

Clinical Education Special Interest Group (CESIG)

Newsletter – Fall 2011

ELC 2011

The Clinical Education SIG leadership team took the “lead” in planning the educational program for the Educational Leadership Conference that was held October 1-3 in Clearwater, Florida. Kudos to Kelly Sass, PT, MPT (Iowa) Scholarship Committee Chairperson, who directed a committed team of reviewers from the Academic Faculty SIG, Clinical Education SIG and Physical Therapist Assistant SIG in reviewing 24 proposals for educational sessions and 34 abstracts for platform presentations. The number of proposals and abstracts was the largest ever received for this conference.

The conference theme, “Innovations in Education”, was successful in attracting many capable and enthusiastic presenters that shared their ideas, methods, sources of funding and outcomes in classroom teaching, clinical education and global outreach programs. There were many persons including the indispensable and highly organized APTA staff that delivered a seamless 3 days of programming for physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, academic and clinical faculty.

The Clinical Education SIG “Open Forum” was held on Monday morning, October 3rd. The format for this session was modeled after the very successful forum during ELC 2010 in San Antonio in which the agenda was established by persons in the audience. In a room filled to capacity, CESIG Co-Chairs, Corrie Odom and Misti Timpson moderated this engaging 2.5 hour session that permitted discussion of ten topics. There were lively discussions through to the last minute. If you were unable to attend ELC 2011, you should consider making ELC 2012 a destination conference!

Clinical Education SIG – On the horizon!

Welcome New Officers! Following CSM in New Orleans, three new members were elected to serve for two years 2011-2013. Joining the CESIG leadership team are:

- Cindy Flom-Meland, Recording Secretary (North Dakota)
- Sandy Falck, Nominating Committee (Ohio)
- Misti Timpson, Co-Chair – Clinical (Utah)

Early in 2012, look for the “call for nominations” from CESIG Nominating Committee members, Gwyn Straker (Chair) and Sandy Falck. They will be seeking your consideration to serve and your nominations for colleagues whom you believe would welcome an opportunity to serve on a leadership team. Terms of service are for two years 2012-14. Positions for which members of the CESIG may be nominated are:

- Co-Chair – Academic
- Membership Secretary
- Nominating Committee

A task force was appointed to review a plan for a regional “communication tree” for organizing clinical education consortia into regions for the purpose of facilitating timely communication. Initial discussion about a regional plan for better connecting with clinical educators occurred during the 2010 APTA Scientific Meeting in Boston. A plan for inter-consortia communication would enable pushing and pulling information from DCE/ACCEs and clinical educators across the country in a timely and organized manner. It is believed a plan, even though voluntary, will promote effective and efficient communication

among consortia enabling dissemination of essential information from APTA and the gathering of input from the clinical education community. Task force members Donna Applebaum (Massachusetts), Tammy Burlis (Missouri), and Holly Clynch (Minnesota) will bring final recommendations to our business meeting at CSM in February 2012.

Corrie Odom, CESIG Co-Chair was invited to serve on a Steering Committee of the Academic Council on Cultural Transformation. Six committee members met during ELC to discuss the Academic Council's strategic priorities. Corrie is one of three DCE/ACCEs invited to serve on this committee. Among those participating in this small group discussion were three program directors of which two had previously served as ACCEs. Per Corrie, "Our discussions were insightful, passionate and meaningful. I am increasingly confident that there is a renewed awareness of the increasing external challenges related to the delivery and quality of clinical education. New opportunities will emerge from this cultural transformation when clinical instructors, center coordinators of clinical education and clinical managers attend our conference and meetings, and are invited to participate on committees and essential workgroups."