

## ORF-SIG DASHBOARD:

<p><b>TOTAL MEMBERS: 386</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facebook Group: 171 (+15)</li> </ul> <p><b>ABPTRFE ACCREDITED PROGRAMS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residencies:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Orthopaedic: 156 (+10)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Fellowships:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand: 0</li> <li>OMPT: 25</li> <li>Performing Arts: 3</li> <li>Spine: 4</li> <li>Upper Extremity: 5 (+1)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>ACOMPTE ACCREDITED PROGRAMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OMPT: 39 (-1)</li> </ul> <p><i>(+/- in members/programs since last quarter)</i></p>	<p><b>CURRENT MEMBER MAKE UP:</b></p> <p><i>Demographic Regions:</i></p> <table border="1"> <caption>Demographic Regions Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>South</td> <td>35.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>23.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northeast</td> <td>20.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Midwest</td> <td>20.6%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Region	Percentage	South	35.3%	West	23.5%	Northeast	20.6%	Midwest	20.6%																																						
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### ORF-SIG Members,

In this time of hustle and bustle it is important to look back and recap the highlights. It is easy to lose sight of all we have accomplished when we are only focused on what more needs to be done. The ORF-SIG has had a number of wins this past year which I would like to highlight.

#### Combined Sections Meeting:

- We completed another great pre-conference session, “Creating and Maintaining Competitive Residency and Fellowship Programs” and expanded beyond just residency/fellowship development to cover ways to be more efficient and share resources and concrete ways to improve our overall post graduate training. This day long meeting inspired many of the initiatives that we are working on to improve efficiency and collaboration between programs. Please join us for CSM 2024 for another collaborative pre-conference day.
- We also presented an ORFSIG leadership education session titled, *Mentoring Smarter not Harder*. This program had a huge turnout and tackled ideas for mentoring to improve efficiency to truly assess clinical reasoning of our residents. This was the first time the ORF-SIG presented an education session at CSM, and we had another session accepted for 2024!

#### Research:

- We had our first IRB accepted and we have collected from over 80 graduates regarding their residency training. See below for ways to expand the data collection to your graduates as well!
- Over 100 current Orthopaedic residents submitted their case studies and research projects to the inaugural platform presentation for CSM 2024! See below for specifics.

#### Collaboration of Didactic resources:

- We compiled a team to start sharing OCS style test questions to build a question bank for all ORF-SIG programs to use and implement as needed with our residency/fellowship programs. This is in its final review and look for more information in the months ahead for how to access on the ORF-SIG section of the website.

It truly takes a village to perform the work behind the scenes to push ahead our residency/fellowship training programs. The ORF-SIG team has been diligent despite the many other daily jobs we are doing with our own programs. It is an inspiring group and we look forward to expanding our reach and collaborating more in the year ahead. Read below for ways to get involved in the year ahead and for events at CSM to meet in person.

*Molly Malloy*  
President, ORF-SIG

## CSM 2024 SPECIFIC EVENTS FOR ORFSIG

### Wednesday, February 14th

1 day Pre-conference Course

Navigating Innovations in your Residency/Fellowship Program: Excellence in Teaching, Curriculum, Mentoring, and Outcomes

### Thursday February 15th from 3-5p.m.

Orthopaedic Resident Platform Session 3

For CSM 2024, The Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy will have its inaugural platform presentation session exclusively for Orthopaedic Resident's Research and Case Studies!

This is an exciting opportunity to highlight Orthopaedic residents, residency programs and to showcase the hard work they are doing to advance our profession! I am thrilled to announce we had over 100 submissions with 15 being research projects and 85 being case studies. Thank you to our 15 reviewers who read and graded all of the submissions. Congratulations to the 12 residents whose projects and cases were accepted and to all of faculty, mentors, and colleagues who assisted in these projects. It will be great to hear about the work of our residents, faculty, and programs!

### Friday, February 16th

Research and Publication Opportunities  
Universal Graduate Survey

Residency and fellowship programs for physical therapists develop expertise in specialty and subspecialty fields of physical therapy to serve our patients' needs better. Over the past 3 decades, residency and fellowship programs have grown dramatically. Residency and fellowship programs are required to survey their graduates to determine program outcomes, but the data produced from these surveys have always been individualized to each program. Thus, there needs to be more peer-reviewed information on the outcomes of residencies and fellowships. Members of the ORF-SIG consolidated their program's surveys into a single survey and recently obtained IRB 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. Thanks for helping us collect data on the value of our programs!



### Curricular Document Sharing:

Work Group Leaders: Kathleen Geist, Aimee Klein

Following the AOPT sponsored CSM Pre-conference session “Creating and Maintaining Competitive Residency and Fellowship Programs” expanding curricular sharing was expressed as an area which would benefit program directors. Specifically sharing examination questions and specialty curricular content. This

group met in July and is compiling test questions for resources to share with our members. We will send out more information once it is compiled and on the website for ways to access this material. Thanks to all who are helping!



### Applicant Registry:

Steve Kareha, Molly Malloy, Kirk Bentzen, Carrie Schwoerer

One big problem facing programs over the years is the ability to sustain consistent applicant bases despite using or not using RF-PTCAS. Our team had been working hard to collect interested applicants to attempt to steer them to open positions. We are brainstorming to revise this system to tackle the problem from the front end focusing on the following:

1. Raise awareness for our programs,
2. Steer qualified applicants to our programs, and
3. Address the problems of open positions throughout the country.

In the meantime, you can continue to use this link for an excess of applicants who you are open to sharing of their information. Specifically, for those qualified applicants who are excellent candidates and have already been vetted but applied to a program that does not have any available spots. The program denying admission may then provide the applicant with a flyer explaining the database and providing them the option to participate. Member programs may access these qualified, vetted applicants as needed by contacting Steve Kareha ([stephen.kareha@sluhn.org](mailto:stephen.kareha@sluhn.org)). Updates on the numbers of candidates in this list will be provided quarterly to the membership.

- a. Currently, everyone who was on this list has been admitted into a program.



### PROGRAM RESIDENT/FELLOW/FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

Caitlyn Lang, Kristine Neelon, Bob Schroedter

#### What is the Program Spotlight?

It is an ORF-SIG, member-only feature that allows one or more orthopaedic residency/fellowship programs to be Spotlighted within a given month to market themselves to prospective candidates and those seeking more information on post professional education in orthopaedics. Additionally, programs will also be

spotlighting individual faculty and/or residents/fellows-in-training as good-will ambassadors of their respective programs.

#### What are the benefits to being Spotlighted?

Programs that are Spotlighted advance the exposure and interest in post professional orthopaedic physical therapy programs across the country, thus bolstering their program's sustainability. Furthermore, by providing important, decision-making details about their program a prospective candidate can make a better-informed decision about which program may be a good fit for them.

#### Who is eligible to apply?

Program coordinators or Program directors may apply for their program as long as they meet the following pre-application criteria:

- The program must be ABPTRFE or ACOMPTE accredited or in Candidate status.
- The Program Director or Coordinator must be a member of the AOPT and ORF-SIG.
- The Program Director or Coordinator must have a specialization in Orthopaedics.

Please visit: <https://www.orthopt.org/content/special-interest-groups/residency-fellowship/orf-sig-program-spotlight/spotlight-program-faqs>

#### ABPTRFE Frequently Asked Questions Documents:

Recently, the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) released updates to their Policies and Procedures including some changes to the Primary Health conditions and CoVid-19 accreditation recommendations. The ORF-SIG was able to work with the Chair of ABPTRFE, Mark Weber, and the Lead Accreditation Specialist, Linda Csiza. Together, they provided some further elaboration on several Frequently Asked Questions. Check out these documents here:

- Policy 13.5 Addition of Practice Sites FAQ
- Primary Health Conditions / Medical Conditions List FAQ
- CoVid-19 Temporary Guidance FAQ
- Program Sustainability: Applicant Sharing and Recruitment FAQ



#### 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 RFPTCAS*, which can be found <https://musc.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Embed.aspx?id=0841c14e-a3f7-4196-b654-acd90169c9e2>. Presenters of this podcast included Ryan Bannister, Director-Centralized Application Services and Student Recruitment and Orthopaedic Residency and Fellowship SIG leadership, including Kirk Bentzen, Christina Gomez, and Steve Kareha.

Please contact Carrie Schwoerer ([cschwoerer@uwhealth.org](mailto:cschwoerer@uwhealth.org)) with questions.



Take advantage of our member-only communication forums to share and develop ideas.

<p><b>ORF-SIG Facebook group</b></p>  <p><a href="https://bit.ly/orfsig-fbgroup">bit.ly/orfsig-fbgroup</a></p>	<p><b>AOPT ORF-SIG Communities HUB</b></p>  <p><a href="https://bit.ly/orsig-communityhub">bit.ly/orsig-communityhub</a></p>
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**OTHER KEY RESOURCES:**

**ABPTRFE Updates: Community HUB**

Don't miss out on the latest ABPTRFE Updates from Kendra Harrington:

- Updates to ABPTRFE Processes and Procedures
- What Sites Should, and Should Not, Be Included on the Participant Practice Sites?
- ABPTRFE Recent Actions
- July 1 Policy Reminder



**ACOMPTE Website and Resources:**

Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy Fellowship programs find ACOMPTE Information here:



**APTE RF-SIG Resources: Christina Gomez**

[aptaeducation.org/special-interest-group/RFESIG/](http://aptaeducation.org/special-interest-group/RFESIG/)

You can also find more great information from the Academy of Education's Residency and Fellowship SIG (RFESIG). Here you will find a variety of Podcasts they have completed for Residency and Program Directors. Please make sure to check these out as well as the Think Tank resources.

- Virtual Site Visit
- RF-PTCAS Reminders



## In Memoriam of

# Janet Steiss

On December 1, 2023, the canine sporting and physical therapy world lost a legend. Janet Steiss, the first DVM, PT, was a staple figure in the field with hunting dogs. She identified and described 'limber tail' in the hunting dog in 1999. In 2002, she published a canine injury survey - a list of the most common orthopedic injuries commonly seen in sporting, working, and herding dogs from 1990-2001. She was active in the American Canine Sports Medicine Association (ACSMA) and published a survey of ACSMA members' representation of their time involved with "sporting and working dogs, and the popularity of the various canine sports". Her contributions were tremendous. She had the knowledge, clinical skills, and clinical reasoning from the perspective of the veterinarian and physical therapist, all of which are required in the field of canine rehabilitation. We will miss her unique contribution to canine rehabilitation, as well as her friendship.

