

## National Interprofessional Education (NIPEC) - Candidate Bio and Statement – 2022

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The information below was provided by each candidate in response to a request to provide a brief bio and statement of interest and qualifications for the position.

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**Name:** Kimberly Beran-Shepler PT, DPT, FNAP

**Title:** Assistant Professor/ Director of IPE Passport

**Position:** Consortium - Chair

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
Kimberly Beran-Shepler is very passionate about Interprofessional Education and Practice. She has attended and presented at several IPE conferences such as Collaborating Across Borders (CAB), National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education's NEXUS Summit, National Academies of Practice (NAP) Annual Meeting and World Congress on Continuing Professional Development. She is currently serving her second term as the secretary for NIPEC. She has been a member of NIPEC since its inception in 2013. She is also a Distinguished Fellow in the NAP where she is serving as the co-chair for the communication committee. She is an assistant professor at Creighton University and is the Director for the IPE Passport, the IPE curriculum for more than 4,500 health science students.	If elected, I think is critical that PT have better visibility in the Interprofessional Education and Practice world. We continue to be undervalued in today's health system due to other health care professionals not understanding our roles and responsibilities. In the PT world, we need to help faculty both academic and clinical understand the value of IPE and develop robust IPE endeavors that support the quadruple aim. As an IPE consortium, we need to be the experts in IPE and provide resources to our stakeholders. These are the initiatives that I feel NIPEC needs to support going forward.

**Name:** Write-in

**Position:** Consortium - Chair

**Name:** Laura Z Gras PT, DPT, DSc

**Title:** Department Chair and Program Director

**Position:** Consortium - Secretary

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>Laura Z Gras, PT, DPT, DSc is a Professor, Department Chair, and Program Director of the Department of Physical Therapy at Ithaca College. She is the coordinator for Neurological Rehabilitation I and Case Reports I &amp; II. She has coordinated several IPE events at Ithaca College which were published in the article, The Impact of a One-time Interprofessional Education Event for Rehabilitation after Stroke for Students in the Health Professions, in Journal for Allied Health and presented at ASHA. She was part of a team that introduced students to IPE and individuals with stroke who presented, Interprofessional Education Through a Monthly Support Group, at CSM and AOTA. Along with NIPEC she presented, A Systematic Approach to Using IPE for Scholarly Activities and Promoting Student Learning at ELC. Currently she is coordinating Project Wheelchair User for PT and OT students. Dr. Gras has been part of NIPEC since 2019 on the Nominating Committee.</p>	<p>I have been part of NIPEC for the past 2.5 years and have learned a lot about the committee and how it functions. Although I served on the Nominating Committee, I have participated in their monthly meetings and was part of a presentation at ELC in 2020. With NIPEC's new strategic plan, I feel that I have a good sense of what the committee would like to accomplish and the goals they have set. I value interprofessional education and am excited about the opportunity to serve as secretary. I'm also good at organization and attention to details which are attributes that are required for this position.</p>

**Name:** Write-in

**Position:** Consortium - Secretary

**Name:** Cheryl Babin PT, DHS, MHA, CAGS

**Title:** Associate Director of Clinical Education, Associate Professor

**Position:** Consortium - Director-at-Large

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>Cheryl Babin is the Associate Director of Clinical Education/Associate Professor at MCPHS University's School of Physical Therapy. Her teaching expertise areas are clinical education and interprofessional education. Prior to joining MCPHS, Cheryl has extensive leadership and business experience in subacute rehabilitation operations, which fueled her passion in clinical education, interprofessional education and collaborative practice. She also serves on many university, school, and community committees. Specific to IPE, she is a founding member of MCPHS's newly formed Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education that is responsible for planning, implementing, and assessing IPE experiences across all campuses. Since 2013, she has been 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 in 2019. Additionally, she is Chair of the W/M Schwartz Center Educational Rounds, and a member of MCPHS University's Schwartz Center Steering Committee. She has presented nationally and internationally on a variety of topics, but specifically for IPE, these include IPE curriculum, IPE simulation experiences, IPE faculty development and collaborative care models. Additionally, she has published manuscripts and textbook chapters related to IPE and collaborative practice. She has been an active NIPEC BOD since 2019.</p>	<p>As a 2022 NIPEC BOD candidate, I am seeking re-election to continue NIPEC's forward momentum with its 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. If re-elected, I will be honored to provide broad-based input into the decision-making process of NIPEC's leadership team and assist with dissemination of information to the membership. My experience as a practitioner, operator, leader, researcher, educator, and collaborator will guide me to contribute to both NIPEC's and ACAPT's Vision.</p> <p>ACAPT's aggressive strategic plan three major goal headings: Academic Innovation, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Influence. I believe that ACAPT must embrace the role(s) that interprofessional education and collaborative practice brings to all three aims. For example, ACAPT needs to access and utilize the expertise within NIPEC to contribute to the goal of academic innovation within academic physical therapy. Related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, ACAPT can support interprofessional education (IPE) and collaborative practice (IPC) learning experiences that are culturally diverse and across the lifespan to address the populations we serve. Lastly, related to influence, it's important for ACAPT to advance our profession and have a powerful presence to collaborate with other health profession organizations and to support the presence of physical therapy with interprofessional education and collaborative practice initiatives.</p>

**Name:** Write-in

**Position:** Consortium - Director-at-Large

**Name:** Shelene Thomas PT, DPT, EdD, FNAP

**Title:** Director of Interprofessional Education

**Position:** Consortium - Director-at-Large

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>Shelene Thomas, PT, DPT, EdD, GCS, FNAP is Director of Interprofessional Education and Associate Professor at Rocky Vista University. Dr. Thomas' interest in IPE has led to positions on National IPE Consortia (NIPEC), a mentor in the American Interprofessional Healthcare Collaborative (AIHC) and a Fellow in the National Academies of Practice. As a physical therapist, she continues her professional expertise through student supervision at Regis University and the University of Colorado especially in areas related to geriatrics as an APTA Geriatric Certified Specialist. As an expert in healthcare education, she serves as a Team Lead for on-site review teams for the Commission of Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).</p>	<p>I have great experience with the NIPEC group and feel it has gained great traction. I would like to continue to support the efforts of those who have contributed to this success. I think my skills, passion and connections put me as a strong candidate for Director at Large once again. I enjoy the connections I have made in the group and feel there is still more good work that can be done together.</p>

**Name:** Write-in

**Position:** Consortium - Director-at-Large

**Name:** Michelle Keller PT, MPT, CEEAA

**Title:** Instructor, Direct of Pro Bono/Physical Therapist

**Position:** Nominating Committee Member

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>Michelle is a 2003 graduate of the University of Mary with a Master's in Physical Therapy. She has furthered her education obtaining a certified competency in vestibular rehabilitation in 2013 from the APTA and Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2017, she became a certified exercise expert for the aging adult through the APTA and Academy of Geriatrics. She advanced this knowledge and in 2017 became a board-certified clinical specialist in geriatrics through the APTA. Michelle holds additional certifications including LSVT BIG®(2013), and V2FIT® in concussion management (2019). Michelle is an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), both the Academy of Geriatrics and the North Dakota Chapter. She serves as a member of the continuing education committee for the NDPTA since 2020.</p> <p>As a physical therapist, she has experience providing care to patients in outpatient neurological rehabilitation, outpatient orthopedics and holds a special interest in geriatrics, vestibular rehabilitation, and concussion management. Michelle is married to Chris and is the mother of Brayden and Paige. She enjoys traveling with her family, reading, fitness and attending all activities for her children.</p>	<p>Currently at the University of Mary, we are in the two year process of designing and implementing an IPE clinic to promote collaboration amongst other healthcare disciplines.</p> <p>I've been working in the university for the past two years as an instructor and director of our pro bono clinic in the department of physical therapy.. I consider myself a strong team player, quick learner and a detail-oriented person. I am passionate about the profession of physical therapy and have served as an active member in the APTA ND continuing education committee. I believe that by being part of the NPIEC, I would play an important role in building bonds among the members with the goal of promoting the importance of IPE in our profession. If given an opportunity to be part of the NPIEC, I would be glad to contribute my time and efforts in making the difference for the NPIEC and profession of physical therapy. As the current director of our pro bono clinic in physical therapy, I am passionate about this process. Our goal is to be able to provide an educational opportunity for our students and clinical educators to address situations that allow for integration of inter-professional education and make it an academic opportunity for all students in our school of health sciences. By being able to offer students this experience we are able to provide our students and faculty an opportunity to collaborate together and consider culture, intellectual engagement, and leadership with the goal of make sure our patients are receiving the best care. The mission of NIPEC strongly aligns with my personal mission as director of our pro-bono clinic and the opportunity to provide students the opportunity for growth in their profession, expand their education and awareness of other healthcare disciplines and provide our students the opportunity to collaborate with other disciplines for purposes of scholarly activity.</p>

**Name:** Write-in

**Position:** Nominating Committee Member

**Name:** Write-in

**Position:** Nominating Committee Member