



NEWS RELEASE

1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
800/875-1378
703/706-1378
www.foundation4pt.org

Foundation Announces 2014 Recipients of Postprofessional Doctoral Scholarships and Fellowship Totaling \$250,500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rachael Crockett
703/706-3385
rachaelcrockett@foundation4pt.org

ALEXANDRIA, VA, June 18, 2014 - The Foundation for Physical Therapy Board of Trustees recently awarded a total of \$250,500 in Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PODS) I & II Scholarships and a New Investigator Fellowship Training Initiative (NIFTI) to 16 physical therapists.

"The level of excellence of our scholarship and fellowship applications continues to grow," said Foundation Board of Trustees Chair William G. Boissonnault, PT, DPT, DHSc, FAPTA, FAAOMPT. "The Foundation is proud to support such outstanding physical therapists as they begin their research careers."

As part of its post-professional Doctoral Opportunities for Clinicians and Scholarships (DOCS) program to fund the most highly-qualified doctoral and post-doctoral students preparing for research careers, the Foundation awards PODS I Scholarships of \$7,500 each year to physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who have completed at least two full semesters or three full quarters of their coursework toward a postprofessional doctorate degree. PODS II Scholarships of up to \$15,000 each are awarded to physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who have been formally admitted to post-professional doctoral candidacy. These scholarships are primarily funded by the American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA) "Scholarship Fund."

Congratulations to the 2014 PODS I Scholarship recipients: **Pierce Boyne, PT, DPT, NCS**, University of Cincinnati; **Kendra Cherry-Allen, PT, DPT**, Washington University in St. Louis; **Timothy Faw, PT, DPT, NCS**, The Ohio State University; **Kara Hannibal, PT, DPT**, University of Florida; **Andrej Marich, PT, DPT**, Washington University in St. Louis; **Andrew Smith, PT, DPT**, Northwestern University; and **Allyn Susko, PT, DPT**, University of Pittsburgh.

Pierce Boyne, PT, DPT, NCS, University of Cincinnati, is the recipient of the 2014 **Scot C. Irwin Award** for displaying outstanding merit within a PODS application focusing on post-professional studies within cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation. This award is in memory of accomplished physical therapist and

Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Section member, Scot C. Irwin, PT, DPT, CCS. This PODS scholarship is supported by the Cardiovascular and Pulmonary section.

Kendra Cherry-Allen, PT, DPT, Washington University in St. Louis, is the recipient of the 2014 **Patricia Leahy Award** for her outstanding application in post-professional studies within neurology. This award is given in memory of APTA Section on Neurology member, accomplished physical therapist, and Foundation Doctoral Training Research Grant recipient, Patricia Leahy, PT, MS, NCS. Leahy was a professor at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia and was one of the first physical therapists ever to receive the Neurologic Certified Specialist certification. This scholarship is generously supported by members of the Neurology Section through the Foundation's Neurology Endowment Fund.

Allyn Susko, PT, DPT, University of Pittsburgh, has been named as the recipient of the **Miami-Marquette Challenge Award** for exceptional achievement within a PODS application. This award was made possible by the 2013-2014 Miami-Marquette Challenge. The Marquette Challenge is the signature annual fundraising initiative of the Foundation, raising more funds each year than any other Foundation activity. The Challenge is coordinated and carried out by physical therapist and physical therapist assistant students across the country. Students organize grassroots fundraisers on their campuses and in their local communities that raise awareness for and benefit the Foundation for Physical Therapy. Since its inception, the Challenge has raised over \$2.7 million and has specifically funded over 20 research grants and scholarships.

The 2014 PODS II Scholarship recipients are: **Sarah Gilliland, PT, DPT**, University of California, Irvine; **Hyosub Kim, PT, DPT**, University of Illinois at Chicago; **Andrew Kittelson, PT, DPT**, University of Colorado; **Kristan Leech, PT, DPT**, Northwestern University; **Ryan Marker, PT, DPT**, University of Colorado Denver; **Kate Minick Thayne, PT, DPT**, University of Utah; **Miriam Rafferty, PT, DPT, NCS**, University of Illinois at Chicago; and **Stacy Stolzman, PT, MPT**, Marquette University

Hyosub Kim, PT, DPT, University of Illinois at Chicago, is the recipient of the 2014 **Mary Lou Barnes Award** for his outstanding PODS II application in postprofessional studies within neurology. This award is given in honor of APTA Section on Neurology member and accomplished physical therapist Mary Lou Barnes, PT, FAPTA. Barnes was the founding director of the West Virginia University physical therapy program and served as chair of Georgia State University's program. During her terms, both programs achieved national recognition. Members of the Neurology Section provided generous support for this award through the Foundation's Neurology Endowment Fund.

Miriam Rafferty, PT, DPT, NCS, University of Illinois at Chicago, has been named the **Viva J. Erickson Award** recipient, for exceptional academic and leadership achievement within a PODS II application in honor of Viva J. Erickson, PT, an accomplished physical therapist and leader within APTA.

Special thanks are extended to the APTA Neurology Section for its sponsorship of the PODS II scholarship for **Kristan Leech, PT, DPT**, Northwestern University, and

the APTA Education Section for partially sponsoring the PODS II Scholarship for **Sarah Gilliland, PT, DPT**, University of California, Irvine.

The \$78,000 New Investigator Fellowship Training Initiative (NIFTI) was awarded to **Maggie Horn, PT, DPT, MPH, PhD**, of Langston University and University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Her fellowship will include a research training experience entitled "Comparison of Healthcare Utilization and Costs in Physical Therapy Utilizers and Non-Physical Therapy Utilizers Seeking Care for Neck Pain." Horn's research focuses on describing and comparing the patterns and costs of healthcare utilization in those both receiving and not receiving physical therapist intervention for neck pain, and to elucidate the effect of timing of physical therapy services on downstream healthcare costs and utilization. She will be under the mentorship of Julie Fritz, PT, PhD, Professor of Physical Therapy at the University of Utah. This award is supported through APTA's "Scholarship Fund" and the Foundation's General Research Fund.

The NIFTI supports post-professional, doctorally prepared physical therapists as they begin their research careers. It is designed to accommodate both traditional postdoctoral and new faculty applicants for a closely mentored research experience.

About the Foundation for Physical Therapy

The Foundation for Physical Therapy was established in 1979 as a national, independent nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality and delivery of physical therapy care by providing support for scientifically based and clinically relevant physical therapy research and doctoral scholarships and fellowships. To learn more, visit Foundation4pt.org.

Over the last 34 years, the Foundation has awarded more than \$14 million in research grants, fellowships, and post-professional doctoral scholarships to more than 500 emerging scientists. Foundation-funded researchers have gone on to receive an estimated \$610 million in external funding from the National Institutes of Health and other sources. Many of today's leading and emerging physical therapist researchers, clinicians, and academicians began their careers with a grant or scholarship from the Foundation.

Contributions to the Foundation for Physical Therapy are tax-deductible and can be made online at Foundation4PT.org or sent to its headquarters at 1111 N Fairfax St, Alexandria, VA 22314. For more information, e-mail info@foundation4pt.org or call 800/875-1378.

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