**Lora Packel PT, PhD**

1. Please provide a brief bio of not more than 200 words.

Lora Packel PT, PhD is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of the Sciences, an early-assurance PT program. Dr. Packel earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Biology from the University of Delaware, a Masters in Physical Therapy from Boston University, and a PhD in Health Services with a focus on Community Health Promotion from Walden University. Dr. Packel is also a graduate of the APTA Educational Leadership Fellowship program. Her clinical experience includes working in the intensive care units and on the cardiovascular floors. Dr. Packel was also the Coordinator of Cancer Rehabilitation for the Abramson Cancer Center and has worked per diem for cancer centers and in homecare. Dr. Packel has been in academia since 2004, teaching a variety of classes including cardiovascular and pulmonary, oncology, exercise physiology, and pathophysiology. Her primary area of research is in health promotion of cardiac, oncology, and neuromuscular populations. A secondary area of research is interprofessional education. Dr. Packel has taken leadership roles in the areas of admissions for both the early-assurance program and post-baccalaureate pathway, resulting in improvements to admissions processes and expansion of articulation agreements.

1. CANDIDATE STATEMENT: Please respond to the following question with no more than 200 words:  Briefly describe your qualifications for the position you are seeking and the pressing issues or initiatives that you believe Acapt should address, and how these issues are consistent with the ACAPT strategic plan.

I have been in academia full-time for fourteen years in an early-assurance (EA) program. My roles have been varied and include clinical teaching in a non-tenure position, clinical teaching and research as a tenure-track faculty member, Vice-Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy, and now Chair. I have also been involved with numerous committees such as curriculum, academic affairs, admissions, conduct, as well as recently leading the department through a CAPTE accreditation visit. These roles and experiences have provided me with a broad understanding of the advantages and challenges faced by EA programs. Pressing issues for the EA consortium include; defining the contribution of the EA model to professional practice, collecting and disseminating outcomes of EA programs and students, leading the transition to the movement system, and creating educational resources for EA programs inclusive of teaching and research. These issues are aligned with ACAPT’s strategic plans and will serve to enhance the reputation of EA programs and their contribution to our Profession.