

James A. Gould Excellence in Teaching Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Award

Purpose

- To recognize and support excellence in instructing OPT principles and techniques through the acknowledgment of an individual with exemplary teaching skills.

Eligibility

- The nominee **must be a member in good standing of the Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy of the APTA**. The nominee must have taught or presently be teaching either physical therapy or physical therapy assistant students the principles and clinical applications of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy for five years or more.
- The nominee may be either a faculty member (full-time or adjunct) or a clinical instructor of an accredited physical therapy or physical therapy assistant program.
- Members of the Academy Awards Committee are excluded from eligibility during their term of office.

Criteria for Selection

The Awards Committee will consider the following as guidelines in the selection process:

- The instructor devotes the majority of his professional career to student education.
- The instructor teaches from a sound, comprehensive, and current knowledge base, integrating basic science with the principles of orthopaedic physical therapy.
- The instructor demonstrates excellence in instructional methods, presentation techniques, planning and organizational skills, and the ability to motivate students.
- The instructor serves as a mentor and role model with evidence of strong student rapport.
- Teaching materials are innovative and well-designed.
- Instructional techniques are intellectually challenging and promote retention of necessary knowledge and skills.
- The instructor demonstrates an ability to relate academic knowledge to clinical practice.
- The instructor displays objectivity in the evaluation and presentation of ideas, hypotheses, and concepts.
- The instructor is receptive to student and peer feedback.

Procedure for Nomination

- Any member of the Academy may nominate candidates for the award.
- The complete packet, containing all materials listed in the above **Criteria for Selection** must be sent electronically and received by the Academy office: tfred@orthopt.org by **November 1** for consideration for the award in the following year.
- The materials to be completed and submitted for each nomination shall include **no more than five (5) letters of support** as indicated below in the following order:
 - A support statement from the nominator, highlighting reasons for the nomination and clarifying the relationship between the nominator and nominee.
 - A support statement from one (1) faculty member from all physical therapy or physical therapy assistant educational programs with which the nominee is affiliated.

- Support statements from one (1) professional colleague.
- Support statements from two (2) current and/or former students. If the nominee is a clinical instructor, the clinical education experience must be full-time for a minimum of six weeks.

In addition to the above mentioned letters of support, please include:

- The nominee's curriculum vitae.
- The nomination materials should document examples of how the nominee fulfills the criteria for this award.

Procedures for Review and Selection

- Nomination materials shall be submitted to the Academy office. The Academy office will retain the original set of materials and will provide the Awards Committee with copies for review.
- The Awards Committee will review the nominations and recommend a recipient to the Executive Committee.
- Any members of the Awards Committee who are closely associated with the nominee will abstain from participating in the review and selection process.
- The award will be presented only if there are qualified candidates, and one is selected.
- Nomination materials are considered the property of the Awards Committee, who will maintain their confidentiality.
- Nomination materials will not be returned. If any individual is not selected for the award in a given year, that individual may be nominated in a subsequent year. New nomination materials must be submitted in subsequent years.

Notification of the Award

- The recipient of the award will be notified by the Academy President.
- Those nominees not selected will be so informed in writing.
- The nominators of individuals not selected will receive a letter thanking them for their participation and informing them of the award recipient.
- The confidentiality of the Excellence in OPT Teaching Award will be maintained until the recipient has been notified.

The Award and Presentation

- The Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy will reimburse the round trip coach airfare from any site in the United States or Canada to the APTA Annual Meeting (CSM) site, one day per diem, consistent with the Section's current reimbursement rates and one day's conference registration.
- The award will consist of an appropriate plaque and a \$250.00 honorarium.
- The award will be presented at the APTA Annual Meeting (CSM) by the Chair of the Awards Committee.