2019. The event raised over \$10,000 for Alternatives in Motion, a Grand Rapids-area non-profit organization.

The following faculty members published peer-reviewed journal articles with recent graduates (in parentheses): Meri Goehring (Joni Farran, Courtney Ingles, & Sarah Seelman); Cathy Harro (Ian Horak, Karlee Valley, & Drew Wagner); Bonni Kinne (Emily Bode, Sara Laisure, & Jerika Schmitt); and Laurie Stickler (Rachel Barrett, Christian Hoban, & Alexis VanDusen). Finally, educational sessions were presented by Professor Michael Shoemaker (APTA Combined Sections Meetings) and by Professor Brianna Chesser (APTA Michigan Spring Conference).



Margaret Boerst, Kara Harrington, Sophia Kleinheksel, & Jennifer Jenkinson at the Wheel Run



GVSU faculty and students at the APTA Combined Sections Meeting

School News

Kellogg Community College

Submitted by Tracy Wood, PTA

The KCC PTA Program is graduating 12 students this Spring (we started with a reduced number to accommodate for COVID restrictions in 2020). There are currently 20 students in the first year, and they begin clinical experiences in the Fall of 2022.

The PTA Program would like to recognize the Class of 2022 Student Award Recipients:

- Darren Langford, Outstanding PTA Graduate
- Stephanie McLochlin, Outstanding Clinical Student
- Kathleen Weessies, Outstanding Academic Student

Our two Outstanding Clinical Instructors for the 2021- 2022 year are Jessica Fountain, PTA, Oaklawn Rehabilitation, Marshall and Abbie Wischmeyer, PTA, ProMedica, Coldwater.

New for Fall 2022, the PTA Program will include a Service Learning component. We are excited about the opportunity to engage students in regular service to the community and integrate their experiences with course content.

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Mid Michigan College

Submitted by Crystal Parker, PTA, BS

The Mid Michigan College PTA program was proud to graduate the class of 2022 at an in-person graduation ceremony for the first time in two years. Nine students completed the program and clinical education in a variety of settings. The program faculty would like to honor the clinical instructors who volunteer their time and strategically plan various learning experiences for the PTA students. Their expertise in mentoring and role-modeling guides the PTA students in achieving entry-level performance by completing their final clinical education experience.

The first week of May, two graduates, Sarah Paisley and Taylor Stanley-Mogg hosted students from the Gratiot-Isabella Technical Education Center's Health Occupations Program. They introduced the students to their academic path entering the PTA program and answered questions about the PTA career. As a result, several GITEC students left very enthusiastically with plans to apply to Mid Michigan College to pursue the PTA program.

At the beginning of each semester, the PTA second-year students experience an interprofessional education (IPE) event with the newly admitted nursing students. The PTA students develop their skills in education by instructing the nursing students in PROM exercise, transfers, and gait training. In this way, the PTA students promote nurses' safety in patient handling. The IPE sessions mutually benefit all students and encourage collaboration in patient care.

The PTA program is looking forward to the next academic year with enthusiasm as there has been an expansion in the curriculum in the rehabilitation content, and new equipment was purchased. The program wishes all the educational programs and clinical instructors a memorable summer.



Mid's Graduating PTA Class 2022 with Instructors



PTA 2022 Graduates

School News

Mott Community College

Submitted by: Anar Guru, PT, DPT, Program Director



The faculty at Mott Community College would like to congratulate the Class of 2022, who recently finished their in-person coursework and are nearing completion of their final clinical rotations. While they could not attend the APTA Michigan Student Conclave due to their ScoreBuilders weekend course, this group recently had the opportunity to participate in the Mott Community

College-sponsored [Implicit Bias in Healthcare](#) Training. The MDHHS conducted this training, and we thank them for their willingness to bring the training to Mott. Between this, their inter and intra-professional collaborations, didactic and clinical work, and their great experience with the mock interview panel, we are confident that the Class of 2022 is ready to contribute to the profession as well-prepared PTAs. The final hurdle will be the NPTE which our graduates will take this July. We wish our students and all who will be testing soon the very best of luck.

The class of 2023 is in full swing into their Summer course and lab work, as well as their first clinical experience. This month, this group also participates in their first IPE experience with The University of Michigan -Flint DPT first-year students and will experience an interactive simulation experience in acute care in the MCC Sim Lab.

Mott would like to wish a warm welcome to the incoming Applied Anatomy and Kinesiology Pre-PTA students who were accepted and received their invitations to the course this month. We will be hosting a full Pre-PTA group this year and are looking forward to a solid first-year cohort representing the class of 2024.



Class of 2023 having a good time in lab



MCC PTA 2022 Program Graduates

Oakland University

Submitted by Lori Boright PT, DPT, DScPT

Oakland University third-year Doctor of Physical Therapy students had the opportunity to participate in an Implicit Bias Workshop this winter semester provided by Oakland University School of Health Sciences Associate Professor and Chair of the Public and Environmental Wellness Department, Dr. Rebecca Cheezum, MPH, Ph.D. The two-hour session was interactive and engaged the students in concepts of cultural humility and competence and guided self-exploration related to these essential concepts. This content was provided as a component of their Professional Issues II course.



OU DPT faculty have recently partnered with clinical experts in acute care settings and a team of graduate assistants to develop and implement an acute care "boot camp." The boot camp will help review acute care curriculum content and provide an opportunity to integrate and apply foundational concepts at an opportune time before beginning their terminal acute care clinical affiliations. Additional acute care equipment and supplies were acquired, and an entire laboratory space was reconfigured within the Human Health Building (and re-named the Community Engagement and Simulation Lab) to house this comprehensive experience. Eight clinical case studies were developed of varying complexity and required management of various tubes and lines, adaptive equipment, and assistive devices, with the additional option to "complicate" the intervention with medical instability. The laboratory space now offers four complete hospital rooms, one outfitted with simulated telemetry capabilities, safe patient handling lift equipment, and an electronic medical record/documentation station. Piloting this project took place this spring and was very well received by students and faculty. Faculty contributors included: Drs. Sara Arena, Kris Thompson, Jacqueline Scully, Chris Wilson, and Lori Boright. Clinical experts included: Joyce Swartz, Kellee Brown, and Megan Sechnick. Student graduate assistants included: Brant Cassidy, Sarah Federow, Carly Pawlitz, Kirstie Peck, Hannah Rager, Emme Soley, Jarred Waite, and Alli Zornow.

Several OU DPT faculty and students attended CSM 2022 in San Antonio, TX, to present research platform, poster, educational, and networking sessions.

Dr. Chris Wilson, Associate Professor, was honored with two awards at CSM 2022 by APTA Oncology, the President's Award, and the Debra Flomenhoff Humanitarian Award.

School News

U-M Flint

Submitted by Jennifer Blackwood, PT, Ph.D

2022 marks the 70th year of existence of our PT program at Michigan. Early in this historic year, we lost one of our best as we received notice that former faculty member, program director, and leader in the profession, Dr. Dick Darnell PT, Ph.D., FAPTA, passed away. Dr. Darnell was an instrument of change in so many areas of PT practice in our state, with a significant impact on advancing physical therapy research. As a department, we plan to honor him and others at our 70th-anniversary event, which is scheduled outdoors in Ann Arbor on September 24th. Details of the event will be shared on our socials @umichflintpt and through alumni email communications.

The Physical Therapy Department at the University of Michigan – Flint is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). We had a successful Spring Continuing Education series that included almost 500 attendees during our virtual interactive webinars, which included live synchronous interaction on the topic of DEI. The courses focused on implicit bias in healthcare and the ways our identities matter in physical therapy. We will be hosting a similar series this Fall and hope that many of you will join us as we work together to drive social change.

Additionally, our College of Health Sciences Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee has been critical in the development and implementation of five mandatory training modules for all faculty, staff, and students in the areas of Social Determinants of Health, Biases, and Microaggressions, Intercultural Communication, Policy and Advocacy to Promote Health Equity and History of Systemic Racism. These opportunities have created shared learning experiences across multiple professions within the College.

Lastly, we have had the chance to celebrate some incredible accolades at Michigan: Dr. Leslie Smith and colleagues received the University of Michigan Center for Interprofessional Education (IPE) 2022 Award for IPE Innovation & Excellence. Dr. Laura Smith and colleagues won the Provost's Teaching Innovation Prize at UM. Our students were not excluded from the awards: 3rd-year student Lauren Lawler received the Most Promising Pediatric Clinician Award by Chicago Kids Therapy; 2nd-year students Sarah Stine, Cassidy Davis, and Ben Hartley received philanthropic Solstice Scholarship awards; and our student-run pro-bono clinic, HEART, won the University of Michigan – Flint Student Organization of the Year award! See you in September. Go Blue!

Wayne State University

Submitted by Andrew Moul, PT, DPT, NCS

It has been another busy start to the year at Wayne State University. It promises to continue as we transition from a period of remote learning and COVID restrictions to a post-COVID world of in-person classes and live events. The students and faculty did not let the challenges of the past few years slow them down at all. There are so many stories and individuals that we would like to highlight, but here are just a few.

- The 2nd year DPT students participated in two new events this year. One was an Implicit Bias Workshop which included a 3-hour live event learning about what implicit bias is, how to understand and challenge your biases, and learning from each other, including personal stories. Here is a quote from a 2nd-year student after completing the workshop "I learned more about my classmates who I spend every day with because we were able to have conversations that we otherwise wouldn't have. I want to apply this concept to my future clinicals and professional career so I can be aware of and appreciate the differences of all of those that I interact with." And another, "At this point in PT school, I thought I knew my cohort very well, but I was amazed to hear such personal and deep stories from my classmates about their beliefs and upbringings."
- Virtual Advocacy Day. When the in-person Legislative Advocacy Day was canceled, Wayne State stepped up and planned a virtual advocacy day for the 2nd year students who were learning about advocacy and legal issues in class. The event was heralded as a great success by participants and on social media. Speakers at the event included: State Representative for the 60th District Julie Rogers, State Senator for the 1st District Stephanie Chang, APTA-MI President Edward Mathis, APTA-MI Legislative Director Abby Skallerud, and APTA Manager of State Affairs Daniel Markels.
- 2nd-year student James McLean shared his story about being a black student at the Wayne State DPT program in an article during February, which is Black History Month. James's article, titled **Black experiences in health education: DPT student James McLean**, can be found by clicking on this link <https://cphs.wayne.edu/news/black-experiences-in-health-education-dpt-student-james-mclean-44276#.Yg5f4xFnIc.link>



James McLean, SPT



Assistant Professor Andrew Moul and SPT Kayla Durbin present check to RIM Sportsability

School News

Wayne State University (cont'd)

- All three classes worked hard to raise money for charity and other good causes this semester. The 1st and 3rd-year students raised the most money during last semester's "penny wars" fundraiser. They donated it to The Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan's Sportsability program, which plans to use the \$900 donation to help fund an accessible softball program in 2022. Additionally, the students at WSU reclaimed the "Golden Goniometer" this year after raising the most money for the MPTPAC at Student Conclave last month.
- WSU faculty Moh Malek was awarded the prestigious President's Award for Excellence in Teaching at Wayne State University after a group of his current and former students banded together to nominate Professor Malek.
- Other exciting faculty news includes Dr. Sara Maher being promoted to full professor – clinical. This is along with her promotion to Interim Associate Dean for Health Sciences. Dr. Diane Adamo was also promoted to Interim Chair of Health Care Sciences.
- Upcoming Events at Wayne State University:
 - White Coat Ceremony on May 3rd. The White Coat Ceremony celebrates students after completing their second year of didactic learning as they transition into their full-time clinicals.
 - Physical Therapy Research Symposium on May 18th. The keynote speaker for this year's event is Jill Heathcock, MPT, Ph.D., associate professor of physical therapy, and director of the Infant Lab at the Ohio State University. The event will also highlight our student research from the past year.



Please follow us on Social Media to learn more about our program and to keep up to date with the latest from our students and faculty.

@WSUDPT on Instagram
@WSUDPT on Twitter
@waynestatedpt on Facebook



WSU DPT students Zoey Bezila, Nicole Hawes, Anna Krinke, Bri Pajakowski, Josh Plonka, and Bella Sortzi



2nd Year DPT students connecting with fellow PT and State Rep Julie Rogers

Western Michigan University

Submitted by: Rodney Weir, DPT, DHS, NCS

The students at WMU have been busy, with the 1st year students wrapping up the Spring Term while the 2nd year students are out completing a full-time clinical rotation. A group of over 20 students from both classes represented the department at the APTA-MI Student Conclave in early April, with the event taking place in Kalamazoo. The faculty and staff are proud of our students and their involvement in our profession.

The first-year students also participated in an interprofessional student poster presentation through the College of Health & Human Services. The students presented projects completed during a course at the expo on 4/22 with students from Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physician Assistant, Speech-Language Pathology, and Audiology. The students represented the program well while interacting with students and faculty from the college.

