



Foundation Announces 2011 Recipients of Postprofessional Doctoral Scholarships and Fellowship Totaling \$190,500

ALEXANDRIA, VA, June 23, 2011 - The Foundation for Physical Therapy Board of Trustees recently awarded a total of \$190,500 in Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PODS) I & II Scholarships and a New Investigator Fellowship Training Initiative (NIFTI) to 11 physical therapists.

"The Foundation has seen a growing trend in the level of excellence of our scholarship and fellowship applications," said Foundation Board of Trustees Chair William G. Boissonnault, PT, DPT, DHSc, FAPTA, FAAOMPT. "The Foundation is proud to support such outstanding physical therapists as they begin their research careers."

As part of its post-professional Doctoral Opportunities for Clinicians and Scholarships (DOCS) program to fund the most highly-qualified doctoral and post-doctoral students preparing for research careers, the Foundation awards PODS I Scholarships of \$7,500 each year to physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who have completed at least two full semesters or three full quarters of their coursework toward a postprofessional doctorate degree. PODS II Scholarships of up to \$15,000 each are awarded to physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who have been formally admitted to postprofessional doctoral candidacy.

Congratulations to the 2011 PODS I Scholarship recipients: Meryl Alappattu, PT, DPT, University of Florida; Amy Feldman Bailes, PT, MS, PCS, University of Cincinnati; Carmen Capo-Lugo, PT, MSPT, Northwestern University; Sarah Gilliland, DPT, University of California, Irvine; and Miriam Rafferty, PT, DPT, NCS, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Amy Feldman Bailes is the recipient of the Jayne Snyder Award for exceptional service as a clinician at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. The award is named for Jayne L. Snyder, PT, DPT, MA, FAPTA, a past president/chair of the Foundation and past recipient of the Charles M. Magistro Distinguished Service Award for leadership and dedication to the Foundation. A former vice president of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Board of Directors, she has also been honored with numerous awards from APTA.

Sarah Gilliland has been named as the recipient of the Miami-Marquette Challenge Award for exceptional achievement within a PODS I application. This award was made possible by the Miami-Marquette Challenge. Physical therapist and physical therapist assistant students from schools across the country participate in this

annual grassroots student fundraising effort coordinated by Marquette University physical therapy students. The Challenge has raised over \$2 million and funds a PODS I scholarship and supports Foundation research grants each year.

Miriam Rafferty is the 2011 Patricia Leahy Award recipient for her outstanding application in postprofessional studies within neurology. This award is given in memory of APTA Section on Neurology member, accomplished physical therapist, and Foundation Doctoral Training Research Grant recipient, Patricia Leahy, PT, MS, NCS. Leahy was a professor at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia and was one of the first physical therapists ever to receive the Neurologic Certified Specialist (NCS) certification. This scholarship is generously supported by members of the Neurology Section through the Foundation's Neurology Endowment Fund.

The 2011 PODS II Scholarship recipients are Michael Bade, BA, MPT, University of Colorado Denver; Elisa Gonzalez-Rothi, DPT, University of Florida; Lynnette Montgomery, BPhy, The Ohio State University; Barbara Sargent, PT, MS, PCS, University of Southern California; and Jaclyn Sions, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, University of Delaware.

Elisa Gonzalez-Rothi is the recipient of the 2011 Mary Lou Barnes Award for her outstanding PODS II application in postprofessional studies within neurology. This award is given in memory of APTA Section on Neurology member and accomplished physical therapist Mary Lou Barnes, PT, FAPTA. Barnes was the founding director of the West Virginia University physical therapy program and served as chair of Georgia State University's program. During her terms, both programs achieved national recognition. Members of the Neurology Section provided generous support for this award through the Foundation's Neurology Endowment Fund.

Barbara Sargent has been named the 2011 Viva J. Erickson Award recipient, for exceptional achievement within a PODS II application. The award is generously funded by the Viva J. Erickson Fund established in 1995 in memory of this accomplished physical therapist and APTA leader.

The \$78,000 NIFTI was awarded to Beth Smith, PT, PhD, NCS, of Oregon Health & Science University for her research project, "Effect of Cueing Strategies on Preparatory Cortical Potentials in Adults with Parkinson's Disease." Smith will focus on the use of electroencephalography (EEG) to measure cortical pre-movement potential in adults with Parkinson's Disease during her fellowship training.

The NIFTI supports postprofessional, doctorally prepared physical therapists in a mentored research experience as they begin their research careers. It is designed to accommodate both traditional postdoctoral and new faculty applicants for a closely mentored research experience.

The Foundation for Physical Therapy was established in 1979 as a national, independent nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality and delivery of physical therapy care by providing support for scientifically-based and clinically-relevant physical therapy research and doctoral scholarships and fellowships.

Contributions to the Foundation for Physical Therapy are tax-deductible and can be made online at Foundation4PT.org or sent to its headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. The mailing address is 1111 N Fairfax St, Alexandria, VA 22314. For more information, e-mail Info@Foundation4PT.org or call 800/875-1378.