



Doctor of Physical Therapy

Newsletter | Summer 2022

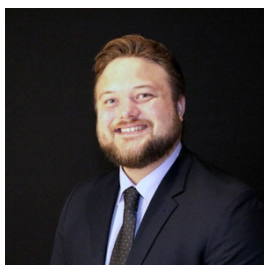
DPT 2022 Graduation & Awards



The FranU DPT Class of 2022 graduated in May as the second cohort of students from the program. Several students received awards from the class:

- **Azahy Ayala:** Franciscan Service Award
- **Bailey Boudreaux:** Academic Excellence and Clinical Excellence Awards
- **Haleigh Giglio:** Research Excellence Award

Promotion in Rank



Dr. Michael Ludwig was promoted to Associate Professor at FranU. He teaches anatomy in the DPT and PA programs. Dr. Ludwig holds a PhD in anatomy from Penn State University and is a classically trained anatomist. His current research interests include the use of multimodal anatomy education in healthcare students. By utilizing technology such as virtual reality and diagnostic ultrasound, Dr. Ludwig can offer students a variety of learning methods in anatomy.

DPT-PTA Interprofessional Education @FranU

Yet another unique aspect of FranU DPT



FranU's Department of Physical Therapy offers the opportunity for collaboration between the DPT and PTA programs. Students in each program worked together during our yearly 'Aging Lab'. Activities included exploration of tactile, visual, balance, swallowing, and fine motor changes that occur as we age.

State-of-the Art Equipment at FranU

FranU DPT features latest technology in virtual reality and biomechanics

Fran U faculty and clinicians from Our Lady of the Lake joined a clinical training session on the new Virtualis® Virtual Reality system in May. The Virtualis system from Italy is designed specifically for rehabilitation professionals. Using immersive headsets, the Virtualis provides clinicians, students, and researchers with tools to assess movement and balance as well as immerse patients in rehabilitation environments and activities. Neurological, vestibular, orthopedic, and sports applications. The collaborative research between FranU and OLOL plans to focus on patients including those with stroke, balance disorders, motion sickness, and dizziness.





Dr. Phil Page participated in training on the Noraxon® biomechanical assessment system in cooperation with Tulane University Medical School Department of Orthopedics. Collaborative research on Tulane's athletes will offer FranU DPT students opportunities in sports biomechanics and orthopedic research. FranU DPT features the latest EMG, kinematic and force plate technology from Noraxon.

Room of Errors

Students search for risk errors during simulation

FranU School of Health Profession's interprofessional students (dietitians, PA and DPT) participate in hospital simulations to teach them how to identify risk errors in the healthcare setting. DPT Faculty member Kelly Rodriguez co-authored a paper with other health professions faculty in the International Journal of Health Nutrition Exercise Science. (*Fournet RM et al. Room of Errors: Can you find risk? A competency-based learning experience. Int J Health Nutr Ex Sci. 2022. 1(1):83-199.*)

*First-year DPT students **Jacob Jackson** and **Grayson Dubois** check for errors in the SETH lab*



Follow the Leader

Faculty members participate in various professional meetings across the country

Dr. Kirk Nelson was in Washington DC for the final intensive session and graduation of the APTA Fellowship in Educational Leadership (formerly the Educational Leadership Institute or ELI). This is a credentialed fellowship program. Read more about the graduation: <https://www.apta.org/news/2022/07/22/2021-22-education-ldrs-fellowship>

Dr. Michael Ludwig attended the Anatomy Education Research Institute in Bloomington Indiana, a four-day intensive workshop on education research.

Dr. Phil Page recently served as program chair of the annual ICCUS Society research meeting in Colorado Springs. Top clinicians and researchers specializing in sports rehabilitation met to present the latest in research and practice.



FranU DPT Open House begins admissions process

Open house kicks off the season for the class of #DPT2026

Our Spring Open House had approximately 30 attendees, with an additional 10-12 current students conducting informative and heartfelt Q&A sessions on the life of a DPT student. Faculty-led discussions on general program details, elective coursework offered including international electives and our unique dual degree program with the Masters of Health Administration.

We are excited to announce changes to our information sessions this fall. Multiple topics will be presented by faculty hosts via recorded sessions that will be distributed throughout the fall on our website and social media platforms. Topics will include general program information, tips for application, writing a personal statement, research, clinical education, and our service-learning programs. On-campus sessions will be led by student ambassadors on three dates (September, October, and November) in the fall. Dates will be released in late August.

The deadlines for application for the 2022-2023 year include an early decision deadline of November 1 and a regular cycle deadline of April 15th.

Summer of Research

DPT Faculty and students remain busy with research activities

Dr. Phil Page was interviewed on the contemporary evidence-based use of rehabilitation modalities for a webinar based on his article published last fall. ([Click here](#)). He also co-hosted a new monthly online journal club in June for the *International Journal of Sports Physical Therapy*; [view the recording here](#).

Second-year students performed data collection for their scholarly projects over the summer. Students are required to complete a scholarly project in an area of their interest. This year's research includes energy expenditure during virtual reality boxing, mechanisms of recovery modalities, blood flow restriction training, musculoskeletal ultrasound, and the effects of spinal manipulation.

*2nd year student **Danielle Rankin** assesses energy expenditure during blood flow restriction with fellow student **Trish Ryan**.*



Research Presentations & Publications

A record 13 presentations were accepted from FranU DPT students, faculty and alumni for the Louisiana state physical therapy association (APTA-LA) meeting in Baton Rouge. Poster and platform presentations will be held on August 26.

[Click here for more information on the meeting.](#)

Dr. Phil Page was co-author of an international research paper involving military veterans with leg amputation. The paper was published in Assistive Technology. [The association of the localized pain sensitivity in the residual limb and prosthesis use in male veterans with transtibial amputation](#)

FranU DPT students completed and disseminated their scholarly projects for graduation. 20 new research papers were added to the Proquest database.

- QUANTIFYING THE KINEMATIC AND ELECTROMYOGRAPHIC VARIABLES IN THE UPPER EXTREMITY USING A VIRTUAL REALITY APPLICATION
- DIFFERENCES WHILE NAVIGATING STAIRS BETWEEN ROAMI WALKERS AND TRADITIONAL WALKERS: A PILOT STUDY
- DOES FORWARD SHOULDER POSTURE INFLUENCE MUSCLE ACTIVATION AMPLITUDE AND STRENGTH DURING EXTERNAL ROTATION AND SHOULDER ELEVATION EXERCISES? A PILOT STUDY
- LOWER EXTREMITY MUSCLE ACTIVATION AMPLITUDES DURING INTRINSIC AND EXTRINSIC PERTURBATIONS ON AN UNSTABLE SURFACE
- WHAT ARE ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS OF PT & PTA TOWARD SELF CARE: SURVEY OF LOUISIANA LICENSED THERAPISTS
- ARE PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES UTILIZED WITH TRADITIONAL CARE FOR THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC MUSCULOSKELETAL PAIN? A SURVEY OF LOUISIANA PHYSICAL THERAPISTS
- PHYSICAL THERAPIST'S KNOWLEDGE, BELIEFS, AND PRACTICES RELATED TO OBESITY PREVENTION AND SCREENING FOR PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL ADOLESCENTS WITHOUT KNOWN DISABILITY
- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS' ADHERENCE TO ACL CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES
- WHAT IS THE INCIDENCE OF BURNOUT IN PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDENTS IN LOUISIANA?
- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS' ROLE AND IMPACT ON PATIENT EDUCATION AND HEALTH PROMOTION FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
- PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN COVID-19 SURVIVORS
- IS THE CURRENT CPG RECOMMENDATION OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR CANCER PATIENTS PROPERLY IMPLEMENTED BY PHYSICAL THERAPISTS?

- BARRIERS TO PHYSICAL THERAPY ACCESSIBILITY FOR PATIENTS WITH NON-PHYSICAL DISABILITIES OR LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY
- DETERMINING THE FACTORS OF SUCCESS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE
- SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW OF THE REPORTING OF REHABILITATION INTERVENTIONS IN PROXIMAL HUMERUS FRACTURE INTERVENTION STUDIES
- CONSERVATIVE TREATMENTS ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISC HYDRATION: A SCOPING REVIEW
- REHABILITATION TECHNIQUES SUCCESSFUL IN THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM BLAST INJURIES: A SCOPING REVIEW
- TREATMENT OF ACUTE SOFT-TISSUE INJURY USING ICE: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
- EXERCISE PARAMETERS FOR TREATMENT OF STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE IN WOMEN'S HEALTH PHYSICAL THERAPY: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
- A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF DOSING PARAMETERS FOR TREATMENT OF ATRAUMATIC CHRONIC NON-SPECIFIC CERVICAL PAIN