About Us

NIPEC Leadership and Board Member Information

NIPEC Chair: Myla Quiben, PT, PhD, DPT, MS, GCS, NCS

Myla Quiben, PT, PhD, DPT, MS, GCS, NCS
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Myles Quiben, PT, PhD, DPT, MS, a dual board certified clinical specialist by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties in Neurologic and Geriatric Physical Therapy (NCS, GCS), is currently an Associate Professor at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. Interprofessional collaboration is woven into her clinical and teaching areas in cardiopulmonary, geriatrics, neurology, and clinical medicine. She is a TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer, a Comprehensive Simulation Instructor through the Center for Medical Simulation, and is a member of the ACAPT National Interprofessional Education Consortium. She serves at UNTHSC’s Interprofessional Geriatric Education and Training in Texas (IGET-IT) program as a mentor in the Seniors Assisting in Geriatrics Education and contributes to the development of interprofessional e-learning modules in collaboration with the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME). She has presented nationally and internationally on movement and functional outcomes, aging, frailty, and interprofessional education specifically at the Interprofessional Education Collaborative Institute and the Interprofessional Practice Symposium at UNTHSC. Myles serves on the Board of Directors for the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, serves as an APTA CI Trainer, an advanced item writer for the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, and served in the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.

NIPEC Vice Chair: Dee Schilling, PT, PhD

Dee Schilling, PT, PhD
Chair, Associate Dean CAHP, and Professor
Western University of Health Sciences
Department of Physical Therapy Education
Dr. Dee Schilling is a tenured Professor at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona California where she serves as Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy Education and Associate Dean of the College of Allied Health Professions. She received her physical therapy degree from Emory, MS in Rehabilitation Medicine from the University of Washington, and a collaborative PhD in Special Education and Rehabilitation Medicine, from the University of Washington. Dee’s has over 40 years of clinical experience with the majority in pediatrics within the school-based and community settings as well as serving as Rehabilitation Research Program Specialist at the Cleveland Clinic where she was responsible for the facilitation, coordination and management of Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Orthotists and Prosthetists engaging in multi-disciplinary clinical research and academic trials.

Dee is involved in multiple lines of inquiry including the role of culture in healthcare, best practice in education, humor in leadership, interdisciplinary practice and pediatrics with a focus on the sensorimotor system and the effects that dynamic seating on the academic performance and behavior of children with ADHD and children with autism.

Dee has presented across disciplines, nationally and internationally regarding interprofessional practice, leadership, sensory strategies for academic success, positive behavior support, and sensorimotor development of children with autism. She has published across disciplines including education and occupational therapy journals, contributed to multiple texts, and a chapter in “Palliative Medicine”. She is currently co-authoring a research text. She has served as editor of texts regarding culture competency and research. She also serves as a reviewer for multiple journals including the Physical Therapy Journal, Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, and International Journal of Educational Research.

Dee is a member of the APTA’s Education, Research, Pediatrics, and Health Policy Administration Sections and serves on the Benchmarks of Excellence in PT Education Task Force. Additionally, Dee has been elected to serve on the Board of Alpha Eta Honor Society and serves on the Board of Directors for the Pomona Valley Boys and Girls Club.

Selected Publications & Presentations:


**NIPEC Secretary: Kimberly Beran-Shepler, PT, DPT, OCS, FNAP**

Kimberly Beran- Shepler, PT, DPT, OCS  
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Kimberly Beran- Shepler was an early member of an IPE community consortium in Fort Wayne, Indiana where she created and implemented an IPE curriculum that involved over 200 learners from 7 different graduate health professions. Currently, she is Co-Director of Curriculum for the Center for Interprofessional Education and Research (CIPER) at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. She has attended and presented at several IPE conferences such as Collaborating Across Borders (CAB), National Academies of Practice (NAP) Annual Meeting, World Congress on Continuing Professional Development and American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ARCM). In October 2017 Beran-Shepler was elected Distinguished Scholar and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice in Physical Therapy. Members of this organization work together as an interdisciplinary force to influence national health policy, legislation, and promote quality health care through cooperative advocacy, practice, education, and research.

**Presentations:**  


NIPEC Director: Denise G Bender PT, JD, MEd

Denise G. Bender, PT, JD, MEd
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Denise G. Bender, JD, PT, M.Ed., is a tenured Associate Professor in the University of Oklahoma Health Science College of Allied Health and College of Medicine where she serves as Program Director for the Doctor of Physical Therapy program in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences. She holds the Jill Pitman Jones Professorship in Physical Therapy and is licensed as a physical therapist and an attorney in Oklahoma. She earned her physical therapy degree from St. Louis University and a Master of Education degree from Wayne State University. Denise also earned her law degree with honors from UMB School of Law. In 2012, she completed the APTA’s Educational Leadership Institute (ELI) Fellowship program. Denise is a member of the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy & Academy of Physical Therapy Education sections of the APTA. Her clinical practice occurs at the OU Physicians Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Interprofessional Clinic at the Harold Hamm Diabetes Center.

Since 2012, Denise serves as core faculty in the campus-wide Interprofessional Educators and Practitioners Association (IEPA). As current chair of the IEPA Curriculum Committee, she coordinates a team to develop and disseminate programming for a two year IPE curriculum involving students from fourteen disciplines from seven college located on three campuses. She assumed the position as Chair of the IEPA Executive Council in 2019. She also serves as chair for both ACAPT’s Nominating Committee and the LDOC Committee Resource subgroup.
Selected Publications and Presentations:


Luce, K, **Bender**, DG, & Robinson, M. How do we provide meaningful experiences to dental students at an interprofessional clinic? *2019 CAB VII International Conference*, Indianapolis, IN.


Williams, V., **Bender**, D., & Robinson, M. Designing and producing a 10-module IPE mini-course pilot: Success and lessons learned. *2019 NEXUS Summit*, Minneapolis, MN


**NIPEC Director: Amy Nordon Craft, PT, DSc**

Amy Nordon-Craft, PT, DSc
Associate Professor
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Physical Therapy Program
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Amy Nordon-Craft earned a Bachelors’ of Science degree in physical therapy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a DSc from Rocky Mountain University of Health professions in 2011. She joined the faculty at the University of Colorado Denver PT Program in 2005, teaching medical conditions, neuromuscular, interprofessional education (IPE) and Clinical Reasoning.
Capstone content. She has experience conducting clinical trials with patients who are critically ill and currently serves on the APTA's Clinical Practice Guideline task force for "Physical Therapy in the ICU." Currently, Dr. Nordon-Craft is an Associate Professor for the CU DPT Program and serves as the Physical Therapy Program representative to the Center for IPE Council, which provides IPE to over 700 learners. In addition, she leads the IPE Faculty Development Taskforce.

NIPEC Director: Yasser Salem, PT, MS, PhD

Yasser Salem, PT, MS, PhD
Board Certified Clinical Specialist in Neurologic Physical Therapy (NCS)
Board Certified Clinical Specialist in Pediatric Physical Therapy (PCS)
Fellow of the APTA Education Leadership Institute (ELI)
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Yasser Salem is a Professor at the Department of Physical Therapy in the School of Health Professions at the University North Texas Health Science Center. Dr. Salem has been an educator for over 20 years. He is a board certified Pediatric Clinical Specialist (PCS) and a board certified Neurology Certified Clinical Specialist (NCS).

Dr. Salem has over 300 peer-reviewed presentations at state, national, and international conferences. He has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles, scientific book and book chapters. He is the first author on many of the published articles and presentations.

Dr. Salem is currently serving as a board of director for the ACAPT National Interprofessional Education Consortium. Dr. Salem has the privilege to serve in many capacities throughout his career at the national and international levels of various professional and community organizations including the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), and APTA sections and academies, Academic Council in Physical Therapy Education (ACAPT), Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) and World Confederation/Congress of Physical Therapy (WCPT). Currently, He has been serving as journal editor, associate editor and editorial board member for several scientific journals.

Dr. Salem has received several professional state and national research, teaching and service awards. Dr. Salem is the recipient of the 2018 Academy of Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.
Robert Wellmon, PT, DPT, PhD is a Professor in the Institute for Physical Therapy Education and a physical therapist who is board certified by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties in Neurology. He has been a full-time faculty member at Widener University since 1997. Dr. Wellmon continues to practice clinically at MossRehab Hospital in Elkins Park, PA collaborating with other healthcare professions in providing physical therapy services to individuals with stroke, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury and other neurological health conditions and older adults. He was on staff at MossRehab for 10 years as a full-time clinician and has worked in a variety of practice environments. He also teaches in the Neurologic, Orthopedic and Occupational Therapy Residency Programs at MossRehab.

At Widener University, he has collaborated for the past 19 years with colleagues from Social Work, Education, Nursing, Human Sexuality Studies, and Clinical Psychology to develop and implement multiple interprofessional learning experiences both within the School of Human Service Professions and across the larger University. He collaboratively designed the curriculum for Student Interprofessional Education Day, a case-based learning experience, and the Healthcare Mentors Project, which provides students with an opportunity to collaboratively examine and develop an interprofessional plan of care for clients with active chronic health conditions. In 2018, Dr. Wellmon was elected to the National Academies of Practice as a Distinguished Scholar and Fellow.

Selected Publications and Presentations


**NIPEC Director: Cheryl Babin PT, DHS, MGA, CAGS**

Cheryl J. Babin PT, DHS, MHA, CAGS

Academic Coordinator for Clinical Education/Associate Professor

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Cheryl J. Babin PT, DHS, MHA, CAGS, is the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education and Associate Professor for the School of Physical Therapy at MCPHS University’s Worcester/Manchester campus. She has extensive leadership as well as operation and business experience in subacute rehabilitation operations and is licensed as a physical therapist in Massachusetts. She earned her Certificate in Physical Therapy, Master of Science in Health Care Administration, and Certification of Advanced Graduate Study in Health Professions Education from Simmons University. Cheryl also earned her Doctor of Health Science degree, with a concentration in Leadership in Health Professions Education, with honors, from MCPHS University. Her doctoral dissertation work focused on IPE Faculty Development for DPT Faculty is being developed for dissemination.

Cheryl is a member of the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy, Academy of Physical Therapy Education, and the Health Policy and Administration sections of the APTA. She also is a member of the APTA of MA and serves as a Northern Metro District Assembly representative. Regionally, she is a member of the New England Consortium of Clinical Educators and serves as a member of both the Administrative, Legislative/Finance and the Education committees. Cheryl serves on many university and school committees. Specific to
IPE, she is a member of MCPHS University’s IPE Leadership team, responsible for planning, implementing and assessing IPE experiences across all three campuses, and is one of the original members of the Worcester/Manchester (W/M) IPE Working Group, where she has been appointed as Co-Chair of this committee. Additionally, she is Chair of the W/M Schwartz Center Educational Rounds, and the MCPHS University Schwartz Center Steering Committee.

Selected Publications and Presentations


Babin, C. *IPE faculty development programs: Lessons learned from a DPT Mixed method delphi study*. Round Table presentation at Collaborating Across Borders VII, Indianapolis, IN, October 2019.


Nominating Committee Co-Chair: Brandy Schwarz, PT, EdD, DPT, MOT, MBA

Brandy Schwarz, PT, EdD, DPT, MOT, MBA
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Brandy Schwarz is the Director of Clinical Education and Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. Dr. Schwarz received an undergraduate degree from the University of Portland ('04), Master of Occupational Therapy and Doctorate of Physical Therapy from the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences ('06 and '07), Master of Business Administration from the University of Dallas ('10), and a Doctorate of Education in Higher Education Leadership from Texas Christian University ('17). She is the PT liaison to the UNTHSC IPE Curriculum Committee and UNTHSC Interprofessional Seniors Assisting in Geriatrics Education program, a TeamSTEPPS Trainer, and a Fellow of the National Academies of Practice.

**Selected IPE Presentations:**


**Quiben M, Schwarz B.** Interprofessional Education and Clinical Reasoning for Clinical Instructors: What, Why and How. APTA Education Leadership Conference, 2017, Columbus, Ohio. (Education Session)

**Schwarz B, Thurston A, Womack K.** Perception vs. Reality: Interprofessional Education (IPE) and Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPCP) in Clinical Internships. APTA Education Leadership Conference, 2017, Columbus, Ohio. (Platform)

**Schwarz B, Mills D, Huscroft-D'Angelo J.** Interprofessional Collaboration and Practice in Clinical Education: Exploring DPT Student Perceptions of Learning Opportunities and Self-Perceived Competency. APTA Next Conference and Exposition, June 2018, Orlando, Florida. (Poster)

**Schwarz B, Kemp KL, Killam-Worrall L, Mott, J.** Interprofessional Clinical Education Team (ICE-T): Collaboration and Shared Problem-Solving Between Academic Departments. National Academies of Practice Annual Meeting, April 2018, Atlanta, Georgia. (Poster)

**Schwarz B, Farmer D, Knebl J.** Applied Interprofessional Collaboration and Teamwork: Geriatric Skills Lab and Seniors Assisting in Geriatrics Education Program. World Congress of Physical Therapy, July 2017, Cape Town, South Africa. (Poster)

**Schwarz B, Mills D.** Interprofessional Education and Practice: Exploring Clinical Instructors’ Familiarity and Self-perceived Competency. APTA NEXT Conference and Exposition, June 2017, Boston, Massachusetts. (Poster)

NIPEC Nominating Committee Member Co-Chair: Beth P. Davis, PT, DPT, MBA

Beth P. Davis, PT, DPT, MBA
Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Medicine
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Dr. Davis received a Master of Physical Therapy from Emory University in 1997. After several years of clinical practice and management experience in outpatient orthopedics, she returned to graduate school to obtain a Master of Business Administration from Georgia State University in 2002 with a concentration in marketing. Dr. Davis received a Doctor of Physical Therapy from Emory University in 2003 and began teaching the Health Services Management course in the Emory DPT program that year. Dr. Davis joined the faculty in 2008, and currently coordinates and teaches the General Medical Conditions, Health Services and Management and the Business Management for the Physical Therapist Entrepreneur courses. Her research focuses on interprofessional team training for facilitators and students with an interest in the impact of Emory's Interprofessional Team Training Program on communication and teamwork skills important for quality patient care. She is also involved in research related to physical therapy student education and marketing in physical therapy private practice settings.

NIPEC Nominating Committee Member: Laura Z Gras, PT, DPT, DSc, MS

Laura Z Gras, PT, DPT, DSc, MS
Board Certified Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy (GCS)
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Dr. Laura Gras is the Department Chair and Program Director at Ithaca College. She has been a practicing physical therapist for 28 years in various settings including inpatient geriatric rehabilitation, skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for adults with lifelong disabilities, and in a private practice treating patients with vestibular issues. She has been a full-time faculty member teaching neurological rehabilitation for 21 years. She is a board-certified clinical specialist in Geriatrics from the APTA. Laura chairs the Interprofessional Education Event at Ithaca College. Her area of research is in balance and falls as well as IPE.

Selected IPE Publication and Presentations:


Nominating Committee Member: Amy F. Croker, PT, DPT, OCS, FNAP

Amy F. Crocker, PT, DPT, OCS, FNAP
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Fellow, National Academies of Practice
Director of Social Accountability and Experiential Learning
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Amy F. Crocker is the Director of Social Accountability and Experiential Learning and Associate Professor in the School of Physical Therapy at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas. She obtained her Bachelor of Science in Education from Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain, MS, and her Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Creighton University in Omaha, NE. In 2011, she became a Board Certified Specialist in Orthopaedics. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Education with a specialization in E-Learning. Dr. Crocker’s areas of interest and research include social accountability, interprofessional education and collaborative practice, experiential learning, the integration of pro bono care within physical therapy curriculum, and the use of technology in physical therapy education. She was instrumental in developing and implementing the UIW Community Clinic that began serving the underserved in San Antonio in January 2016. Dr. Crocker is a member of the Education, Orthopaedic, and Health Policy and Administration Sections of the APTA. She is an Ambassador for the National Center for Interprofessional Education and Practice and an active member of the Texas Interprofessional Education Consortium. She was inducted into the National Academies of Practice as a Distinguished Practitioner and Fellow in April 2018.

ACAPT Liaison: Mary Tischio Blackinton PT, EdD, GCS, CEEAA

Mary Tischio Blackinton PT, EdD, GCS, CEEAA  
Director Professional DPT-Tampa Program and Associate Professor  
Nova Southeastern University – Tampa  
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Dr. Mary Blackinton is the Director of the DPT Program at Nova Southeastern University- Tampa, a completely hybrid professional Doctor of Physical Therapy program that started in 2011. She has been a faculty member at Nova Southeastern University since 1994, serving as Director of the Transition DPT Program from 2002-2010. Dr. Blackinton’s educational research interests focus on the scholarship of teaching and learning, especially related to hybrid/blended environments. She is
the co-chair of the Health Professions Educational Research Symposium (www.nova.edu/hpers) at Nova Southeastern University and was the ACAPT Chair of the ELC Program Committee from 2016-17. She is a contributing author for the textbook, Neurological Rehabilitation: A Patient-Centered Approach from Examination to Interventions and Outcomes (FA Davis, 2018), chapters 4 and 26. Her clinical research focus includes assessment of balance and the prevention of falls in people with PD. Mary currently serves in a capacity of Director at Large for ACAPT, including for NIPEC. Her experience with Interprofessional Education includes developing an Interdisciplinary Balance and Fall Prevention Clinic at Nova Southeastern University (Ft. Lauderdale) in 2004 which continues to provide a truly collaborative assessment of balance and fall risk, with team members representing medicine, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, psychology, audiology, and optometry.

**ACAPT Liaison: Anne Reicheter PT, DPT, PhD**

Anne Reicheter PT, DPT, PhD  
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