

I. Name

The name of this consortium is the Research Intensive Programs in Physical Therapy, hereinafter referred to as RIPPT.

II. Formation and Purpose

RIPPT is a consortium within the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT) whose purpose is to promote academic excellence by strengthening the community of research-intensive physical therapy programs in the Academic Council.

Objectives of RIPPT

- a. Promote the importance of organized research to contribute to improved health care and excellence in physical therapy education.
- b. Establish a forum for research-intensive programs to share strategies for organizing, building, and supporting their research enterprises.
- c. Develop an exchange that will promote research collaborations across institutions.
- d. Serve as a resource for programs that are attempting to develop into research-intensive programs.
- e. Develop a set of accepted benchmarks of research activity

III. Structure

1. Membership:

Members may hold office in RIPPT and vote on motions, elections, and other RIPPT business. Associated members may serve on committees and speak at meetings but may not hold office or vote.

A. Member Criteria – must meet both of the following

- 1) ACAPT member physical therapy programs that meet the guidelines of a research intensive program. The guidelines include:
 - Faculty members have access to a PhD or comparable doctoral program (e.g., ScD) wherein they can serve as the primary advisor for the training of graduate students (N.B.: the program need not be within Department)
 - Faculty members have a history of mentoring PhD/ScD students and or post-doctoral trainees
 - The program attracts substantial external research funding
 - Research productivity is part of the annual review and criteria for promotion for the research intensive faculty members (N.B.: research productivity need not be a criterion for every faculty member).
 - Physical space, equipment, and financial resources are sufficient to support the research program
 - At least one faculty member currently has an R01 or equivalent federal level award
- 2) Program is in good standing by contributing RIPPT requested benchmarking data annually

B. Associated Membership

- 1) Programs that are attempting to develop into research-intensive programs.
- 2) Programs that have not contributed requested benchmarking data

C. ACAPT representatives apply for RIPPT membership by emailing the secretary of RIPPT. Those applying for full membership will state that they meet the guidelines of a research intensive program. After review by the Executive Committee, those applying for full membership will be asked to submit the benchmarking data. Until such time that the data are submitted, the program will be considered an associated member.

2. Meetings:

- a. Membership meetings will occur at CSM and ELC.
- b. Leadership meetings will be in-person at CSM and ELC. The leadership will also use teleconference and email communication.

3. Governance and Leadership

- A. The leadership team will consist of five elected positions
Chair, Vice-Chair (chair-elect), Secretary, Treasurer, and Nominating Committee Chair
- B. Term of Office
Each position will serve a two-year term.
The vice-chair will become chair after serving a two-year term as vice-chair.
- C. Steering committee
The chair will appoint 2-3 members of the RIPPT to serve on the RIPPT steering committee. The chair will select the members of the steering committee with thoughtful consideration to diversity including university type, region, and gender. The immediate past-chair will also be a member of the steering committee.
- D. All members of the elected leadership and steering committee will come from programs meeting the criteria for full membership. At least 1 member of the steering committee will be from the associated membership category.
- E. The Chair is the Liaison to the ACAPT Board of Directors

4. Dues

There are no dues associated with Membership or Associated Membership