



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF
ACADEMIC PHYSICAL THERAPY

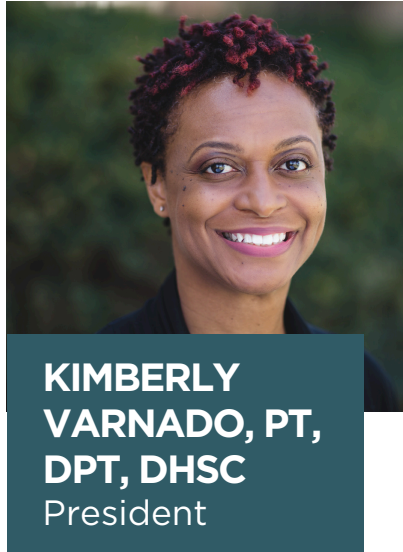
ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings, ACAPT members!

This year, ACAPT moved with purpose.

Through exciting leadership changes, ACAPT's future looks brighter than ever. Through our Data Advisory Committee, we launched the first Institutional Profile Survey dashboards, providing our members with better access to review program trends. We refined and updated products, such as the Leadership Compass and Clinical Reasoning Toolshed, hosted an impactful CBE town hall, cleaned and established processes, worked to strengthen relationships, and created a new strategic plan.

Our Institutes, Committees, Commissions, and Task Forces tackled persistent challenges with fresh perspectives.

You'll see that spirit throughout this report: stories of ACAPT advocacy, snapshots of blossoming partnerships and ideas, and evidence that our collective effort moves the needle. You'll also see where we're headed next. In the year ahead, ACAPT will:

- Institute-led structures featuring focused task forces on projects that directly align with our strategic plan.
- More opportunity to engage with relevant and timely educational programming.

None of this happens without you. Thank you to our volunteer leaders, institute, committee, commission, and task force members, program directors, faculty, students, and partners who give ACAPT its momentum. Your insights are invaluable.

If you're new to ACAPT, welcome. If you've been with us for years, thank you for the trust. Either way, I invite you to dig into this report, share it with colleagues, and reach out with ideas. Our strength is our community.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly Varnado".

Kimberly Varnado

President, American Council of Academic Physical Therapy (ACAPT)

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear ACAPT Community,

It is an honor to share this year's Annual Report and to reflect on my first eight months as Executive Director of the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy. This has been a pivotal period for ACAPT. It's been one of growth, alignment, and renewed commitment to serving our member institutions with excellence.

Since joining ACAPT, I have been struck by the deep dedication of our member institutions and volunteers, as well as the extraordinary opportunities before us. Together, we have embraced both progress and pause: progress in releasing new initiatives and resources that advance our field, and pause in order to ensure alignment, sustainability, and the highest standards of service for the decade ahead.

One of our most significant achievements this year was the release of the Blueprint for Excellence. This milestone provides a clear and aspirational vision for academic physical therapy and lays the groundwork for institutional collaboration and leadership. It is not only a guiding document but also a commitment to continuous improvement and innovation.

We also launched a new interactive version of the Institutional Profile Survey (IPS). By making the IPS data more dynamic and accessible, we are equipping our member institutions with the tools they need to make evidence-based decisions, benchmark effectively, and highlight the collective strength of our profession.

Equally critical was the finalization and release of ACAPT's Strategic Plan. This plan reflects months of engagement, input, and reflection across our community. It reaffirms our mission, sharpens our vision, and establishes a clear direction for the coming years. Importantly, we took the courageous step of pausing at key moments in order to realign priorities, operationalize processes, and standardize systems. While such pauses are never easy, they are essential to ensuring that our work is sustainable and that the volunteer experience is rewarding, purposeful, and impactful.

At the heart of all these efforts is our unwavering focus on you, our member institutions. Every initiative, every conversation, and every decision has been guided by the question: How does this strengthen and support the institutions we serve? That focus will continue to anchor our work as we look to the future.

On behalf of ACAPT's Board of Directors and staff, thank you for your trust, your engagement, and your commitment. Cheers to the last eleven years, and here's to an even stronger and brighter decade ahead.

With respect and gratitude,



Celia Chomón Zamora, PhD, CAE
Executive Director, ACAPT





OVERVIEW

VISION

As a respected leader in academic physical therapy, ACAPT will create a shared culture of excellence to improve societal health.

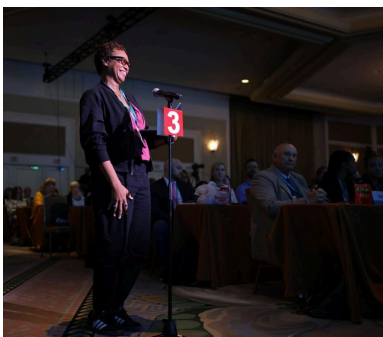
MISSION

ACAPT member institutions are champions of innovation, inclusion and inquiry in academic physical therapy.

HIGHLIGHTS

2025 marked a transformative year for ACAPT as we deepened our commitment to serving our members in academic physical therapy. The 2025 annual report showcases measurable progress, including the release of ACAPT's first comprehensive Institutional Profile Survey (IPS) data dashboards, the launch of the first ACAPT e-book, Blueprint for Excellence, the relaunch of the Leadership Compass, and expansion of our four Institutes.

While ACAPT took a thoughtful pause in 2024, the ACAPT Board, leaders, and staff worked diligently to develop a strategic framework for the future, while also addressing current issues and advocating for our community. ACAPT's purpose has never been clearer, and we are excited to bring thoughtful change and a brighter future for the profession.



332,203

Exposure of ACAPT's Career Center to community. 56 new jobs posted this year, and 97 active job postings



3,423

ACAPT National Physical Therapy Student Honor Society inductees from 95 participating institutions



9,648

Active subscribers to ACAPT emails



4,616

ACAPT social media followers - including Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube



89,000

ACAPT website users



15

Discussion forums in FLEX, ACAPT's communities



161

Blueprint for Excellence purchases

LEADERSHIP GROUPS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

Institute for Academic Advancement

Establishing a successful IPE-CP program and partnership within an institution

Developing best practices in admissions & retention at DPT programs

Preparing prospective students for the academic rigor of DPT school

Promoting the value proposition in academic physical therapy

Institute for Teaching and Learning

Programmatic strategies for ensuring student success

Simulation outcomes measures

Developing a systems approach to social determinants of health in PT curriculum

Institute for Scholarly Inquiry

Establishing and sustaining a culture of research in academic physical therapy

Conduct a feasibility study for a research fellowship

Conduct a feasibility study of mechanisms for knowledge dissemination in academic physical therapy

Institute for Community Engagement

Exploring career pathways for graduates of DPT programs

Identifying means for building a sufficient workforce in physical therapy

Clinical Education Commission

National Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Commission,

Advocacy Committee

Awards and Recognition Committee

Data Advisory Committee

Education Planning and Innovation Committee (EPIC)

Education Research Committee

Finance Committee

Nominating Committee

Reference Committee



MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

ACAPT membership remains steady with 100% of accredited U.S. Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) programs maintaining membership. This year, ACAPT opened membership to CAPTE Provisional A & B members, allowing resources to be shared with programs that are newly developing.

LOOKING FORWARD



In 2026, ACAPT will continue building member value through expanded analytics, enhanced professional development, and deeper community engagement. We want to ensure that every member program is equipped to thrive in a dynamic higher education and healthcare environment.



ACAPT staff visit The University of South Florida's DPT program



12,298

Faculty, clinical instructors,
and other ACAPT contacts



95%

216 out of 314 eligible U.S.
Doctor of Physical Therapy
(DPT) programs are ACAPT
member institutions

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

SIMULATION

Simulation Scenario Library

The Simulation Scenario Library is a collection of peer-reviewed simulation scenarios based on simulation standards of best practice. In the last year, we've added an additional 11 scenarios for ACAPT members to use in the classroom.

Simulation Instructor Training for Rehab Professionals (SITReP)

SITReP is a hybrid course designed to prepare professional rehab educators in developing and delivering simulation-based learning experiences following standards of best practice.

The inaugural SITReP course launched in February 2024, with the second cohort hosted at The Ohio State University in November 2024. This session welcomed 20 participants, including six international attendees from Poland.

Thank you to our SITReP Course Facilitators:

Daniel Dale PT, DPT, CHSE
Erin Thomas PT, DPT, FNAP

LEADERSHIP

ACAPT relaunched the Leadership Compass. With the help of Michael Seils and Alexis (Alex) Ortiz from the Educational Programming and Innovation Committee, we were able to update content, resources, and give the Leadership Compass a new modern look.

ELC 2025

42 Sponsors

755 Attendees

263 Submitted Abstracts

169 Accepted Abstracts

49 Platform Posters

120 Poster presentations

311 Submitted Educational Sessions

131 Accepted Sessions

48 MicroLearn Sessions

83 Educational Sessions

FUTURE PROGRAMMING

ACAPT is committed to offering a variety of professional development opportunities for the profession.. Below are a few courses that are currently in development.

- New Faculty Orientation Course: Cultivating Excellence in Physical Therapy Academia
- AI MicroLearn Series
- Working Better Together: Team Success in Physical Therapy Education
- Blueprint for Excellence webinars & Strategic Planning with the Blueprint for Excellence
- Soft Skills Micro-Learning Series for students and faculty

STRATEGIC PLAN

ACAPT is excited to introduce our new Strategic Plan to our membership in October 2025. This roadmap is designed to elevate the academic physical therapy profession and reflect the shared commitment of our membership to fostering innovation, advancing excellence, and strengthening our impact. As you explore each pillar, you'll find a vision and living framework for collective growth. Whether you're a program director, faculty member, clinician, student, or partner, your role in this journey matters.



- * **Academic Excellence:** Define and encourage clear, flexible, and scalable criteria for excellence in PT education that empower programs and individuals to engage meaningfully, regardless of resources or institutional size.
- * **Connected & Engaged Community:** Build a connected, collaborative, and inclusive ACAPT culture that reflects the full diversity of institutions and individuals within physical therapy academia.
- * **Data for Impact:** Establish a centralized, accessible, and actionable data and research hub that fuels decision-making, scholarship, and continuous improvement across PT education programs.
- * **Leadership & Influence:** Establish ACAPT as the trusted source and leading voice for academic physical therapy guidance, leadership, and collaboration.
- * **Organizational Vitality:** Ensure internal efficiency, financial sustainability, and strategic growth beyond reliance on membership dues within physical therapy academia.

STRATEGIC PLAN COMING SOON...

acapt@acapt.org

TREASURER'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025

In this report, member representatives will find the 2024 and 2025 ACAPT Statement of Activities and the Statement of Financial Position. The 2024 report is based on full-year audited figures. We also provide a snapshot of expenditures and revenue through August 31, 2025, as well as highlights from this past year and projections for 2026.


[View full Financial Report here](#)

FUTURE OUTLOOK

FUTURE PLAN

At ACAPT, we're energized by what lies ahead. With the launch of our 2025 Strategic Plan, we're embracing bold opportunities to advance academic physical therapy through innovation, data-driven decision-making, and deeper partnerships. Our future is a shared journey.

We invite you to stay connected, bring your ideas forward, and help shape what comes next. Your voice, expertise, and involvement are essential to our collective success.

 Join the conversation at community.acapt.org.

ACAPT GOES DIGITAL

ACAPT is looking to the future and transforming how we connect. Along with our online communities, we are launching a new digital presence designed to reflect the innovation and influence of our profession.

Launching ACAPT Podcasts

We're amplifying the voices of our members through a new podcast series, FLEXCast: Conversations in Academic Physical Therapy, to bring fresh conversations on leadership, education, and community engagement directly to your headphones.



Upgraded Website Experience

A modernized acapt.org is on the horizon. The enhanced site will be easier to navigate, mobile-responsive, and designed around our strategic priorities, making it easier to find data tools, get involved, and explore resources.

Follow our updates and launch on our Facebook and LinkedIn accounts.