

# FranU DPT Spring 2024 Newsletter

## Combined Sections Meeting in Boston



In early February, many of our 2nd year students attended APTA's Combined Sections Meeting held in Boston, MA. Throughout the conference, students attended lectures, explored the exhibition hall, and spent time networking with and learning from some of the most outstanding physical therapists in the country!

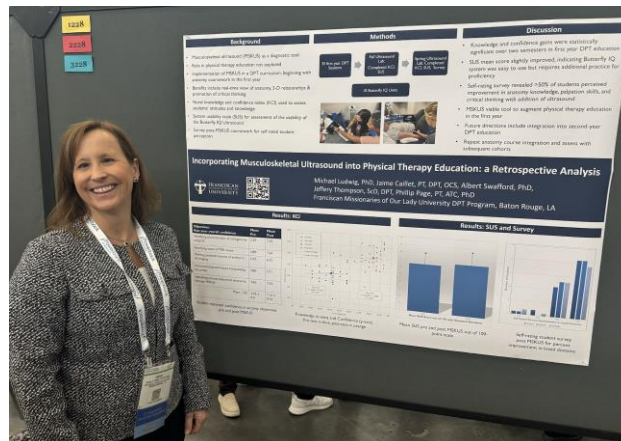
Our students want to express their gratitude for the opportunity to attend events like CSM and encourage their fellow students to make the effort when possible!

At this year's CSM, FranU's own Dr. Jaime Caillet was awarded as one of the poster presenters in the Education Section. The research, "Incorporating MSK Ultrasound into Physical Therapy Education: A Retrospective Analysis," was completed alongside Dr. Albert Swafford, Dr. Michael Ludwig, Dr. Phil Page, and Dr. Jeff Thompson.

Their study aimed to highlight the useability of MSKUS in a DPT education due to its easy use, feasibility and enhancement of anatomy understanding. The study specifically looked at the knowledge of students

and their respective confidence in their ability to utilize MSKUS. Dr. Caillet and colleagues found that with an increase in use of MSKUS came a significant positive change in knowledge and confidence, not only with the use of MSKUS, but also with their understanding of anatomy.

Dr. Caillet believes their study proves that MSKUS is a viable tool that can augment PT education. Lastly, Dr. Caillet expressed her excitement to be a part of a high-quality study worthy of presentation at CSM!



1 - Dr. Jaime Caillet posing with her poster presentation at CSM

## Welcoming 2026 Class Officers



Hey everyone! My name is Bryant Anacker and I'm the Class President for the 2026 cohort! I'm originally from Denham Springs but have been living here in Baton Rouge for the last 10 years. My favorite part of the first semester was becoming close friends with all my classmates. This has me very excited for the rest of my time here at FranU. What I love most about being elected president is knowing my classmates have instilled their trust in me to help lead and advocate for them. I'm looking forward to what all our futures hold and know it will certainly be bright.! Cheers to the class of 2026!

Hey! My name is Cynthia Romero, and I am currently serving as Secretary for the Class of 2026! I am from New Iberia, LA, and I completed my Bachelor's Degree in Biology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. A fun fact about me is that I had the opportunity to work in college football recruiting for 2 years during my time in undergrad! My favorite part of PT school so far has been the friendships I have



made. We are so fortunate to have such a great group of individuals in our class that work well together and truly support one another! As class secretary, I am excited to keep our class schedule organized and keep everyone up to date with all that is going on as well as assisting the other officers in any ways that I can.

Hi, my name is Sean Loftin, and I am the Treasurer for the class of 2026. I graduated from LSU in 2022 with a bachelor's in Kinesiology. What I like most about FranU is the faculty. They are very engaging, supportive, and easy to have a good relationship with. I am very much looking forward to the next couple of years in school. In my free time, I enjoy playing chess, golf, and hanging out with friends. A fun fact about me is that I have beaten 'Through the Fire and Flames' on Guitar Hero on expert.

Hi, my name is Raven Donald, and I am from Slidell, LA. I serve as the Service Chair for FranU's DPT 2026 cohort. My favorite thing about the first semester of PT school was all the fun events on campus. They were a great way to relax from the studying I had to do. A fun fact about me is that I love to travel and spend time with my friends. With my position I am most excited about getting involved in the community and helping our program fundraise!

Hey y'all! My name is Sarah d'Hemecourt and I am the Social Media Chair for the DPT Class of 2026! I was born and raised in Covington, LA and attended LSU for my undergraduate degree. I am so blessed to be a part of such a special class and can't wait for the next two years. I'm excited to showcase what makes this program so special through our social media accounts!

Hello my name is Brionia Gougis and I am from Baton Rouge, LA. I am the 2026 FranU DPT LPTA Liaison. My favorite thing about PT school from the first semester is getting to know my classmates, learning new things and attending the welcome week events! I love playing sims and also playing with my dog Blu. With my position I am most excited to connect our cohort with other PTs from Louisiana and even getting involved with our profession further.

Hey everyone. My name is Reed Vincent, and I am the Chaplain for the DPT class of 2026. I studied at Belhaven University, where I also played baseball. I have fallen in love with FranU. The community of people and the faith on campus creates an environment that encourages friendship and helpfulness. I am very excited about the next couple of years here and can't wait to see where it takes me.

Hey y'all! My name is LaKedra Franklin, and I am the DPT Olympic Chair for c/o 2026. I'm a Baton Rouge native and so glad that I get to attend PT school in my hometown! My favorite thing about FranU thus far is making new friends, going out into the community for new experiences and learning from professors that truly care about my future! I'm excited to continue the great tradition of DPT Olympics and implementing some new ideas for classes to come!

Hey everyone! I'm Cassie Aloisio, and I am the Recruitment Chair for our 2026 officer class. I am originally from Morgan City, Louisiana. I graduated from Louisiana State University majoring in biology. The profession of PT kind of just fell in my lap after graduation after taking my first job out of college as a rehab tech. I fell in love with the role that PTs can have in a patient's recovery journey, and am so excited to be surrounded with individuals who have the same love and passion for our profession. I feel as if I have found my family here and experience the overwhelming support of our faculty every day, and I cannot wait to share my passion for our program with every interested student at info sessions, open houses, and even during the interview process. I am looking forward to getting more involved with the

recruitment process for our program and hopefully help prospective students be excited and confident to choose FranU's DPT program.

Hey everyone! My name is Katie Cannon, and I assist Cassie Aloisio with the Recruitment Chair and Nick Erwin with the Newsletter Chair. I am from a small town called New Roads, LA, and I attended LSU for my undergraduate degree in Kinesiology. A fun fact about me is that I graduated from LSU a year early by taking dual enrollment classes in high school. I am so honored to get to work alongside the amazing people in my class, and I can't wait to see all that we will accomplish!

Hello, my name is Nicholas Erwin, and I am on the Newsletter Chair with Katie Cannon. I was born and raised in Shreveport, LA, and studied kinesiology and psychology at LSU. Starting PT school was a learning curve, but it has provided me with many opportunities to better myself. I love my class and can't wait to see where this program will take me. What I have enjoyed most about school so far are the simulation cases. It is a great way to practice the hands-on skills we learn in the classroom. If I am not studying, you can most likely find me on a golf course or hanging out with friends.

## DPT Olympics



Each year during the spring semester, 2nd and 1st year students face off in the coveted DPT Olympics. It is a prestigious competition with the winning class gaining the most anticipated prize: bragging rights. This year's games included Quiz Bowl, Tug of War, Pickleball, Corn Hole, PT Relay and new additions Minute-to-Win-It and PT Taboo! It was a close game in all categories and students passionately competed to win the overall title, but this year the 2nd years came out on top. The day ended with some

much-needed time outdoors with a crawfish boil. Shoutout to 2nd Year Avery Byrom for planning and executing an amazing games!



*2 - First year students enjoy crawfish after DPT Olympics.*

## **A New Way to View Anatomy: Virtual Reality Edition**

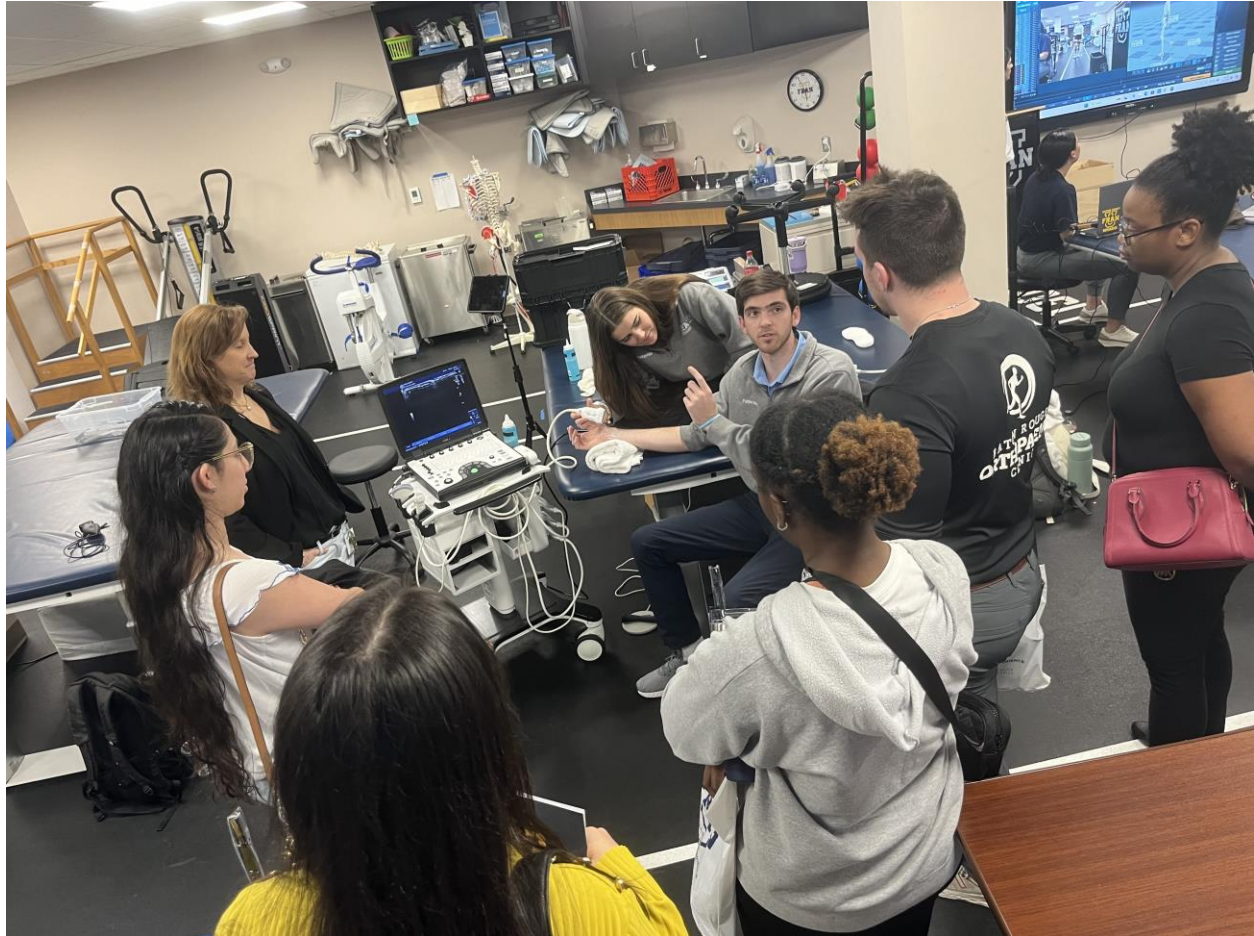
Virtual reality is the latest addition to FranU's anatomy laboratory experience. Procured through an endowment, these virtual reality units are another example of DPT Program's dedication to advancements in teaching methods and making the latest technologies available to our students. With these headsets, our students can view a three-dimensional anatomy application called 3D Organon, in which they are immersed in an interactive and impactful view of anatomy. In this application on the virtual reality headsets, our students can view structures in ways that are impossible through other methods, such as the diaphragm from the underside as they literally look up from inside the abdominal cavity. This unique view will give our students a better understanding of the truly three-dimensional nature of anatomy.



3 - 1st year student Jean Paul Touchet dives into anatomy with the new VR headset.



## Open House



Faculty and students recently hosted our biannual FranU DPT Open House, an event designed to showcase everything we have to offer prospective students! This event provides an opportunity for prospective students to explore FranU's campus and engage with current students and DPT faculty, including our program director and admissions committee. Throughout the event, attendees have the chance to tour our facilities, including the physical therapy gym, classrooms, and the Simulated Environment Teaching Hospital (SETH). At this event, current students also showcase MSK ultrasound and the Anatomage tables used for anatomy labs. These tours enable faculty to provide additional insight into our program and address questions about the curriculum, prerequisite coursework, admission process, and more.



## Making Waves at APTA Louisiana Spring Symposium 2024



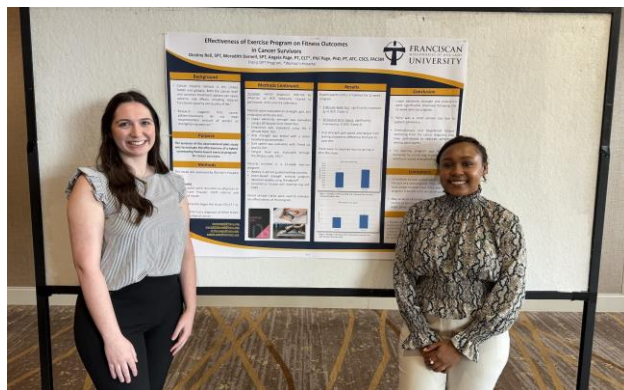
We want to extend a huge shoutout and congratulations to the number of students that presented posters and platforms at the APTA Spring Symposium in March! Many 2nd and 3rd year student research posters were accepted to be presented this year and even two groups were awarded a platform presentation. One of the platform presentations was given by 2nd year students Abby Trahan and Hannah Vicknair. The aim of their research was to provide evidence on devices to measure different characteristics of fascia including thickness, stiffness or elasticity, and displacement. When asked about their platform and research Trahan explained, "We were trying to determine the reliability and validity of the measurements and devices because previously there was no comparison to a gold standard like MRI or histology."

Additionally, 2nd year students Meredith Darnell and Destiny Bell were awarded with 1st place poster presentation at the Symposium for their research on Effectiveness of an Exercise Program in Cancer Patients. Darnell explained, "We performed pre- and post testing with common outcome measures including 6 Minute Walk and TUG while the patients were enrolled in a 12-week exercise program. We saw a significant improvement in endurance and lower extremity strength, which we see as valuable data for this population." Destiny and Meredith want to express their gratitude for this opportunity and support to Dr. Angle Page and Dr. Phil Page!

Lastly, 2nd Year Hannah Vicknair was presented with the Dr. Dave Pariser Student Service Award for all her hard work and dedication to her community and future profession. The FranU community is so proud of everything she has accomplished, and to all of the students who attended and presented, we commend you for your great dedication to excellence in the PT community!



4 - Hannah Vicknair, winner of Dr. Dave Pariser Student Service Award, and Dr. Phil Page at Award Ceremony.



5 - Meredith Darnell and Destiny Bell with their 1st Place Poster Presentation.



*6 - Hannah Vicknair and Abby Trahan pose after a succesful platform presentation.*

### **The 2 Platform Presentations Accepted:**

Boudreaux A, White P, Rodriguez K. Does the delivery method of meditation influence stress levels in second-year physical therapy students?: A pilot study. (Platform) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

Trahan A, Vicknair H, Page P. Assessment of Structure and Biomechanics of Fascia Using Ultrasound, Elastography, and Mechanomyography: A Scoping Review. (Platform) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

### **The 8 Poster Presentations Accepted:**

Bell D, Darnell M, Page A, Page P. Effectiveness of exercise program on health-related fitness outcomes in cancer survivors: a pilot study. (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024. [First Place, Poster Presentation]

Page P, Vicknair H, Doskey L. Does Localized Intermittent Pneumatic Compression Change Soft Tissue Pain and Stiffness? (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

LaSavia A, Rodriguez K. Resisted walking and muscle activation in healthy young adults: a pilot study. (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.



Hart P, Phillips K, Peaslee K, Nelson K. Job search behaviors and concurrent analysis of job satisfaction in new graduate physical therapists. (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

Pool T, Page P. Reliability of Scapular Kinematic Measures using Inertial Motion Units. (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

Dorsey T, Leger K, Kantrow M. Survey of a comparison of intrinsic and extrinsic qualities for future employment among new graduates and employers. (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

Jackson J, Dubois G, Kantrow M. Comparing Roami walkers and standard rolling walkers while navigating stairs: a pilot study . (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

Ngui A, Dark J, Watson J, Swafford A. Diversity in DPT Programs: Identifying Factors Influencing Current Minority Students' Decision to Apply to DPT Programs. (Poster) APTA-Louisiana Spring Symposium. Lafayette LA. March 22, 2024.

## Gerontology Elective to Porto, Portugal

Last year, a group of 3rd year DPT students were accepted to attend Gerontology elective trip to Porto, Portugal. Through this trip, they attend class in the morning while completing clinical experience and learning aspects of a new culture and health system. To hear from students and learn more about this trip and what is to come click the link below!

GeroFranU<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.instagram.com/reel/C5Elgzg8hs/?igsh=YmlzcnZzZDdjZzQ5>

## Service Learning





7 - 1st and 2nd year students volunteering at Cajun Classic with Dr. Morris.







8 - 1st year students volunteering at MedFest, hosted by Special Olympics Louisiana.

First year DPT students from FranU attended MedFest, hosted by Special Olympics Louisiana on Friday, February 23rd. As part of their service learning, these students collaborated with healthcare providers to conduct medical screenings for middle and high school students with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics Louisiana provides these students with opportunities to demonstrate their abilities in various sports activities while also promoting their health and well-being.

Additionally, in early March 1st year DPT students volunteered at the 33rd Annual Cajun Classic Wheelchair Tournament. Students were able to help by stocking water for players, serving food, and even being ball boys/girls for the tournament. The Cajun Classic was held at Paula G. Manship YMCA which hosted 135 players from 22 different countries. This service-learning opportunity was action-packed and has everyone looking forward to going back next year.

## Research Publications

1. Manske RC, Wolfe C, **Page P**, Voight M. MSK Ultrasound: A powerful tool for evaluating and diagnosing pectoralis major injuries in healthcare practice<sup>2</sup>. *Int J Sports Phys Ther.* 2024;19(3):366-371. doi:10.26603/001c.94157<sup>3</sup>

2. Manske RC, Wolfe C, **Page P**, Voight M. Enhancing the Diagnosis of Lateral Ankle Sprains: The Role of MSK Diagnostic Ultrasound in Evaluating ATFL and CFL<sup>4</sup>. *Int J Sports Phys Ther.* 2024;19(2):245-249. doi:10.26603/001c.92232 <sup>5</sup>

<sup>2</sup>[https://ijspt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/V19N3\\_MSKUB\\_draft.pdf](https://ijspt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/V19N3_MSKUB_draft.pdf)

<sup>3</sup><https://doi.org/10.26603/001c.94157>

3. Manske RC, Voight M, **Page P**, Wolfe C. K Diagnostic Ultrasound for the Assessment of the Acromioclavicular Joint<sup>6</sup>. *Int J Sports Phys Ther*. 2024;19(1):1516-1520. doi:10.26603/001c.90907<sup>7</sup>

## *Upcoming Events*

April 5 **DPT Info Session**

April 9 **PT Day at the Capital**

April 12 **DPT White Coat Ceremony**

April 15 **Deadline for submitting applications**

April 29 **DPT Research Day**

May 9 **Pinning Ceremony & Reception**

May 11 **Graduation**

June 3 **Summer Semester Begins**

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<sup>4</sup><https://ijspt.scholasticahq.com/article/92232-enhancing-the-diagnosis-of-lateral-ankle-sprains-the-role-of-msk-diagnostic-ultrasound-in-evaluating-atfl-and-cfl>

<sup>5</sup><http://www.doi.org/10.26603/001c.92232>

<sup>6</sup><https://ijspt.scholasticahq.com/article/90907-msk-diagnostic-ultrasound-for-the-assessment-of-the-acromioclavicular-joint>

<sup>7</sup><https://doi.org/10.26603/001c.90907>

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<sup>8</sup><https://franu.edu/academics/academic-programs/physical-therapy>