



**Steven Ambler, PT, DPT, PhD, MPH**

Dr. Steven B. Ambler, PT, DPT, PhD, MPH is a Professor and Division Director of Education at WashU Medicine Physical Therapy. Dr. Ambler's research interests are focused on outcomes and the implementation of learning science principles in higher education. Specifically, Steve is engaged in work related to competency-based education and the return on investment in health professions education. Steve holds leadership and committee positions within WashU related to competency-based education, training, development, DEI, and student systems. He has also served on numerous state association boards, including the Missouri Physical Therapy Association, American Physical Therapy Association, and advisory councils to DPT and exercise science programs.



**Chalee Engelhard, PT, EdD, MBA, FNAP**

Chalee Engelhard, PT, EdD, MBA, FNAP is a Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy Emeritus, Graduate of the Fellowship in Higher Education Leadership and a Fellow for the National Academies of Practice. She earned her Bachelor of Health Science degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Kentucky; Masters of Business Administration from Thomas More University and Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Cincinnati. She is a tenured, full professor at the University of Cincinnati and currently serves as the Vice Department Head and Doctor of Physical Therapy Program Director. Nationally, she serves as the President for the APTA Academy of Education. She has served as the Cincinnati VA Medical Center Academic Director for the Geriatric Residency for well over a decade and serves as academic faculty for the Cincinnati VA's Neurologic, Orthopedic and Cardiovascular residencies.



**Jody S Frost, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA, FNAP**

Jody S Frost, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA, FNAP is an Education Consultant and Facilitator working with healthcare professions in higher education to advance competency-based education, strategic planning, assessment, and interprofessional education and collaborative practice. Dr Frost has served as a consultant to the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) since 2017 facilitating profession-oriented transformation to competency-based education (CBE). In addition, she was a consultant to Washington University's Program in Physical Therapy in their transition to CBE. Dr Frost serves as co-chair of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education (IHPE), an accreditor for the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education, and member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Awards Committee. After 25 years of service, Dr Frost retired from the APTA as Lead Academic Affairs Specialist, founding Program Director of the accredited Fellowship in Higher Education Leadership, developer of APTA's Clinical Instructor Credentialing Programs, Clinical Performance Instruments (CPI), and Professionalism Self- and Patient- Professionalism Assessments. Dr Frost has a passion for advancing interprofessional education and collaborative practice for all health professions. In 2014, she was inducted as a distinguished scholar and fellow of the National Academies of Practice (NAP) and served as founding member and Vice Chair of the NAP Physical Therapy Academy. From 2019-2021, she served as NAP's President and in 2023 was honored with the Nicholas Cummings Award, the highest distinguished fellow award. In addition, Dr Frost is a founding member of the Interprofessional Professionalism Collaborative (IPC), dedicated to defining, measuring, educating, and integrating the construct of interprofessional professionalism in practice, education, and research. In 2024, the IPC received NAP's Interprofessional Group Award. In support of her scholarship, Dr Frost serves as a manuscript reviewer for a variety of scientific journals and is an active member of Interprofessional Research Global. Dr Frost has provided numerous invited presentations and published research on topics such as clinical education, education outcomes assessment, competency-based education, leadership, and interprofessional organizational partnerships. Dr Frost was awarded APTA's Academy of Education Stanford Award (co-authors), distinguished President's Award, and Polly Cerasoli Lectureship. She received the Liaison's International Leadership Award for her innovative contributions to the CPI. AAVMC awarded the Council on Veterinary Education and its consultant, the AAVMC President's Award for Meritorious Service. Dr Frost was named a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the APTA, the highest honor bestowed to a member. Dr Frost received her BS in physical therapy from Ithaca College, MA in counseling and personnel studies from Rowan University, PhD from Temple University, and DPT from Marymount University. She was a tenured faculty member, Director of Clinical Education and Assistant Chair at Temple University and former Physical Therapy Department Director, Center Coordinator of Clinical Education, and clinical instructor at pediatric and sports medicine centers.



**Jennifer Furze, PT, DPT, FAPTA**

Dr. Furze is a Professor and Interim Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy at Creighton University in Omaha, NE. She is a board-certified clinical specialist in pediatric physical therapy and the director of the Creighton University Pediatric Physical Therapy Residency program. Nationally, she is active as a leader in the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy serving in previous roles as the Director of Academic and Clinical Education and in the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties. She has taught pediatrics in a systems-based lifespan approach model of the curriculum for over 15 years. Her national published educational research agenda centers around clinical reasoning in professional and residency education, effective teaching methods, and pediatric physical therapy education. She is a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association, given to those whose leadership, influence, and achievements have advanced the profession. Dr. Furze received her entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Creighton University in 1998 and her bachelor's degree from the University of Scranton.



**Peggy Blake Gleeson, PT, PhD**

Peggy Blake Gleeson, PT, Ph.D. is professor emeritus in the School of Physical Therapy at Texas Woman's University in Houston, Texas. She served for over 35 years as the Director of Clinical Education and for 8 years as the Associate Director of the School. She is a past President of the Academy of Education and past Chair of the Texas Consortium for Physical Therapy Clinical Education, Inc. Dr. Gleeson has served on the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT) task force that developed the Domains of Competence framework for physical therapist education. She has served several terms as a Texas delegate to the APTA House of Delegates and is an author of the recently published Blueprint for Excellence in Physical Therapy Education. Dr. Gleeson has been a CAPTE on-site reviewer for physical therapist programs since 1997. Since 2022, she chaired the Reimagination of CAPTE, which has made significant modifications to all processes involved in program reviews for both physical therapist and physical therapist assistant programs. She has served as the Chair of the Revision task force for the 2024 Standards and Required Elements of CAPTE. Dr. Gleeson has served on both the PT panel and the Central panel and was Chair of CAPTE from 2021-2024.



**Kendra L. Harrington, PT, DPT, MS**

Kendra L. Harrington, PT, DPT, MS is the Director of Residency & Fellowship Education at the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). In this current position, she oversees the development and accreditation of approximately 800 physical therapist residency and fellowship programs as well as create tools and resources to support residency and fellowship education. In addition, Dr. Harrington is a clinical physical therapist specializing in pelvic floor conditions, as well as being an educator, lecturer, and researcher. From 2003 to 2009 she was the exclusive pelvic floor physical therapist at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. At Walter Reed, she served as a clinical specialist to family members, colleagues, medical students, residents, and fellows. During that time, she was appointed as a faculty member of the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. She is currently a published author and continues to be involved in numerous research protocols. Dr. Harrington graduated from Russell Sage College/Sage Graduate School in Troy, New York with her bachelor's and master's degrees, later return to earn her Doctor of Physical Therapy.



**Gail M. Jensen, PT, PhD, FAPTA, FNAP**

Dr. Jensen is Vice Provost for Learning and Assessment, Dean Emerita, and Professor of Physical Therapy and holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Medical Humanities at Creighton University. She is known nationally and internationally for scholarly contributions in expert practice, clinical reasoning, professional ethics, and interprofessional education. Dr. Jensen is author or coauthor of over 90 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has coauthored 14 books including *Educating Physical Therapists*, *Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making in Physical Therapy* and in 2025, the fifth edition of *Clinical Reasoning in the Health Professions* (Higgs, Jensen, Loftus, Trede, Grace). She led the research team that completed a National Study of Excellence and Innovation in Physical Therapist Education funded by the American Physical Therapy Association and several APTA components. Findings from the research were published in the *Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Journal* and a book (*Educating Physical Therapists*-Slack Pub) similar to the Carnegie studies in medicine and nursing from the Preparation for Professions Program. Key recommendations included the critical need to develop more

education researchers in the profession and the development of continuum of professional performance standards as seen in competency-based education. Dr. Jensen chaired the education research panel for the CBEPT work in physical therapy education. She is a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association, a Distinguished Scholar fellow in the Physical Therapy Academy of the National Academies of Practice, recipient of the APTA's Rothstein Golden Pen Award, Lucy Blair Service Award and was the APTA's 2011 Mary McMillan Lecturer and in 2022 gave the 24th Annual Cerasoli Lecture for the Education Academy. She is past chair of the APTA's Ethics and Judicial Committee. Dr. Jensen received her PhD in educational evaluation with a minor in sociology from Stanford University. She holds a master's degree in physical therapy from Stanford University and a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Minnesota.



**Kimberly Varnado, PT, DPT, DHSc**

Kimberly Varnado, PT, DPT, DHSc, is the founding Program Director and Associate Professor of the hybrid Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at the College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Nebraska. With 19 years of experience as a physical therapist and over a decade in physical therapy education, Dr. Varnado brings extensive expertise to her leadership and teaching roles. Dr. Varnado earned a BS from Tennessee State University, a DPT from Indiana University, and a DHSc with an Education Certification from A.T. Still University. She completed orthopedic residency and manual orthopedic physical therapy fellowship programs at Kaiser Permanente in West Los Angeles, California. Dr. Varnado, a board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist (emeritus) and a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists, exemplifies excellence in advanced clinical practice and education. Dr. Varnado graduated from the Fellowship in Higher Education Leadership Program, where she also served as a mentor from 2022 to 2024. Her research interests include hybrid learning models, inclusive teaching and learning initiatives in health professions programs, and faculty development. In addition to her academic and research responsibilities, Dr. Varnado holds several leadership positions, including President of the Board of Directors for the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT), Candidacy Review Council Member for the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE), and District Three Representative for the Arizona chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association.



**Richard Woolf, PT, DPT**

Richard Woolf joined the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) in 2008 and began to serve as Chief Professional Officer at the FSBPT in 2019. Prior to joining FSBPT he worked as the Director of Rehabilitation at a hospital in Arizona. He received a Master of Physical Therapy from Northern Arizona University, a Doctor of Physical Therapy from A.T. Still University-Arizona School of Health Sciences, and a Master of Business Administration from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business at William & Mary. He is also a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist with the National Strength and Conditioning Association.



**Kathryn Zalewski, PT, PhD, MPA**

Kathryn Zalewski, PT, PhD, MPA is a professor and founding Program Director of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the Chair of the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. Dr. Zalewski has over 30 years of experience and leadership in higher education including with the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy and as an on-site team leader and commissioner for CAPTE for over 10 years. Dr. Zalewski has a commitment to developing physical therapists for primary care with a focus on readiness for clinical practice within rural communities. As part of the growth of the UWSP DPT program, the faculty has implemented a competency-based model for developing primary care practice skills guided by principles of self-paced mastery. Dr. Zalewski brings to this conference a voice of an educator and academic leader with practical experience in developing competency-based education.