

RIPPT Business Meeting Minutes
Combined Sections Meeting
San Antonio, TX
February 15, 2017

Attending (sign in sheet circulated): Mary Rodgers (Chair), Jules Dewald (Vice Chair), Debby Givens (Secretary), John Buford (Treasurer), Mary Shall (Nominating Committee), Jim Gordon (Steering), Stuart Binder-Macleod (Steering), Stacy Fritz (Steering), Patrick Kizman, Szu-Ping Lee, Gretchen Salsich, Sujay Galen, Emily Keshner, Rich Souza, Catherine Lang, Mike Lewek, Mark Rogers, James Thomas, Glenn Williams, Mark Bowden, Margaret Schenkman, Sandy Saavedra, Sandra Kaplan, Phil McClure, Dave Sinacore, LaDora Thompson, Dolly Swisher, Marilyn Moffet, Robyn Watson Ellerbe (APTA), Theresa Cruz (NIH/NCMRR), Tarang Jain (Research Section).

Announcements

Stacy Fritz, from University of South Carolina, was introduced as the newly appointed member of the advisory board. Dr. Fritz represents the Associate Membership category.

Nomination of Officers for Elections in 2017 – Mary Shall, Chair of Nominating Committee Secretary and President-Elect to be elected

Nominees must be from institutions categorized as full members

RIPPT Terms of office are 2 years

Nominations are needed by April

Website update – John Buford, Advisory Board Member

New website with database located at APTA is in process. John is in the process of updating data members have already submitted. The plan is for the designated ACAPT representative for RIPPT member institution to have access and for the data to be updated once a year.

A brief discussion of the timing of the annual submission of benchmarking data indicated the members present preferred the start of the calendar year so that data was available for the annual CSM meeting.

Progress on Strategic Priorities for Advocacy

- Status of funding issues for students enrolled in dual degree programs
 - Regarding NIH training grants - NICHD/NCMRR now allows DPT/PhD students to be included in F30 applications. This needs to be expanded to other institutes and agencies. Members are also encouraged to increase the number of applications submitted. Applicants should contact Ralph Nitkin at NCMRR for information on how to help prepare applications.
 - Regarding the Foundation for PT – the Foundation received a letter from a dual degree student regarding the eligibility issue. Stuart Binder-Macleod, a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees, indicates that the Foundation is reviewing awards (Kendall, PODS) regarding this issue.
- Discussion regarding supply of DPT-PhDs is not meeting demand for research faculty.
 - Tracking the issue was raised as a possibility - Should we track APTA membership data on member with PhDs? Robyn Watson Ellerbe, Ph.D., APTA Vice President

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for research indicates this is problematic as most members only complete profile once (at onset of membership) and don't update their profile. Responses to surveys is low.

- Jules DeWald encouraged the members to consider another model for increasing the research faculty, which is having DPTs complete postdoctoral research training, similar to how MDs do. Pros and cons of this model were discussed.
- Funding was discussed as part of the problem. If there is robust funding, DPT graduates are more likely to pursue a PhD degree. An observation was made that student debt is contributing to the decline in numbers. Foundation for PT should review this issue and consider more robust funding for PhD students. Number of PhD programs has increased, which may be contributing to the perception there are fewer PTs pursuing PhD degrees. NIH is still funding the same number of grants while numbers of applicants are increasing.
- Collaboration among RIPPT programs was discussed. To address the need for more research faculty, we should develop a web of scholars who can become part of a greater network.
- Discussion of the need to get the message out to the profession and students to develop a sense of urgency regarding the problem. Suggestions included a profession-wide marketing program for PhD training. Reaching students at Student Conclave, CSM, and PT NEXT was proposed.
- "Reach for the Stars" presentation will be made at 2018 CSM to educate members and students.
- Jim Gordon proposed that RIPPT should bring a motion to the floor at ACAPT business meeting regarding urgency for research faculty.

Plans for 2017 ELC Programming – Faculty of the Future proposed as a topic. Issues to address are: What are some of the solutions to the problem of building research faculty capacity? How can we get more research focused faculty? What is the effect on research?

Action items

- Jim Gordon will draft a motion for ACAPT regarding urgency for research faculty
- John Buford will lead an ELC programming proposal
- Reach for the Stars – to be presented at CSM with Research Section
- Reaching students – Mary Rodgers to meet with Gammon Earhart, President of Section on Research, regarding strategies

Next RIPPT business meeting will be at ELC in October 2017 in Columbus, Ohio