

RIPPT Business Meeting
2019 ELC Meeting, October 19, 2019, 8:00-9:30 am
Hyatt Regency Bellevue Hotel, Seattle, Washington, Room: Grand G

Tentative Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes – CSM 2019 business meeting

Approved

Attendance- 45 members and affiliated members

2. Announcements:

- a. New RIPPT Associate Member Advisor – Sujay Galen, PT, PHD from Department of Physical Therapy. Georgia State University.
- b. RIPPT events At CSM 2019:
 - i. RIPPT Consortium Business Meeting: Thursday, Feb 13, 2020

3. New officers starting at the end of this ELC meeting:

- a. Chair – Debbie Givens
- b. Vice Chair (Chair elect) – Mary Shall
- c. Secretary - Stacy Fritz

4. Report of PhD Shortage Taskforce (*Jim Gordon*):

- a. Progress to date. Jim Gordon is planning on restarting this taskforce at the business meeting. I suggest to convert this to an ACAPT taskforce since it will be hard to do it within RIPPT as we need administrative support. Jim will put in a motion at this RIPPT business meeting so we can put forth a request to the ACAPT board. Jim will make a case that this is not just a research problem, it's a faculty/academic problem and ACAPT should be assisting with this. If resurrected this taskforce should coordinate with the DPT postdoctoral research fellowship Taskforce (see item 5).

- **Timeline**

- ELC 2016 - discussion of critical shortage of PhDs
- Spring 2017 – RIPPT proposes motion to ACAPT membership
- May 2017 – ACAPT membership authorizes RIPPT task force
- ELC 2017 – Presentation on PhD shortage, including data collected by John Buford
- Fall 2017 – Task force formed (Chair by John Buford and Debbie Givens)
- 2018 – Task force stalls because of lack of resources- no staff support
- ELC 2018 – Discussion of lack of progress
- CSM 2019 – Jim Gordon volunteers to take over task force to get support

- **Next Steps**

- Goal: ACAPT Task force with full support and adequate resources
- Goal: Full discussion of the problem at ACAPT business meeting
- How to get there?
 - RIPPT membership would need to pass motion to request full support from the ACAPT board
- Motion
 - *The membership of RIPPT requests that ACAPT form a task force to address the mounting problem of too few US trained DPTs applying to PhD programs to be trained as researchers. This task force will be given the authority and resources to 1 study the extent of the problem and the underlying causes; 2 develop strategies for increasing the number of DPTs who go on to earn PhDs including marketing and education campaigns, increased funding for DPT-PhD pathways, and investigation of alternative pathways (e.g., DPT postdoc research training)*
 - Fiscal Impact: ACAPT will have to provide financial resources to support: 1 assignment of a staff member for ongoing management of the task force 2 meetings and communications of task force members
- Discussion regarding Motion
 - University of WA delegate (Murray Maitland)– Sees a shortcoming in the motion that its open-ended with no budget. Needs a more complete, definitive proposal and budget. Cross out items 2 and 3 and focus on item 1 of the motion. This will hopefully get the resources in a defined limited term.
 - John Buford – Normally ACAPT would just grant \$2000 to a taskforce like this. Normal course of events for this motion would be: the person bringing the motion would consult with John and a Reference Committee Member to rewrite the motion to be in the language the ACAPT board likes. Does not need to go before a business meeting to be approved, but this step is important to do as a communication vehicle, time on the regular business meeting to get attention on this issue. The board can approve the motion without approval of the membership. We want to try and get it in front of them to get their attention on it. Will probably want to target ELC next year for this, as CSM is more of an informal get-together whereas ELC is the more formal business meeting where everyone gets together.
 - Jim Gordon – Feels that we need to take a different approach because this has not worked for us before.
 - John Buford - It would be unusual for ACAPT to devote substantial support to a taskforce, not that its impossible, but would not be the norm. The Educational Leadership Partnership would be another group to get to support this. We would also want to get APTA support if we want this to be really big, because they have the funding and the resources to support this kind of endeavor.
 - Gammon Earhart – ELP just had a meeting, one of the top 3 priorities they voted on was the shortage of faculty, so they are bringing this as a top priority to a meeting in Nov, so if we are able to partner with them and show that there is attention on this issue from multiple areas

- Mark Bowden, MUSC - Different set of goals, PTs doing research vs. PhDs being trained as faculty. Our message may be mixed and we may need to be more clear about research vs. PhDs
- Jim Gordon- A big problem for everybody is there aren't enough PhDs who are Physical Therapists. Not just a problem for Research-Intensive institutions. Deleting research from our motion might broaden its appeal.
- John Buford and Debby Givens – Problem before wasn't just money, it was the lack of staff support, resources, and time to accomplish what needed to be done.
- ?? – How much money does the task force need to accomplish the goal?
- Jim Gordon – A few thousand dollars for meeting and travel, but what the taskforce really needs in the beginning is allocation of time and resources for support staff to work on this.
- Debby Givens– Need a lot of resources to complete objectives.
- ?? – Looking at these goals, we need to flip them, number 3 should be the first goal.
- Jim Gordon – We can't make a motion to APTA or ELP, the only official organization we can go to is ACAPT. We need APTA and they should be looking at and mining membership data. He's talked to them about it and they keep saying its hard and they don't have the time/resources to work on it right now. Agrees it will take a bigger group of people, but ACAPT will have the leverage to take this to APTA.
- Debby Givens – We hear about this shortage of faculty, but then also this blowback on CAPTE about changes in programs and whether PhDs are a lucrative thing to do. No urgency in the house of delegates about the faculty shortage as a big national issue.
- ?? – Another underlying point is the focus of research education within the DPT program. Need to focus on the problem that DPT students are not exposed to research training enough to get them interested in wanting to pursue it further beyond their DPT program.
- ?? – How many people are PhD faculty who will be retiring in the next 5 years? What will this do to our programs in terms of leadership, funding, etc.?
- ?? – We should send this motion to the ACAPT board with a budget of maybe \$5000, make a point of why we want a little extra money than they usually give out. If they don't support it, we bring it to the floor at ELC next year and say "this will affect you because you will not be able to reach your 50% PhD goal for CAPTE". Why wait a year if we could try and start movement on this right away by going straight to the ACAPT board?
- Jim Gordon – Jim needs staff support, extra money will not get him any closer to being able to accomplish this.
- John Budford – Suggestion is that there are a couple approaches that could help move this forward. We don't need to change the motion a whole lot other than to say we need **to dedicate significant staff resources to this**. Look at pending retirements across the country and other large scale database efforts to make it clear the scope of work and why we need the type of money we need to

accomplish what needs to be done. We can change up some of the language at the end to name **the Educational Leadership Partnership**, already a structure through which APTE, APTA, and ACAPT provide a significant amount of money every year to have a more substantial budget. ACAPT's staff right now for the entire org is 2-3 people, so there is just no way for them to provide staff support. They are also having to deal with standing up their own office because the APTA is not providing as much support, so we need to pull in the APTA. Will have to go through the ELP if we are going to operate at the scale we want to operate at.

- ?? – Are there Dept. of Ed. Grants we can apply for to help with this?
- ?? – Foundation has \$40K for educational research, but finding difficulty finding people to give it to. This could be something to look into.
- ?? – We need to get this group to align with the academic faculty group that could bring us in the door to the ELP
- **Summary: Consider electronic vote in RIPPT members to move forward. J. Gordon to push forward, but he was clear that he will not do it without staff support.**

5. Update of the DPT postdoctoral research fellowship Taskforce (Rick Segal)

- a. ACAPT is supporting a taskforce to consider to explore the need and format of an additional mechanism of creating PT researcher by training research minded DPTs. *John Buford* will provide an update on the findings to date of the DPT postdoctoral research fellowship taskforce.

- *John Buford* – Formed a task force last spring, Rick Segal was the chair. They pulled together a number of meetings over the summer to tackle this question. Because Jules Dewald said we would like \$120,000 to support 2 students nation wide, the board decided to study the problem and see what we're talking about, gave us the report in September. Surveyed a bunch of program directors to see if they had any people like Mike Ellis on their faculty, and if so to tell us about them. Those individuals were then interviewed further to find out what they had in common. They had all had mentoring in research all the way back to their time as a DPT student, even undergrad honors research. They had been involved from the get-go and active as DPTs in research enterprises, their mentors were successful NIH-funded independent investigators. Most had had some type of a role as a research coordinator or research PT for someone else's grant, and had also had a DPT position in an environment with a lot of other researchers and successful scientists. At some point, someone then told them they should become independent investigators instead of just working on others research. Task force found this whole process took these individuals about 18 years from graduation to their first R01, which was not slower than the rate most PhDs get their first R01, but this process could be sped up with more direct training toward this. Found that Pharmacy was a good example of a similar path to what DPT investigators could take. Potential funding mechanisms were looked at by the task force, training grants have received pushback for trying to operate this type of thing at scale because they want more examples of success to prove this isn't a fluke. The ACAPT board received the report and is favorable

towards the idea, would fund through a combined effort between ACAPT, APTE, APTA, and the Foundation. Want to develop a pilot program for postdoctoral funding for these types of individuals who already have a track record in research, publications, looks like a successful PhD student already despite not having a PhD. Have already proven themselves as having interest in getting involved in research. The institute where the training would occur would have to be a top notch one with multiple faculty with NIH funding, history of training former PhD and Postdoc trainees who had gone on to be successful, should have a CTSA, PhD program, etc. at the training site to ensure the success of these individuals. Have proven themselves to be excellent training sites that produce top-notch faculty. Could support a situation where the trainee is at an institution that is not research-intensive so long as they are also working with a mentor at a research-intensive institution nearby. Objective should be 3-4 years of training, institutional match to demonstrate the institution is supportive of this. Just like with an F32, the advisor would need to have substantial extramural funding, and the money from the Foundation is just covering the salary of the PhD as well as costs for their travel to meetings, but not the funding for the actual research. The training plan should also include a path to independence, starting working on their mentor's work and then transitioning to their own work. **Next step is to get concrete on the dollar amount and work on language for the proposal and application, review criteria for the Foundation to get ELP funding to support this.**

- Jim Gordon – Would this individual be funded for 3-4 years?
- John Buford– 2-3 as a postdoc, should be at least 75% research time and an institutional match around 25%, funding for the research comes from the institution
- Jim Gordon – Sounds like PhD training
- John Buford– Would not involve coursework for the most part, unless a couple courses are necessary. Is more focused on the actual research. DPTs might need a couple courses about doing research but not a lot of coursework.
- Jules Dewald – NU has submitted a T32 that is similar to this idea as a proof of concept for ACAPT for how this might work. You don't need to necessarily wait for ACAPT money, but if you have a very qualified individual you could steer them in this direction by also having qualified DPT applicants write a NIH F31 NRSA postdoctoral grant.

6. RIPPT Webmaster transition (*Tom Reeder*)

- a. Update on the RIPPT webpage including analytics about the use of the RIPPT webpage. Tom Reeder will report on the progress of data entry related to grants and papers from RIPPT associated universities. He has been keeping a running list of issues he finds, such as the need to increase search abilities across universities, which he has been communicating to the ACAPT web team. As Tom will be leaving Northwestern University to pursue a career in computer security, Fang Gao, the senior IT person at NU-PTHMS will take over the RIPPT webmaster duties. Tom has been debriefing Fang already. Fang Gao can be reached at f-gao@northwestern.edu if questions/suggestions regarding the RIPPT webpage come up.
- b. The ACAPT RIPPT website is also providing a means to advertise predoc and postdoc opportunities. Fang will continue to work on this aspect of the webpage as well and

will make certain that this remains up to date.

Something folks can do is to add a link to their database page to their institution's website. This will drive more traffic to the database and is a way to use the data once it is in the database. overview: Goal is to "know PT's that get grants". Trying to update grants and publications. 27/55 institutions updated. Goal is 100% participation. In order to make it more searchable to give opportunities for collaboration. Analytics of the page- most going straight to page, so just entering info. PhD listing is most popular.

7. RIPPT Informative Programs

- a. ACAPT RIPPT has been sponsoring informative sessions over the last couple of years however the format for submission at ELC and CSM is more in a research study submission format. The RIPPT proposes to create an annual symposium with the support of ACAPT where matters of importance to create competitive research programs can be discussed. What topics should be discussed?
 - i. Resources made available to faculty in Universities and Institutes with CTSA grants.
 - ii. Other suggestions:
 - Jules: Who has other ideas for future symposiums?
 - o Debby Givens – Brief step back, we were not the only consortium whose program was not accepted. Biggest issue is the meeting has grown and has many more submissions now, a different process. The amount of time for programming is more and more competitive. Discussion by the board of all the competing interest at this meeting. We were the first consortia and had the opportunity to provide platform sessions. Do we take time out of the business meeting to provide an educational session? Do we submit like everyone else? A lot of other competing interest for this meeting.
 - o John Buford – A lot of big-name people were not accepted, has become a more popular and competitive meeting. Framing it as a symposium is an interesting idea. To go back to the PhD discussion, the taskforce could ask for funding to give workshops at a variety of different places where it might be effective to get that message out. Outside of getting a presentation accepted at a meeting, we could find ways to reach out to members at other venues. Do we need to have a chunk of time set aside for the consortia in ACAPT to guarantee them time to communicate with the membership deliberately?
 - o ?? – 41% acceptance rate of proposals this year. Attendance is exploding, might need to consider adding an additional day to the conference in the future, also looking at larger venues with more space.
 - o Jules Dewald– We currently have a 2-hour session, but we probably don't need 2 hours for a business meeting, could cut to a 1-hour meeting and a 1-hour symposium
 - o Debby Givens – Symposia have had a lot of aspirational/interested people, but attaching it to the business meeting might discourage those individuals from

coming.

- Jim Gordon – Make a networking event that has programming but also time for folks to interact with each other. Could even come into a conference a day early for a longer session.
- ?? – Still thinking about the physical gathering about a concept of meeting. Has there been a discussion about something pre-con that is a hybrid w/ some telecommunication component
- Debby Givens– Great idea, but there is a lot of pre-con competition with other events going on.
- ?? – Pre-con does have a lot of competition, but doesn't need to have all faculty from a program attend, could just send one rep who then reports the info back to everyone else
- ?? – Something like this might be a good CSM program if you made it more exemplary of a certain type of work (ex. CTSA).
- Topic ideas
 - When the NIH rebuffs you, having those who have been successful in getting their proposals funded
 - Mary – At CSM we have 2 sessions, one is a funding session and the second is those who have been successful in resubmitting
 - Review of grant ideas for those who want their work reviewed before submitting
 - Include programming about bringing DPT students into the lab, non-traditional ways to do that. Some programs don't have a clear opportunity for this so they need to think creatively about how to do this.
 - Include students' viewpoint on going from DPT to a successful NIH grant, combo of student and faculty experience
 - People making themselves available as consultants from a regional perspective to assist with getting research grants. People from more successful institutions make themselves available. The database could be helpful with this.
 - Workshop offering training and mentoring skills
 - Debby Givens– Hoping to start a mentorship program. Thinking about program directors who would like to mentor in how to build research programs, researchers mentoring jr. faculty
 - John Buford- What is the infrastructure required for a PT program to help faculty members succeed. How do you help faculty get from their entry level to the next level. What does it look like when you are creating the environment where someone can succeed.

8. Announcements of faculty and post-doctoral fellowship openings

- a. We'll go around the room so you can announce openings in your department/program.

- U of Miami – Two faculty positions, one PhD program director, one Jr. faculty
- UTEP – Open-rank position
- VCU- Postdoc

- Georgia Tech- eminent scholar program
- Creighton – Four positions available, outreach program in Phoenix starting up, some positions there some in Oklahoma
- UFL - Sr. Faculty in Neurorehabilitation
- Emory – Postdoc position
- U of Alabama – Program director of PhD in Rehabilitation Science
- U of Wis - Milwaukee – Associate level research faculty
- Marquette – Looking for faculty member with strong background in research funding
- Drexel – Multiple tenure and non-tenure track positions
- U of Washington – Looking for director of OT program
- UNLV – Open rank position
- St. Louis University – Tenure track position, looking for research experience
- U of MN – Non-tenure track MSK position
- UC San Fran – Neurorehabilitation researcher
- Wash U – T32 funded postdoc, open-rank clinician track position
- Rutgers – Tenure-track position, no teaching; postdoc in robotics for rehabilitation
- UCF – Tenure position open, any topic area
- NU – Two tenure-track positions, one MSK/Research at full professor level, other is more open to topic area. Also non-tenure track position available in MSK.
- If you have postdoc positions, please put them on the RIPPT website.

9. PT-PAC Scott Ward.

- Here to remind you that the funding requires advocacy as well. Everything we do professionally requires some level of advocacy and congressional approval for funding. PT-PAC does advocacy for this funding. Advocates for education and the research element of education. If you have not already donated, please do so.

10. Other business

- Debby Givens – One of the things we did was ask Dave to create some electronic polling
- David Scalzitti – Runs things off poll everywhere. Pollev.com/drscal
- Research section of the APTA has an evidence-based practice special interest group, looking to see if programs are using the evidence-based practice guidelines. A survey has just gone out to the program directors. If you did not receive the email, please contact the research section to get this survey out to you.
- Nominating chair will be open on the next ballot. Please see Mary Rodgers if you are interested in this position.
- Debby Givens thanked Jules Dewald for his service as the chair of RIPPT over the last 2 years.
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11. Adjourn