About Us
NIPEC Leadership and Board Member Information

NIPEC Chair: Cheryl Resnik, PT, DPT, FNAP, FAPTA

Cheryl Resnik, PT, DPT, FNAP, FAPTA
Associate Chair
Associate Professor of Clinical Physical Therapy
Director, Community Outreach
Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy at the Ostrow School of Dentistry
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Dr. Resnik is an associate professor of clinical physical therapy and associate chair of the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Dr. Resnik received her DPT from USC, a Master of Science in Health Care Management from California State University, Los Angeles, and her BS in physical therapy from the University of Maryland. An active APTA member, Dr. Resnik has served the Association in many leadership positions, including as President of the California Physical Therapy Association, Vice President of the Section on Health Policy and Administration and CPTA board of directors for six years. She served on the APTA Ethics and Judicial Committee and as the Chair of the ACAPT National Interprofessional Education Consortium since its inception. Dr. Resnik is a 2015 Distinguished Fellow of the National Academies of Practice, a non-profit interprofessional organization founded in 1981 to advise governmental bodies on our healthcare system and was named a Catherine Worthingham Fellow in 2017.

In addition to her academic responsibilities at USC, Dr. Resnik is Director of Community Outreach and is the Division representative to the USC Interprofessional Education Committee. She currently is a member of the USC Interprofessional Geriatrics Curriculum faculty that facilitates student learning through a community based, independent living elderly IPE experience.

Selected Publications:


NIPEC Vice Chair: Samantha K. Brown, PT, DPT

Samantha Brown, PT, DPT
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Dr. Brown is currently a consultant and guest lecturer and resides in Westchester County, NY. She was Clinical Assistant Professor in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, RI until 2015. Dr. Brown received her post-professional DPT from Washington University in St. Louis, her Master of Science in PT from Texas Woman’s University in Houston, TX and her Bachelor of Arts from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. She has worked in settings ranging from outpatient orthopedics to acute care and short/long term rehabilitation where she was the Rehabilitation Director. One of her primary interests while at her tenure with URI was interprofessional education where she collaborated with faculty at the URI, Rhode Island College, and Brown University to create and lead new interprofessional programming for health professional students across eight different programs. Dr. Brown was a founding member of the Rhode Island Interprofessional Collaborative, established with support from a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant. She is currently serving her second term as vice-chair of ACAPT’s National Interprofessional Education Consortium.

Selected Publications:


Selected Presentations:


Brown S, MacDonnell CP. Wound Care: Leading the Way in an Interprofessional Education Exercise. Invited poster presentation for the Symposium on Advanced Wound Care held in Las Vegas, NV (September 2015).


Dr Nithman is the Assistant Program Director and a tenured Associate Professor at Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona. After graduating Cum Laude with a B.S. in Health Sciences, Bob earned his MPT and post-professional DPT degrees, he is a PhD candidate, and is a Board Certified Geriatric Specialist. From his experiences in business start-up, interprofessional practice management, consulting, formal post-professional education, and 18 years of clinical experience, Bob’s instructional focus at Midwestern is on healthcare policy, geriatric rehabilitation, acute and home care practice, reimbursement, utilization and practice management. Bob has developed high-fidelity simulation experiences focused on the ICU setting and has recently expanded this for interprofessional collaborations. Bob has eclectic research interests including publications and presentations on high-fidelity simulation, interprofessional rehabilitation and prognostic tools, risk and strategic planning with business entity selection, technology in homecare, telerehabilitation, case management in prospective payment systems, predictive validity of admissions interviews, debate-style learning, and the relationship between ankle contractures and falls. Bob is a member of the APTA’s Education, Geriatrics, Health Policy Administration, and Home Health Sections, he was recently appointed to the FSBPT Exam Development Committee, is a member of the Academy of Geriatrics Practice Committee, and is serving his second term on the Board of ACAPT’s National Inter-Professional Education Consortium.
Dr. Wise is a professor in the College of Health Professions at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC and a 015 Distinguished Fellow of the National Academies of Practice. She is a physical therapist with a breadth of experience in both collaborative practice and interprofessional education. A graduate of Wake Forest University, Duke University, and the University of Miami in Coral Gables, FL, Dr. Wise has worked in settings ranging from acute care to rehabilitation centers, co-owned a private practice for 13 years, and co-founded two interprofessional post-polio evaluation clinics.

Dr. Wise is the Associate Director for Collaborative Practice in the Office of Interprofessional Initiatives at MUSC and has mentored students from all 6 colleges by serving as a faculty facilitator for the MUSC mandatory IP course and through numerous extracurricular IP activities including the MUSC Presidential Scholars Program and the yearly MUSC Clarion competition.

**Selected Publications:**


**Selected Abstracts:**


NIPEC Director: Nancy Kirsch, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA

Nancy Kirsch, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA
Professor and Program Director
Rutgers University
School of Health Related Professions
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Nancy Kirsch received her PT degree from Temple University, her Masters degree in Health Education from Montclair University, her PhD in health sciences concentration in ethics from Rutgers University (formerly UMDNJ) and a DPT from Massachusetts Institute of Health Professions (MGH). She is a professor and the Director of the DPT Program at Rutgers, The state University of New Jersey.

Nancy has been active in the American Physical Therapy Association since she was a student, She was President of the NJ Chapter and chief delegate and served a five year term on the APTA Ethics and Judicial Committee, including a term as chairperson and a three year term on the Reference Committee including a term as chairperson. She recently served the national association as a member of the ethics document revision task force, and Scope of Practice and Imaging Task Forces. She is currently on the NIPEC Board of Directors.

Nancy is a member of the New Jersey Board of Physical Therapy Examiners and has been involved with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy in a variety of capacities. She was elected to the FSBPT Board of Directors in 2009 and currently serves as Vice President. She was awarded the APTA Lucy Blair Service Award in 2006 and became a Catherine Worthingham Fellow in 2014.

NIPEC Director: Dee Schilling, PT, PhD

Dee Schilling, PT, PhD
Chair, Associate Dean CAHP, and Professor
Western University of Health Sciences
Department of Physical Therapy Education
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Dr. Dee Schilling is a tenured Professor at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona California where she serves as Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy Education and Associate Dean of the College of Allied Health Professions. She received her physical therapy degree from Emory, MS in Rehabilitation Medicine from the University of Washington, and a collaborative PhD in Special Education and Rehabilitation Medicine, from the University of Washington. Dee's has over 40 years of clinical experience with the majority in pediatrics within the school-based and community settings as well as serving as Rehabilitation Research Program Specialist at the Cleveland Clinic where she was responsible for the facilitation, coordination and management of Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Orthotists and Prosthetists engaging in multi-disciplinary clinical research and academic trials.

Dee is involved in multiple lines of inquiry including the role of culture in healthcare, best practice in education, humor in leadership, interdisciplinary practice and pediatrics with a focus on the sensorimotor system and the effects that dynamic seating on the academic performance and behavior of children with ADHD and children with autism.

Dee has presented across disciplines, nationally and internationally regarding interprofessional practice, leadership, sensory strategies for academic success, positive behavior support, and sensorimotor development of children with autism. She has published across disciplines including education and occupational therapy journals, contributed to multiple texts, and a chapter in “Palliative Medicine”. She is currently co-authoring a research text. She has served as editor of texts regarding culture competency and research. She also serves as a reviewer for multiple journals including the Physical Therapy Journal, Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, and International Journal of Educational Research.

Dee is a member of the APTA's Education, Research, Pediatrics, and Health Policy Administration Sections and serves on the Benchmarks of Excellence in PT Education Task Force. Additionally, Dee has been elected to serve on the Board of Alpha Eta Honor Society and serves on the Board of Directors for the Pomona Valley Boys and Girls Club.

**Selected Publications & Presentations:**


NIPEC Director: Stephen D. Jernigan, PT, PhD, FNAP

Stephen D. Jernigan, PT, PhD, FNAP
Director, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program
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Stephen D. Jernigan, PT, Ph.D., FNAP, was appointed Director of the DPT Program in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) in March 2017 and teaches the Applied Anatomy and Kinesiology courses for the program. In addition, one of his primary roles is to coordinate and participate in the interprofessional education (IPE) and practice activities that are integrated throughout the DPT curriculum at KUMC.

Dr. Jernigan’s research focus is IPE. He is heavily involved with KUMC’s Center for Interprofessional Education and Simulation as a co-lead for both the Curriculum and the Assessment and Scholarship Committees, and is the Director of the School of Health Professions’ IPE Workgroup. He is the Principle Investigator for the required, campus-wide interprofessional collaboration foundational education program and has developed an umbrella research protocol to facilitate exempt level IPE research at KUMC. Dr. Jernigan has had multiple opportunities, regionally and nationally, to train clinicians and educators about IPE and effective interprofessional facilitation. He served as the Allied Health Professions Coordinator for a 3-year, hospital-based, HRSA-funded, interprofessional collaborative practice grant and is currently a faculty mentor for numerous activities associated with an interprofessional Donald W. Reynolds Foundation - Next Steps in Physician Training in Geriatrics grant. Dr. Jernigan currently precepts health professions’ learners in interprofessional teaching clinics housed in Family Medicine. He strives to further IPE at KUMC and across the nation while collaborating alongside exceptional interprofessional colleagues who share his ultimate goal of improving healthcare.

In January 2017, Jernigan was elected Distinguished Scholar and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice in Physical Therapy. Members of this organization work together as
an interdisciplinary force to influence national health policy, legislation, and promote quality health care through cooperative advocacy, practice, education, and research.

Selected Publications


NIPEC Director: Mary Sinnott. PT, DPT, Med

Mary Sinnott, PT, DPT, Med  
Associate Professor in Physical Therapy Department  
Director of IPE and Pro Bono Services  
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Mary C. Sinnott, PT, DPT, M.Ed is an associate professor in the Department of Physical Therapy of the College of Public Health at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Sinnott serves as the Director of IPE and Pro Bono Services. She is a graduate of Temple University (BS in Physical Therapy and M.Ed in Exercise Physiology) and MGH Institute of Health Professions.

Dr. Sinnott is a past president of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Section on Health Policy and Administration. She is a past president of the APTA Academy of Acute Care. In both Section presidencies, Dr. Sinnott served two full terms in office. In addition, she
has served as a past member of the APTA Advisory Panel on Reimbursement. Dr. Sinnott served on the APTA Committee on Sections, and served on the Pennsylvania Chapter’s Practice Committee. In June 2009, Dr. Sinnott was elected to the national APTA Board of Directors for a three year term. In 2012 she was elected to a second three-year term.

Dr. Sinnott maintains her clinical practice at Temple University Hospital on the acute care consult service. In addition, she has lectured across the country on topics that range from the impact of pathophysiology on function to leading organizational change.

NIPEC Nominating Committee Chair: Amber Fitzsimmons, PT, MS, DPTSc

Amber Fitzsimmons, PT, MS, DPTSc
Assistant Professor
UCSF School of Medicine
Department of Physical Therapy
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Dr. Fitzsimmons is an Assistant Professor with joint appointments in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science and the School of Medicine’s Anatomy Department. Prior to her return to academia for her doctorate research, she worked for over a decade in clinical practice with an emphasis on acute care and acute rehabilitation. She returned to academia to pursue her interest in interprofessional education and collaborative practice research. She actively participates on the UCSF interprofessional curriculum working group committee and is the appointed lead faculty for interprofessional education within the Department of Physical Therapy. Her latest project was co-creating a faculty development workshop titled: Aha! Capitalizing on interprofessional teachable moments, designed as part of the Interprofessional Education Teaching Certificate at UCSF.

Selected Publications:


Boet S, Pigford AA, Fitzsimmons A, Reeves S, Triby E, Bould D. Interprofessional team debriefing: Just focus on reflection - a qualitative study. 2016. Journal of Interprofessional Care, under review


Nominating Committee Member: Beth P. Davis, PT, DPT, MBA

Beth P. Davis, PT, DPT, MBA
Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Medicine
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Dr. Davis received a Master of Physical Therapy from Emory University in 1997. After several years of clinical practice and management experience in outpatient orthopedics, she returned to graduate school to obtain a Master of Business Administration from Georgia State University in 2002 with a concentration in marketing. Dr. Davis received a Doctor of Physical Therapy from Emory University in 2003 and began teaching the Health Services Management course in the Emory DPT program that year. Dr. Davis joined the faculty in 2008, and currently coordinates and teaches the General Medical Conditions, Health Services and Management and the Business Management for the Physical Therapist Entrepreneur courses. Her research focuses on interprofessional team training for facilitators and students with an interest in the impact of Emory’s Interprofessional Team Training Program on communication and teamwork skills important for quality patient care. She is also involved in research related to physical therapy student education and marketing in physical therapy private practice settings.

Nominating Committee Member: Chad Lairamore, PhD, PT, NCS, GCS, FNAP

Chad Lairamore, PhD, PT, NCS, GCS, FNAP
Assistant Professor
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Dr. Lairamore is an assistant professor in the department of Physical Therapy at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA). He received his PhD and MS in Physical Therapy from UCA, and he received his Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from the University of Arkansas. He has over 15 years of clinical experience in rehabilitation for adults with neurological conditions such as stroke and brain injury. Dr. Lairamore is a board certified clinical specialist in Geriatric and Neurologic Physical Therapy from the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties. He is active in the American Physical Therapy Association, American Interprofessional Healthcare Collaborative, and was inducted as a distinguished fellow into the National Academies of Practice in Physical Therapy in 2017. Dr. Lairamore has been involved in the development of the interprofessional education initiative at UCA since he became faculty member in 2010. As the founding chair of the interprofessional education (IPE) committee in the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences, he continues to lead in the development, implementation, and assessment of the IPE program at UCA.

http://uca.edu/chbs/ipesigns

Selected Publications:


Selected Presentations:


Lairamore C, George L, Jordan K, McCullough K, Shock M. An interprofessional educational forum improves health science student cooperation and teamwork. Poster presentation at APTA Combined Sections Meeting 2012. Chicago, IL; February 2012.
Lairamore C, George L, Jordan K, McCullough K, Shock M. Poster and platform presentation. An interprofessional educational forum improves allied health student cooperation and teamwork. Platform and poster presentations at the International Association of Medical Science Educators Annual Conference. St. Petersburg, FL; June 2011.

ACAPT Liaison: Pamela Levangie, PT, DSc, DPT, FAPTA

Pamela Levangie, PT, DSc, DPT, FAPTA
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Dr. Levangie joined the MGH Institute in 2010 and was appointed Chair of the Physical Therapy Department in April 2012. Prior to her position at MGH, Dr. Levangie held long-time faculty and administrative positions at BU and Sacred Heart University, and most recently as a Visiting Professor in the PT Program at Simmons College. Dr. Levangie received her Bachelor of Science in PT from Northeastern University, her Master of Science from Boston University, her Doctor of Science in Epidemiology from Boston University's School of Public Health, and her DPT from the MGH Institute. Dr. Levangie has held many leadership positions in the APTA, including serving as President of the Section on Research, ex officio member of the Scientific Review Committee of the Foundation for Physical Therapy, and a member of the editorial board of Physical Therapy. In 2001, Dr. Levangie received the APTA's Dorothy E. Baethke-Eleanor J. Carlin Award for Excellence in Academic Teaching; and in 2009 she was elected as a Catherine Worthingham Fellow, the highest honor among APTA's membership categories.

ACAPT Liaison: Sandy Rossi

Sandy Rossi
Executive Director, ACAPT
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Sandy’s career includes over 20 years of experience in non-profit management, including board and volunteer relations, governance, policies and procedures, membership development, contract negotiations, marketing, fundraising, and strategic and financial planning. She has earned a reputation as a trusted and respected manager who inspires and builds support from the diversity of constituencies needed to build and leverage institutional values through purposeful collaborations, relationship-building and the exercise of diplomacy and sound judgment. She is a highly organized, self-motivated, results-driven leader with instincts for dissecting issues, needs, and circumstances surrounding a project while identifying and minimizing problems and risks to maximize prospects for achieving goals.