

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, ORFSIG members, soon to be Orthopedic Residency and Fellowship Engagement Community,

While we will have a new name, we will still be collaborating for the networking, education, mentoring of new programs, and research of orthopedic postgraduate education needs. Thank you to all who joined us November 4 for the annual meeting, and please listen to the recording if you were not able to attend. All meetings are now remote to allow the largest number of attendees and the ability to record for those who aren't able to attend.

I have summarized below a number of updates about what is happening within the SIG and upcoming education opportunities at the Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) 2026.

Please reach out if you would like to be involved with subcommittees for education, marketing, mentoring, or research. We would love to expand our reach. There is a link at the bottom.

*Thanks,
Molly Malloy
malloyma@arcadia.edu*

IMPORTANT LINKS OF MEETING UPDATES!

- ORFSIG annual meeting link and recording—November 4, 2025
—<https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/residency-fellowship/meetings>

Highlights of what the ORFSIG did in 2025



1. We provided residency educational opportunities through CSM.
 - a. 45 attendees for the ORFSIG precon
 - b. Presented an educational session “One Size Does Not Fit All: Exploring Residency Models”
 - c. Had our 2nd annual platforms of resident case reports and research

2. APTA Orthopedics updated website: Check out the new website and all of the additional information, especially for developing programs.
<https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/residency-fellowship/developing-accredited-programs>
3. Members have been a part of the APTA Orthopedics Universal Residency Task Force Curriculum Workgroup. This is a 3-year project to bring together universal resources to support residency programs in covering all aspects of the Description of Residency Practice (DRP).
4. We continue to have our research project: see information below about the universal graduate survey and resident platforms.
5. We represented orthopedic residencies in the Post-Professional Education Council—Leda McDaniel is our rep!

EDUCATION UPDATE

Please join us for these upcoming ORFSIG CSM education sessions!

OR-23930: Tilling the Soil of Residency and Fellowship Education from the Basics to Growing Program Excellence
Wednesday, February 13, 2025 (**One-day preconference)

- **Preconference: This is a great one-day program for program directors and coordinators of both new and developing programs. Topics that are covered include:**
 - Establishing innovative curriculum design with interactive learning
 - Assessing competency from initial through graduation
 - Mentoring smarter, not harder
 - Initial accreditation and reaccreditation updates, plans, and preparing for site visits
 - Remediating a struggling or failing resident/fellow
 - Showing value to administrators and marketing

OR-24499: Bridging the Gap from Student to Clinician through the Lens of the Master Adaptive Learner Thursday, February 14, 2025 8-9:30 AM

- **Education session to focus on adaptive learning strategies**

3rd Annual Ortho Residents Platforms

Saturday, February 14, from 2:00-3:30 PM



- 8 presenters were selected out of the 48 submissions
- Great job to all of the residents and mentors who assisted to get these projects submitted. We cannot wait to hear about all of your work!

- Additional resources for writing abstracts

Additional CSM learning opportunities related to residency and fellowship programs:

RE-24369 The Value of Post-Professional Residency, Fellowship and PhD Training

Michael John Bade, PT, DPT, PhD, Carole Tucker, Jennifer Elaine Stevens-Lapsley, PT, MPT, PhD, FAPTA and Alexander Jeffrey Garbin, PT, DPT, PhD

Proposal

Thursday, February 12, 2026

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

OR-23522 - Therapists Can't Order X-Rays and Insurance Won't Pay for It Anyway: And Other Imaging-Related Myths.

Aaron Paul Keil, PT, DPT, Evan Othmer Nelson, PT, DPT, PhD, Stephen Michael Kareha, PT, DPT, ATC, PhD, Kelly Elizabeth Clark, PT, DPT and Scott P. Tauferner, PT, MPT, ATC

Friday, February 13, 2026

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

ED-24449 Building Stronger Residency Programs: Strategies for Recruitment, Selection, and Support

Eric S. Stewart, PT, DPT, Sowmya Kumble, PT, MPT, Amy Bratton Gagnon Garrigues, PT, DPT and Kendra Gagnon, PT, PhD

Proposal

Saturday, February 14, 2026

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Universal Graduate Survey

Members of the ORF-SIG consolidated their program's surveys into a single survey and recently obtained institutional review board approval to distribute to any member programs who are interested in participating. The results of this survey will help member programs improve recruitment and curricular development. Please share this QR code with all of your graduates and ask them to complete it. This survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete. Steve is also able to pull out your results so you can use it as your annual survey! Thanks for helping us collect data on the value of our programs! You can also reach out to Steve Kareha to have your specific program results pulled individually. This will allow you to only use one survey for your graduates and it will assist with data collection while also giving you information on your specific program.

Stephen.Kareha@sluhn.org



<https://redcap.link/x8rmojv1>

CURRICULAR DOCUMENT SHARING

Work Group Leaders: Adam Walsh

Curricular sharing: This past year, we have been compiling Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist (OCS) exam-style test questions. We are working with the academy to have these available through an online testing portal. In the interim, please reach out to Adam if you would like access to OCS-style test questions (AdWalsh@salud.unm.edu).

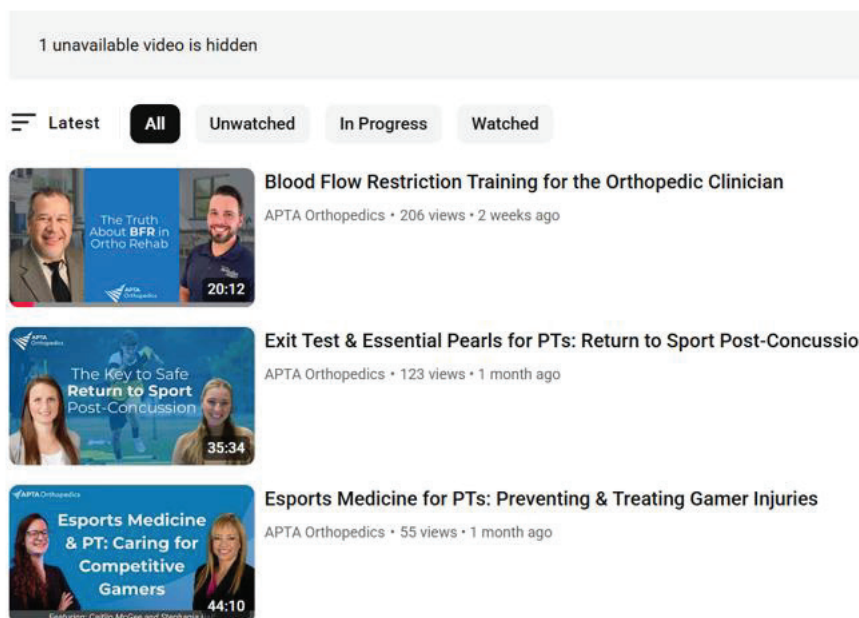
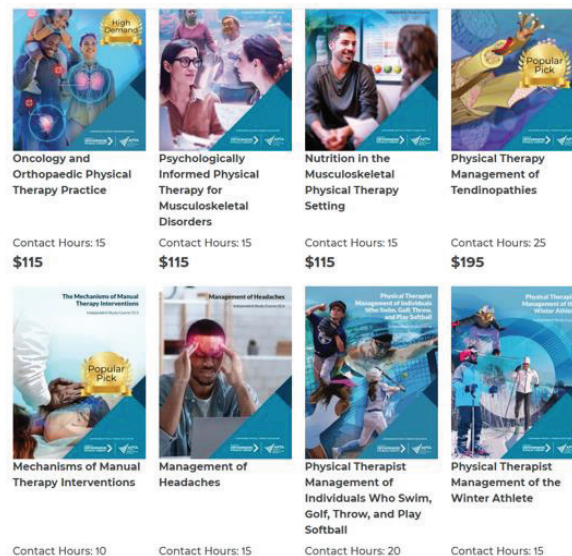
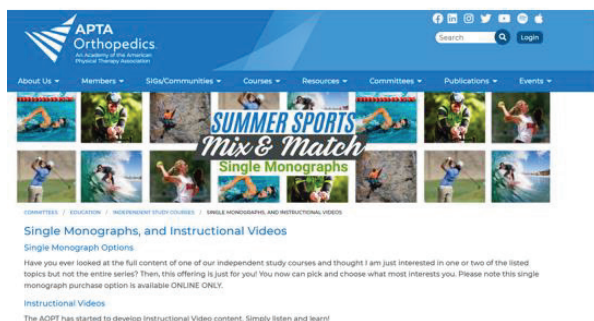
PROGRAM RESIDENT/FELLOW/FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

- Please visit: <https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/residency-fellowship/orf-sig-program-spotlight/spotlight-program-faqs>
- Reach out to with any questions to Adam Walsh (AdWalsh@salud.unm.edu)
- This is a member-only feature that allows one or more orthopedic residency/fellowship programs to be spotlighted within a given month to market themselves to prospective candidates and those seeking more information on postprofessional education in orthopedics. It is a great way to highlight your program, residents and faculty!

Additional Resources

Please follow APTA Orthopedics on YouTube for podcasts and check out the new mix-and-match options to supplement your didactic curriculums! Some of these new courses are even free!

- Cost full CC = \$330
- Lower Quadrant = \$220
- Upper Quadrant = \$245
- Number of additional courses
 - Varying costs: Free, \$55, \$100, \$245



RF-PTCAS: Kirk Bentzen, Steve Kareha, Megan Frazee, Carrie Schwoerer, Christina Gomez

If you are a newer program or need a refresher on some of the nuances of the processes and timelines, please review the following podcast: *Navigating RF-PTCAS*, which can be found here: <https://musc.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Embed.aspx?id=0841c14e-a3f7-4196-b654-acd90169c9e2>. Presenters of this podcast included Ryan Bannister, Director of Centralized Application Services and Student Recruitment, and Orthopedic Residency and Fellowship SIG leadership, including Kirk Bentzen, Christina Gomez, and Steve Kareha.

Please contact Carrie Schwoerer (cschwoerer@uwhealth.org) with questions.



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

ORF-SIG Work Groups (2025)

