

Humanities, Ethics, and Professionalism (CHEP) - Candidate Bio and Statement – 2022

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.

Name: Cindy Dodds PT, PhD, PCS

Title: Associate Professor

Position: Consortium - Chair

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>Cindy Dodds, PT, PhD, PCS is an associate professor within the College of Health Professions at the Medical University of South Carolina. As a 2015 Harvard Macy and Gold Foundation Humanism scholar, Dr. Dodds was introduced to the use of Humanities in healthcare education and continues to encompass and expand humanities strategies into her instructional designs. With funding from the South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute, Dr. Dodds has studied student outcomes related to a course entitled Eye Spy for Development of Affective Qualities in Interprofessional Healthcare Students. Her instructional research interest examines the use of art and visual thinking strategies to enhance the observation, communication, and perspective taking skills in interprofessional healthcare students. Publications in the Journal of Humanities in Rehabilitation related to this area included Eye Spy for Physical Therapy Graduate Education: A Collaboration with the Gibbes Museum of Art and Eye Spy: Improving Nonverbal Communication and Interprofessional Learning Perceptions in Health Science Students. Her clinical research interests focus on children with complex disabilities, examining physical activities, and quality of life. She also commonly embeds humanities into her intervention strategies when serving children with complex disabilities.</p>	<p>The majority of physical therapy education supports the development of cognitive and psychomotor skills; however, the majority of students, including myself, enter the field for important affective purpose (i.e., valuing and enhancing human life). Because of this and the perception that today's physical therapy students are less comfortable with emotion and touch, the embedding of humanities, ethics and professionalism into physical therapy education is essential. To improve affective domain qualities of entry-level physical therapy students, if chair of the ACAPT's Consortium of Humanities, Ethics, and Professionalism, I will strive to improve affective instruction by promoting humanities, ethics, and professionalism instruction across the APTA academies and the ACAPT institutions. In addition, completing a thorough evidence-based review related to the humanities, ethics and professionalism within healthcare education will expand physical therapy instruction and guide future instructional research. The following roles demonstrate my ability to serve as the CHEP chair and accomplish the above goals: 1) 2018 MUSC University Teaching Excellence Award: Educator Mentor; 2) Publication in the area of Humanities 3) Past Chair of American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine Complex Care Committee; 4) current Chair of Children with Complex Care subcommittee to APPT School-based SIG.</p>

Name: Write-in

Position: Consortium - Chair

Name: Kimberly Somers PT, DPT

Title: Director of Clinical Education, Assistant Professor

Position: Consortium - Secretary

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>Dr. Kimberly Somers is currently serving as the Director of Clinical Education for Creighton University's developing Program of Physical Therapy in Phoenix, Arizona and has 6 years of experience in academia. She is a Board-Certified Orthopedic Specialist with a strong passion for educational research specific to physical therapy student professional formation of habits of heart and moral agency, clinical education and the collaborative model, and competency of health profession students in interprofessional education. Kimberly's teaching responsibilities include contributions to Ethics and Professional Formation courses at Creighton University's DPT program in Omaha, Nebraska while she is contributing to the development of the program of physical therapy in Phoenix. Serving her local community by providing physical therapy services to patients at Saint Vincent de Paul, a pro bono interdisciplinary medical clinic, brings her great joy and feeds her soul. She currently serves as the Vice President of the Arizona Physical Therapy Directors Organization that provides a forum to support and facilitate collaboration between local leaders in rehabilitative care. Kimberly earned her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Northern Arizona University in 2011 and her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arizona in 2007.</p>	<p>I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve as the secretary for the ACAPT Consortium of Humanities Ethics and Professionalism. I am committed to contributing to our profession's development of humanism in physical therapy students and investigating how best to effectively thread this development into physical therapy program curriculum. I believe that to achieve excellence in education we must emphasize our students' professional identity formation. My scholarly agenda aligns with the initiatives that I believe ACAPT should focus on. In addition, Creighton University's Ignatian values align strongly with my personal values and are consistent with multiple targets for ACAPT's strategic plan. All emphasize the importance of self-reflection, "care for the person," and the development of resources to serve those in need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Educational institutions would greatly benefit from increased rationale and strategies to increase the expectations of their students' education in humanities for the betterment of society.</p>

Name: Write-in

Position: Consortium - Secretary

Name: Jessica Lieb Cammarata PT, DPT, Ed.D

Title: Associate Professor of Physical Therapy

Position: Consortium - Nominating Committee

Brief Bio	Candidate Statement
<p>I graduated from Hahnemann University in 1996 with an MPT and completed my tDPT through Temple University in 2014. After practicing as a neuro clinician for 16 years, I became involved in physical therapist education at Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA, where I teach a number of neuro courses. I also have served as the Interim Director of General Education for the past three years and am in the process of leading a full scale revision of the program. Professionally I have served on the leadership team in the local chapter of the Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association, performed critical appraisals of articles for the Vestibular Hypofunction CPG update, served on the Neuro Education Competency Task Force, and am on the Committee of Content Experts for the neurologic specialist certification exam.</p>	<p>I strongly believe in the importance of the use of humanities in physical therapy education. My dissertation research looked at how the humanities are used in one DPT program, and I would like to support their use across institutions of physical therapist education. My passion for the intersection of health care and humanities began in my undergraduate years, when I designed my own major and titled it "Human Nature". This self designed program was aimed at better understanding people through the humanities, natural science, and social sciences. I strongly believe that my undergraduate education shaped me as a clinician, and I would like to see the humanities used in physical therapist education on a much larger scale.</p>

Name: Write-in

Position: Consortium - Nominating Committee