

CSM Schedule.

Section on Pediatrics  
Residency/Fellowship Meeting  
Friday, Feb. 8, 2008  
9:30-11 AM  
Section on Pediatrics Suite

The Section on Pediatrics will once again host an informal meeting to discuss establishing Pediatric Clinical Residency Programs. Please meet with your colleagues to discuss the process of establishing a residency program.

Although Oregon Health Sciences Center is still the only credentialed residency program in pediatrics I know there are several programs who are pursuing the application. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet with pediatric therapists to discuss the application process.

If you are interested in attending this meeting, please attend the Section on Pediatrics Member Appreciation Breakfast (Feb 8, 6:30-8:00 am) prior, where we will be making an announcement regarding the location of the Section suite (we don't know until the room is assigned onsite).

Hope to see you on February.

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A bit more on this. The Section had a conference call yesterday and passed a motion to allow residency and fellowship information at the Section Booth at CSM 2008, in light of the fact that we are hoping to get more pediatric residencies and fellowship up and running. So if you have information regarding a new residency or fellowship that you are hoping to get off the ground, feel free to drop it off onsite.

**FOUNDATION FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY AWARDS \$160,000  
IN CLINICAL RESEARCH GRANTS**

ALEXANDRIA, VA, January 10, 2008 — Four physical therapists each were awarded a \$40,000 research grant by the Foundation for Physical Therapy in 2007 for their 2008 projects focusing on the evaluation of the effectiveness of physical therapist interventions.

"The Foundation received outstanding proposals from a cadre of excellent physical therapist researchers," said Richard K Shields, PT, PhD, FAPTA, president/chair of the Foundation. "We are excited to provide funding in support of such a wide variety of important and exciting projects."

The awardees were Fabrisia Ambrosio, PT, MPT, PhD, assistant professor, University of Pittsburgh, for her research project, "NMES Enhances the Transplantation Potential of Stem Cells Into Dystrophic Muscle"; Beth Fisher, PT, PhD, associate professor, University of Southern California, for her research project, "Comparison of Two Locomotor Training Programs on Brain and Behavior in Early Parkinson Disease"; Hlapang A Kolobe, PT, PhD, professor, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, for her project, "Self-Initiated Prone Progression in Infants at Risk for Cerebral Palsy"; and Diane Wrisley, PT, PhD, NCS, assistant professor, University of Buffalo, for her research project, "The Use of Rotational Perturbations for Balance Training."

The grant awarded to Ambrosio was generously funded by the Legacy Endowment Fund. The grant awarded to Fisher was funded by the Magistro Family Foundation Endowment Fund. The grant awarded to Kolobe was funded by the Pediatric Endowment Fund, made possible with generous gifts from APTA's Section on Pediatrics. Wrisley's project was made possible by the 2007 Pittsburgh Marquette Challenge, an annual grassroots student fundraising effort coordinated by physical therapy students from across the country.

The Foundation for Physical Therapy was established in 1979 as a national, independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to the ultimate goal of improving the quality and delivery of patient care. The Foundation accomplishes this goal by providing support for scientifically based and clinically relevant physical therapy research.

Contributions to the Foundation for Physical Therapy are tax-deductible and can be made via check (payable to "Foundation for Physical Therapy") or credit card. Donors can contribute online at [www.foundationforphysicaltherapy.org](http://www.foundationforphysicaltherapy.org).

### **Update on the Continuum of Care for Individuals with Lifelong Disabilities Initiative**

The Continuum of Care for Individuals with Lifelong Disabilities Task Force met at APTA headquarters in November. It was a great brainstorming session, followed by one and a half days of work group time to produce our products. The group has refined their mission to address the issues in transitioning people with lifelong disabilities to adult-oriented health care and further the physical therapist's role in the prevention, diagnosis, providing ongoing support, and intervention of movement dysfunctions of people with lifelong disabilities in order to promote the highest quality of life.

The taskforce members present included: Mary Fran Delaune PT, MPT (APTA Practice Department), Toni Doty MS, PT, PCS (Pediatrics), Kirsten Ness PT, PhD (Oncology), Robbie O'Shea PT, PhD (Neurology), Lucy Henck-Jones PT, MHA, GCS. (Geriatrics), Nancy Cicirello PT, MPH, EdD (Pediatrics) Laura Case PT, DPT, MS, PCS (Pediatrics), Heather Jenkins PT, DPT, ATP (Pediatrics), Margo Orlin PT, PhD (Pediatrics), Mary Jane Rapport PT, PhD (Pediatrics), Lorrie Sylvester PT, MS (Pediatrics), Anne Turner PT, MS (Pediatrics).

Some members who have been active through phone conferences but were unable to attend this weekend are Mary Massery PT, DPT, (Cardio/Pulmonary), Ellen Hamilton PT, MS, OCS (Orthopedics), Pamela Unger PT, CWS (Clin Electro/Wound Mgmt), Karolyn Grimm PT, MS, CSCS (Aquatics).

The goals addressed by the taskforce include the following:

1. Improve the content of entry level education within the context of a doctoring profession.
  - Strategy: Identify core knowledge and skills for delivering care and addressing the transition needs of adolescents and adults with lifelong disabilities
  - Strategy: Incorporate core knowledge and skills into appropriate association documents
2. Educate members and stakeholders to create an environment of autonomous practice for physical therapists working with people with LLD.
  - Strategy: Develop educational tools

Strategy: Provide multisectional programming at conferences (AC 2008)  
Strategy: Provide strategies for teaching the didactic and affective core knowledge  
Strategy: Increase awareness of PTs/ PTAs

3. Explore and promote the role of physical therapists in a variety of practice settings to the membership and public

Strategy: Delineate the role of the PT as a resource to other healthcare provider  
Strategy: Promote the role of the PT as a resource to other health care providers in increasing access to and coordination of health care services to those individuals with lifelong disabilities  
Strategy: Develop a business case  
Strategy: Collaborate with external stakeholders

4. Explore the magnitude of the issues.

Brainstorm/survey members to identify issues  
Develop document accessible to all APTA members  
Develop transition guidelines for physical therapists

In order to meet the various goals listed above, strategies and products will be developed for entry level curriculum, practicing clinicians, and consumers. As an overview of the issues affecting consumers and the role of physical therapists, a white paper, and Guidelines for Transition to Adulthood are being developed. The focus of the educational products is to infuse the issues of lifelong disability into already existing documents and instructional models. For example, this group has worked on enhancing the Normative Model to highlight issues of LLD throughout entry level physical therapist and physical therapist assistant curriculums. In addition, a variety of case scenarios are being developed which infuse issues of LLD with adult onset diagnosis and conditions to highlight the need for integrated care. For example, a 42 year old individual with spina bifida develops low back pain. These scenarios will be made available for instruction in entry-level and post-professional education. For practicing clinicians, fact sheets, a resource compendium, and speaker bureau for continuing education topics are being developed. As these products are developed and approved they will be available to physical therapists from all sections, both now and in the future, through the APTA website. A kick off educational session with a panel of speakers from the taskforce is planned for the 2008 Annual Conference.