

**DEI Candidate Bio and Statement – 2020-21**

The information below was provided by each candidate in response to a request to provide a brief bio and respond to the following statement:

“Briefly describe your qualifications for the position you are seeking and the pressing issues and initiatives that you believe ACAPT should address, and how these issues are consistent with the ACAPT strategic plan.”

**DEI Vice-Chair: One to be elected – Two-year term**

<b>NAME: Bernadette York</b>	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT</b>
<p>Dr. Bernadette Williams-York has been an educator in professional physical therapist programs for more than 20 years. In her current role at the University of Washington in Seattle, she is an Associate Professor and Director of the Division of Physical Therapy in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. She has previously held faculty and administrative appointments at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and three HBCUs- Howard University, Hampton University and Alabama State University. Dr. Williams-York’s teaching, research and service are in the areas of health disparities, healthcare workforce diversity, health promotion and aging. Since the onset of the COVID pandemic and civil unrest this year, Dr. Williams-York has been an invited panelist on multiple social media platforms to discuss these pressing societal issues and their impact on the physical therapy profession. She was recently appointed as the Chief Diversity Officer for the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Washington.</p>	<p>I am a program director and faculty member of an ACAPT Institution – University of Washington. Throughout my 20+ year academic career in physical therapist education, I have been a strong advocate on the local and national level for healthcare equity and increased racial/ethnic diversity within the physical therapist profession. I was the chair of the ACAPT Diversity Task Force that was instrumental in defining underrepresented minorities (URM) in the PT profession and I am currently serving as the inaugural Vice-Chair of the ACAPT DEI Consortium. I would be honored to serve a second term as the DEI Consortium Vice-Chair.</p>

**DEI Vice-Chair: One to be elected – Two-year term**

<b>NAME: Kim Varnado</b>	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT</b>
<p>Kimberly Varnado, PT, DPT, DHSc, is the founding Program Director of the</p>	<p>I build inclusive communities and empower groups and individuals to use</p>

<p>College of Saint Mary (Blended Learning) Doctor of Physical Therapy Program in Omaha, Nebraska. She received her BS degree from Tennessee State University, DPT from Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis, and DHSc degree with education concentration from A.T. Still University. Dr. Varnado completed orthopedic residency and manual orthopedic physical therapy fellowship training at Kaiser Permanente in West Los Angeles, California. She is a board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist (emeritus status) and a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists. In 2018, Dr. Varnado graduated from the APTA Fellowship in Education Leadership Program. Dr. Varnado's research interest includes investigating blended learning models, DEI initiatives in PT education, and faculty mentorship in PT education programs. Dr. Varnado is currently serving her third term as delegate for the APTA Arizona Chapter.</p>	<p>their strengths, knowledge, networks, and resources to advocate for health and education equity for all. I have experience working with organizations to improve access to physical therapy services and education. To empower others, I use skills acquired through self-study and formal education to mentor, coach, and consult with university administrators, program directors, faculty, private practice owners, students, clinicians, and community partners around the country. I spend a considerable amount of time reading, studying, listening, and planning to anticipate society's changing needs. For the past few years, I have been researching and using culturally responsive teaching strategies to assist faculty and students build robust and trusting learning partnerships to improve outcomes (academic and patient care). I also have extensive experience teaching and developing future physical therapists' clinical reasoning skills to improve population health outcomes. My training and experiences have prepared me to serve as the Vice-Chair of the DEI Consortia to address sections of the strategic plans outlined by ACAPT, including academic innovation, academic leadership and advocacy, and knowledge to elevate health care. I am a problem solver who enjoys envisioning creative ways to support people and communities.</p>
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**DEI Secretary: One to be elected- Two-year term**

<b>NAME: Dawn Hall-Bibb</b>	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT</b>
<p>Dr. Dawn Hall-Bibb currently serves as Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy in the School of Movement and Rehabilitative Sciences at Bellarmine University. Over her 20+ years as an educator, she has taught in a diverse array of course such as (but not limited to) Psychosocial Response in PT, Infection</p>	<p>Being a Black woman educator in higher education for over 20 years, I have been excluded, ignored, singled out, misunderstood, and misrepresented. Yes, it annoys me, but these behaviors do not deter my efforts to change the atmosphere, so that others (students, faculty, and staff) who walk with me or come behind me, do</p>

<p>Control, Neurology, Musculoskeletal Exam, Qualitative Research, Biophysical Agents, and Cultural Competence in PT.</p> <p>Since the beginning of her teaching career, she was intentional toward reaching the APTA goals regarding diversity in the profession. She continues to promote the profession to students from K-12 to college grads. She serves as a resource to student pursuing a PT degree. She has endorsed the profession via Black own radio stations. Currently, she serves on the President’s Advisory Board on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and is, also, the co-chair/organizer of Bellarmine’s first Black faculty and staff affinity group created to support and foster inclusion for faculty of color.</p> <p>She has a passion for people and understanding their perceptions and interpretations of the world. Accordingly, her research areas of interest include culture awareness/competence, student learning, service learning, and perceptions of the profession of physical therapy.</p>	<p>not have to experience what I have in higher education. While I may not talk about my experiences often, I have not shied away from identifying and addressing disparaging and/or dismissive comments in a collegial manner. In physical therapy school (late ‘90s), was the first time I recall addressing a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) concern in PT education. Since then, I continue to make efforts to expose our profession to students of color of all ages; co-hosted a Black run radio show discussing the benefits to physical therapy to the Black community; and hosted several “Waiting to Exhale” sessions for students of color during the protest and social unrest in Louisville, KY, where I currently reside, and I sit on several DEI-focus committees. I do approach the topic of DEI gently; I do not take the subject matter lightly. There is work to be done.</p>
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<b>NAME: Talina Corvus</b>	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT</b>
<p>Talina Corvus is an assistant professor in the Education and Leadership PhD program and the Interprofessional Education program at Pacific University, where she also serves as adjunct faculty to the School of Physical Therapy. She is the founding Chair of the APTA-Oregon Cultural and Minority Affairs Committee and advisor to the DPT student group, The Collective for Diversity and Social Justice. Her academic and advocacy work focus on admissions practices, minority student support, and enacting equity and inclusion practices in health and education systems. A certified specialist in</p>	<p>I am seeking to serve in the role of Secretary to the ACAPT DEI Consortium. My experience as a committee Chair, student to faculty liaison, and community and committee partner has given me the practical skills and experience for recording Consortium activities, managing archives, and facilitating open communication among members. As a person who teaches and works in education and leadership, I live the consequences of systems of education and leadership that do not adequately represent or include the bodies they serve. I see this role as an opportunity to both</p>

<p>Geriatrics, her clinical work has centered around treatment, activity promotion, and the development of injury prevention programs for older adults. Outside of professional duties, she serves on her county's Public Health Advisory Committee, helps tend to her family's farm, and tries to keep up with her wife and two young kids.</p>	<p>learn and serve in support of advancing the inclusiveness of our curriculums and pedagogy, and in diversifying the scope of education research in the many fields of our profession. The DEI Consortium is uniquely positioned to lead Physical Therapy education into a space where it can meet the moment; providing an education that develops PT clinicians into healthcare leaders with a clear understanding of the social and historical factors impacting health and a proficiency with the modern tools to truly serve the whole of our society.</p>
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**DEI Nominating Committee Member: One to be elected – Three-year term**

<b>NAME: Anjanette Nunez</b>	<b>CANDIDATE STATEMENT</b>
<p>Dr. Anjanette Nuñez, PT, DPT received her DPT degree from Georgia State University and her BA from Vassar College. She is currently an Assistant Professor and Director of Clinical Education at Emory University, Division of Physical Therapy. Dr. Nuñez holds advanced certifications as a Board-Certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist and as a Therapeutic Pain Specialist. She has an established record of professional and educational service in outpatient orthopedics. Her clinical expertise focuses on pain neuroscience education for diverse populations and interdisciplinary collaboration. She completed an Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency program in 2016 and has presented research on pain neuroscience education at national and state conferences. Dedicated to continuous learning, she plans to complete a Fellowship in Pain Sciences in May 2021. Dr. Nuñez received the 2017-2018 Outstanding Clinical Instructor Award from GSU</p>	<p><a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a> In the inaugural Lynda D. Woodruff Lecture on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in PT, Dr. Greg Hicks challenged our profession to decrease PT provision inequities caused by racial and ethnic disparities and lack of PT community engagement. I am inspired by this call to action and the ACAPT DEI Consortium's vision to promote a diverse, equitable and inclusive PT community where all members are valued, respected and heard. I advocate for all PT/PTA clinicians, educators and students to play a role in driving the profession forward through the continuum of DEI-informed education and practice. This demands that leaders and educators strongly promote and remove barriers to participation of underrepresented minorities in leadership, education and advocacy. As a 2017-2018 Nominating Committee member for APTA-GA, I aligned with the value of inclusion, building relationships and fostering strategic partnerships on a local level to promote our profession's visibility as inclusive healthcare providers and educators. Such relationships</p>

<p>Department of Physical Therapy. She is an active member of APTA and APTA-GA, and served on the 2017-2018 Nominating Committee for APTA-GA. Dr. Nuñez is passionate about promoting the physical therapy profession through diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging-informed education, research and service. She is committed to the development of current and future DPT clinicians through inclusive clinical education, advocacy, leadership development and mentorship.</p>	<p>facilitate members to gain new perspectives and take meaningful action to create cultures of belonging. As a Nominating Committee Member of the DEI Consortium, I would work to cultivate inclusive relationships and strategic partnerships on a nation-wide level to foster sustained professional engagement, involvement and leadership development of underrepresented minorities in our profession.</p>
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