

Candidate Bio and Statement – 2026

The information below was provided by each candidate in response to a request to provide a brief bio and statement of interest and qualifications for the position.

Name: Meredith Wampler-Kuhn, PT, DPTSc

Title: Assistant Clinical Professor

Candidate for: ACAPT - Institute for Community Engagement Vice Chair

Brief Bio

Dr. Meredith Wampler-Kuhn earned a B.A. in Biology from Westminster College, a B.H.S. in Physical Therapy from University of Missouri, and a D.P.T. Sc. from University of California, San Francisco and San Francisco State University. Wampler-Kuhn's clinical background includes acute care, neurologic physical therapy, and over 28 years of experience in treating patients with cancer.

Wampler-Kuhn joined OSU-Cascades in 2021 as a founding core faculty member of the DPT program. Dr. Wampler-Kuhn previously taught within DPT programs at UCSF/San Francisco State University and University of Puget Sound. She currently teaches across the patient management, neurology and oncology curriculum. She also created a new course series, Community Engaged Physical Therapy where students participate in experiential learning to support several community partners. This learning model has had positive outcomes for students, community partners and participants, leading to more sustainable partnerships and deeper impact within the Central Oregon community.

Her research interests lie in management of patients with cancer and knowledge translation. She has published in peer reviewed journals and presented at professional meetings on these topics with the goal of elevating clinical practice. She is an active member of the APTA Oncology Academy and is a board-certified Oncology Clinical Specialist.

Candidate statement for Board position: I bring recent leadership experience in curriculum development, community engagement, and professional service that aligns with the mission of the Community Engagement Institute. Over the past year, I developed sustainable partnerships with two Central Oregon organizations, resulting in affiliation agreements that supported the launch of community-engaged physical therapy courses. Through these partnerships, DPT students deliver evidence-based balance and injury prevention programs that address community needs while gaining meaningful experiential learning. This work supports my university's mission as a Carnegie Foundation–designated Community Engaged University.

I completed the Fellowship of Higher Education Leadership (FHEL) in July 2025, which included didactic and mentored leadership development. My culminating project focused on developing a sustainable model for community-engaged DPT educational experiences.

Currently, I serve as Chair of the DPT Curriculum Committee, where I am leading a comprehensive curriculum review to improve course sequencing, optimize credit distribution, and strengthen curriculum assessment processes to enhance the student learning experience.

I also serve on the DPT Admissions and Assessment Committees and co-chair the Implementation Science Work Group within the Academy of Oncology Physical

Therapy Research Committee. These roles reflect my commitment to collaborative leadership and educational innovation.

Experience

Candidates were asked to rate their experience with the following criteria. (Developing): no experience, (Proficient): some courses/experience, (Advanced): fully competent with experience and educational courses. Candidates were also requested to identify examples to support their rating.

Advocacy (includes personal, professional, social, community, and patient advocacy): Proficient; I consider myself a grass-roots leader and have multiple opportunities to advocate for several initiatives. As a staff PT, I was able to garner interest and support to develop an outpatient rehabilitation clinic at the hospital cancer center where I was working. In academia, I have successfully raised awareness of the Carnegie Community Engagement credential held by our University and gained support to develop community engaged DPT courses in our curriculum to drive meaningful change in the community and influence our graduates to do the same.

Analytical Skills: Proficient; My analytical approach centers on active listening, thoughtful synthesis of diverse perspectives, and collaborative problem-solving. I believe the strongest solutions emerge when multiple viewpoints are considered and thoughtfully integrated. In leadership and committee work, I prioritize creating space for stakeholders to share their experiences and ideas, particularly those from different professional backgrounds, practice settings, and communities.

Once perspectives are gathered, I work to identify common themes, areas of alignment, and potential gaps. I analyze both qualitative input and available data to better understand the underlying issues and opportunities for impact. This process allows me to move beyond individual viewpoints and develop solutions that are informed, balanced, and responsive to community needs.

As Vice-Chair of the Community Engagement Institute for the American Council of Physical Therapy, I would apply this analytical style to help the committee evaluate initiatives, identify meaningful community partnerships, and guide strategic decisions. By combining careful listening with structured analysis, I aim to support collaborative decision-making that advances the Institute's mission and strengthens community engagement across the profession.

Effective Communication & Public Speaking: Proficient; I have over 25 years of professional experience where I have had the opportunity to speak to a wide variety of audiences at the local, regional and national levels. I am comfortable engaging the audience and use symbolic leadership qualities to garner curiosity and support for community engaged topics. I also have experience presenting research at local and national professional meetings.

Skills to address the ACAPT strategic Initiatives: Proficient; In my leadership roles, I have demonstrated the ability to translate strategic priorities into actionable initiatives. I work to identify shared goals, build partnerships, and develop sustainable structures that support long-term outcomes. For example, by cultivating relationships with community organizations, I have helped establish partnerships that provide mutually beneficial opportunities for community members and physical therapy students while advancing institutional and professional goals.

I also value continuous assessment as part of effective strategy implementation. Evaluating outcomes, incorporating feedback, and adapting initiatives as needed ensures that efforts remain aligned with organizational priorities and evolving community needs.

As Vice-Chair of the Community Engagement Institute within the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy, I would bring a collaborative and strategic approach to advancing ACAPT initiatives—supporting programs and partnerships that strengthen community engagement, promote educational innovation, and contribute to the profession’s broader mission.

Skill Set Evaluation

Candidates were asked to rate the following attributes on a scale of 1–5 and identify the top three in each category that best reflect their individual strengths.

STRATEGIC THINKING 4	RELATIONSHIP BUILDING 5	INFLUENCING 4	EXECUTING 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborative strategic thinking - Partnership and relationship development - Strategic implementation and continuous improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of aligned vision - Active listening - Persistence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active listening - Action after active listening - Consensus building and shared ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal oriented organization - Follow-through and accountability - Adaptive problem-solving