Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals, Inc.

Many Minds. One Vision.

Online

September 12 & 13 and September 21 & 22, 2020

ASCIP VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
Greetings and welcome to the 2020 virtual ASCIP Conference and Expo…One Vision Online! The Academy Program Committee has assembled and designed this conference to provide you with a wide variety of presentations, keynote and awarded speakers, and plenary sessions that will appeal to all SCI professionals. With four days of spectacular interdisciplinary- as well as practice-specific content, opportunities for specific clinical education on key areas of SCI practice and research, as well as over 100 posters available via the conference app, we are confident you will leave better equipped to provide cutting edge care to your patients and their support teams.

Our program draws from expertise in science, clinical practice, theoretical considerations, and in-depth research completed by our interdisciplinary membership. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to access program content beyond September 12th, 13th, 21st and 22nd, given ongoing virtual access to program content until the end of 2020.

We are particularly happy to be able to gather this year, despite challenging world events, to exchange views and share information, thanks to our dedicated sponsors: BARD Care – BD, Craig H. Neilsen Foundation, HelpHopeLive, Hollister, Medtronic, and Quantum Rehab. Thank you also, to our Institutional Members: Craig Hospital, Hollister, Kessler Foundation, Kessler Institute, Renown Health, and Shepherd Center. for your dedication and allegiance to the Academy of SCI Professionals.

Finally, we are delighted to take this opportunity to thank YOU, our members, for your faithfulness and support of our Academy. We are excited about our future and encourage you to become involved in ASCIP through participation on committees and as discipline-specific section board members.

Enjoy this extraordinary conference this year in the comfort of your homes. We look forward to seeing you ALL face-to-face in San Diego in 2021!
Thank you for supporting the 2020 ASCIP Virtual Conference! Your support is greatly appreciated!

Thank you to the 2020 ASCIP Institutional Members! Your support is greatly appreciated!

The ASCIP 2020 Virtual Educational Conference and Expo App is your place to go for important information about the event, accessing the sessions, and other features to enhance your event experience.

As a conference attendee, you will access all educational sessions from the App, so please add the App to any and all devices you will use during the conference (i.e., cell phone, tablet, PC).

Click here for instructions
The Neilsen Foundation’s funding is dedicated to supporting both programs and scientific research to improve the quality of life for those affected by and living with spinal cord injury.

www.chnfoundation.org

2020 ASCIP VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & EXPO

Craig H. Neilsen Foundation is pleased to support the first ever ASCIP VIRTUAL Conference!

The virtual sponsor and exhibit hall is an integral and dynamic part of the annual conference, connecting you with companies and organizations that offer the latest products and services and cutting-edge technologies.

The virtual sponsor and exhibit hall provide information for each company and organization with the option to link to their websites and or complete a simple form to have them contact you directly.

As they are supporting ASCIP – please take the time to visit their virtual exhibit booths and support their companies and organizations!

CLICK HERE TO VIRTUALLY VISIT
The Academy of SCI Professionals is an interdisciplinary organization devoted to improving care through sharing knowledge and expertise. We are the premiere interdisciplinary organization dedicated to advancing the care of people with spinal cord injury. Our leadership and membership are made up of physicians, nurses, psychologists, social workers, counselors and therapists.

Together we envision a world where people with disabilities are healthier, more independent, and more empowered through a comprehensive lifetime of care to take on all the challenges that life presents.

Together we provide world-class networking, continuing education opportunities, and publications for professionals in the field and those interested in SCI. Together we advocate for better access to comprehensive lifelong quality health care for all SCI patients and for more public, policy maker, and philanthropic awareness of the challenges facing SCI patients and professionals alike.

Please join us at www.academyscipro.org

Be one of the many minds who are making the vision a reality

donations

ASCIP truly values and appreciates each and every one of its donors. Without you, ASCIP would not be so valuable, unique and successful!

session evaluation, and continuing education

claiming credit instructions

education and accreditation
11:35am - 11:40am  
Break

11:40am - 12:10pm

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<tr>
<td>2117</td>
<td>CARP Quality Frameworks and How to Imbed Social Determinants of Health in Your Care Delivery</td>
<td>Christine MacDonnell, BSc</td>
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<tr>
<td>2127</td>
<td>Improving Flap Surgery Outcomes Using the Minneapolis “Spinal Cord Optimization, Rehab and Empowerment” (SCORE) Tool</td>
<td>Mary Murphy Kruse, RN, MA, CWOCN, CW</td>
<td>Crystal Stan, DPT</td>
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<tr>
<td>2142</td>
<td>Interventions in Inpatient Rehabilitation to Increase Psychosocial Well-Being for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury or Disease</td>
<td>Jessica Loesser, MSOT, OTR/L; Claire Graziano, MSOT; OTR/L; OPMI</td>
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<td>2344</td>
<td>Filling the Gap: Education and Resources for Adaptive Sports in the Outpatient Rehabilitation Setting</td>
<td>Erin Brown, OTR/L; APT; Terra Price, PhD, ABPP; Sarah Schmitt, DPT; Tom Knaus OTR/L</td>
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12:15pm - 12:45pm

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<td>2288</td>
<td>ASK The Urologist: HOT Topics in Neuro-Urology and Case Presentations</td>
<td>Michael Kennedy, MD, FACUU; Sara Lanheier, MD, MS</td>
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<td>3001</td>
<td>A Biopsychosocial Approach to Chronic Pain Assessment and Management</td>
<td>Christine Gagnon, PhD</td>
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<td>2342</td>
<td>Providing Outpatient Therapy Services Through TeleRehabilitation</td>
<td>Brad Dexter, PT, DPT</td>
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12:45pm - 1:20pm

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<td>2211</td>
<td>Toward Active Safety for Power Wheelchair Users with SCI: Why We Need Tools to Detect Foot Mispositioning from Wheelchair Footplates</td>
<td>M. Kristi Henzel, MD, PhD; Christine Olney PhD, RN; Cenk Cayci, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2279</td>
<td>Developing an Emergency Preparedness Program for the Spinal Cord Injury Population</td>
<td>Karen Stull, MS, CCRP; Cheria Ard, MOT, OTR; Kirsten Graziano, MSOT, OTR/L</td>
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1:25pm - 2:00pm

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<td>Register for Sponsor Luncheons - Lunch Provided!</td>
<td>Medtronic - BARD BD - Quantum Rehab</td>
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<td>2304</td>
<td>Urologist: HOT Topics in Neuro-Urology and Case Presentations</td>
<td>Michael Kennedy, MD, FACUU; Sara Lanheier, MD, MS</td>
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<td>2335</td>
<td>Post-Operative Care of Spinal Cord Patients after Myelomeningocele Flap Surgery: A Strict Post Flap Protocol</td>
<td>Mary Murphy Kruse, RN, MA, CWOCN, CW; Crystal Stan, DPT; Cenk Cayci, MD</td>
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<td>2298</td>
<td>Behind Closed Doors: Sex And Intimacy After Spinal Cord Injury</td>
<td>Amy Shaw, MS OTR/L; Susan Kine, OTR/L; Andrea Lewis, OTR/L</td>
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3:20pm - 4:05pm

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<td>2205</td>
<td>Improved Respiratory Health for Individuals with Acute Cervical Tetraplegia: Reducing the Risk of Hospital Transfers During Inpatient Rehabilitation</td>
<td>Beth Jacobs, RN, CCM, CRBN</td>
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<td>2309</td>
<td>JAYANTH LEZUREE: Leaving No Stone Unturned: Bladder Calculi Composition, Recurrence, and Management Implications</td>
<td>Brittany Snider, DO</td>
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Closing Comments

EASTERN TIME

TUESDAY - SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

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<td>Duplex Ultrasound Surveillance for Deep Vein Thrombosis After Acute Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury at Rehabilitation Admission</td>
<td>Beverly Hon, MD</td>
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<td>2312</td>
<td>Web-Based Transfer Training: Evidence for an Online Approach for Wheelchair Transfer Training</td>
<td>Katlin DiGiovine</td>
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<td>2264</td>
<td>What Matters to You? Whole Health Implementation in VA's SCI/D System of Care</td>
<td>Erik Wallen, PhD, Jennifer Sippal, PhD; Meaghan Park, FACHE; Jennifer Sippal, PhD; Meaghan Park, FACHE; Meaghan Park, FACHE; Meaghan Park, FACHE</td>
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<td>2151</td>
<td>CBD – Practical Considerations</td>
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<td>2325</td>
<td>Matching Rehabilitation Strategies to the Weakness Phenotype of the Upper Limb in Tetraplegia</td>
<td>Jeff Jaramillo, DPT, MS</td>
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<td>2145</td>
<td>Are Gaps in Knowledge Affecting the Utilization of Robotic Exoskeletons for Ambulation?</td>
<td>Cassandra Hogan, PT, DPT, NCS; Kathryn Fitzgerald, PT, DPT, NCS</td>
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<td>10:55am - 11:00am</td>
<td>2311</td>
<td>Complications Associated with Colonoscopy In Patients with Spinal Cord Injury And Disorders (SCI/D) Gizelda Casella, MD PhD</td>
<td>2254</td>
<td>Movement Amplification to Improve Gait Stability in Spinal Cord Injury: A Case Series Jennifer Kahn, PT, DPT, Keith Gordon, PhD</td>
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<td>11:15am - 11:30am</td>
<td>2050</td>
<td>Comparing Outcomes of Mechanical Ventilation with High vs. Moderate Tidal Volumes in Tracheostomized Patients with SCI: A Retrospective Cohort Study Radsa Karpinski, MD, MS</td>
<td>2266</td>
<td>Intensity of Therapeutic Interventions in Inpatient Rehabilitation for Patients with Spinal Cord Injury: A Pilot Study Lindsay Wynne, PT, DPT</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:55am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>2372</td>
<td>Improved Cardiac and Circulatory Function After Epidural Stimulation of the Lumbosacral Spinal Cord Bonnie Ditterline, PhD, Susan Harkema, PhD, Glenn Hirsch, MD, MHS, Beatrix Ugliano, PhD</td>
<td>2264</td>
<td>The Story of Implementing Functional Electrical Stimulation Cycling in Alberta, Canada Jacqueline Rowley, BScPT, MSc</td>
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<td>12:10pm - 12:25pm</td>
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<td>12:30pm - 12:45pm</td>
<td>2170</td>
<td>Sweating Level Versus Neurological Level of Injury in Persons with Spinal Cord Injury Michelle Tribovich, MD</td>
<td>2353</td>
<td>Improving Hand Recovery with Neuromodulation in Chronic Tetraplegia: Preliminary Findings of an Ongoing Study John Lopez, DO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:10pm - 1:25pm</td>
<td>2268</td>
<td>Treatment of Lower Extremity Fractures in Chronic Spinal Cord Injury: A Systematic Review of the Literature Donna Huang, MD</td>
<td>2166</td>
<td>Prevalence Of Amputation In The Spinal Cord Injured Population Tommy Yu, MD, Morgan Pyne, DO</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30pm - 1:45pm</td>
<td>2163</td>
<td>The Use of Serial Bone Density Scans in Hypothetical Patients with Spinal Cord Injury Cara Ray, MA</td>
<td>2303</td>
<td>Changes in Computer, Internet, and Email Use Over Time Among Individuals with Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury: A Review Daniela Iliescu, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:50pm - 2:05pm</td>
<td>2263</td>
<td>Managing Osteoporosis in SCI: Decision Making Using Hypothetical Case Scenarios Frances Weaver, PhD</td>
<td>2335</td>
<td>Exercise Options to Improve Cardiometabolic Health in People with Spinal Cord Injury: A Review Daniela Iliescu, MD</td>
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<td>2:05pm - 2:20pm</td>
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Assuring patients that going home is just the beginning.

The LINK Program provides a range of urological products and individualized clinical support designed to give patients the help they need to reintegrate into life at home and the community.

EVIDENCE AND INNOVATION

Join Medtronic for a lunch symposium on the Ability Network for severe spasticity management with Laurel Short, DNP, MSN, FNP-C.

Date: Monday, September 21, 2020
Time: 1:25–2:05 p.m.

Register Here

Sponsored by Medtronic

RANKED AMONG THE TOP 10 U.S. REHABILITATION HOSPITALS

Providing Excellence in Medical Treatment, Research and Rehabilitation for People with Spinal Cord Injury, Brain Injury, Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Spine and Chronic Pain, and Other Neuromuscular Conditions.

Shepherd Center Also Has:
• 10-Bed Intensive Care Unit on Site
• On-Campus Housing For Patient Families

Refer a patient online at shepherd.org
Visit the NeuroRehabilitation Learning Institute at education.shepherd.org

Visit Shepherd Center’s virtual booth at the ASCIP Virtual Conference 2020.
ACADEMY AWARDS

The Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals

Leadership Award

Sigmund Hough, Ph.D., ABPP/yp
Sigmund Hough, Ph.D., ABPP/yp, A.B. from Columbia University, Columbia University, M.A. in Developmental Psychology, Columbia University, Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, Boston University. ABPP board specialization in Rehabilitation Psychology. Dr. Hough is a clinical rehabilitation neuropsychologist, Spinal Cord Injury Service, VA Boston Healthcare System. Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; Adjunct Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine. He has served as Clinical Director and Director of Psychological services at private rehabilitation facilities, case reviewer for nationwide managed care company, and as a clinical service provider in both the public and private sector. He has served as Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program-Boston Consortium in Clinical Psychology, and received the APICP Excellence in Psychology Postdoctoral Training Award. He is a Fellow in the National Academy of Neuropsychology, registered as a National Health Care Provider in Psychology, licensed in Massachusetts and Maine. He has conducted nationwide Internship and Postdoctoral Training Site Reviews for the American Psychological Association. Conducts medical faculty accreditation site reviews nationwide and internationally for the division of Medical Rehabilitation, CARF (as well as blended CARF/CAHO surveys). AASECT Certified Sex Therapist and Editor-in-Chief of the international journal Sexuality and Disability. Served as a member of the CARF International Standards Advisory Committee - Networks. Contributing Editor at Harvard Health Publications, Harvard Medical School. His research and scholarly interests can be found in national and international conference presentations and publications in the areas of neuropsychology; pain, rehabilitation, sexuality, diversity, human rights, and adjustment to events across the life cycle. Dr. Hough has served as President of PSWCC 2009-2010 and 2010-2011; Vice President of ASCIP 2011-2015, member and/or chaired ASCIP committees such as Advocacy, Clinical Practice, Electronic Communications, and Membership. He received the ASCIP Clinical Practice Award and the “Becky” J. Adcock, PhD Award for Excellence in Mentoring. He played a key role in the development of ASCIP Early Career and Trainee Support “ECATS” program, and continues to provide well respected mentorship.

James J. Peters Distinguished Service Award

Catherine Wilson, PsyD., ABPP (RP)
Dr. Catherine Wilson retired after 9 years as a staff psychologist on the spinal cord injury/disability unit at the James A. Haley Veterans’ Hospital. Dr. Wilson was until 2015 an Associate Professor at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She earned a PsyD in clinical psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology in Chicago, completed her internship at Cook County Hospital and post-doctoral fellowship in rehabilitation psychology at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago where she worked for close to 15 years.

She completed board certification in rehabilitation psychology in 2006 and mentored many early career women in the field of rehabilitation psychology during her membership in Section 2 of the Rehabilitation Psychology Division 22, which focuses on women’s issues and promoting women in the field of rehabilitation psychology. She continued mentoring women as Vice-President of the American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Psychologists, Social Workers and Counselors (PSWCC) and while Treasurer of the Board of ASCIP. She was awarded in 2018 the Rebecca “Becky” J. Adcock Award for Excellence in Mentoring from ASCIP while serving in these positions. In the same year she received the Paralyzed Veterans of America Clinical Excellence Award. Earlier in her career she also received the LifeTime Practice Excellence Award from the Division 22 Rehabilitation Psychology American Psychology Association, and the Clinical Performance Award from the Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals. Before she became a psychologist, she was on the Illinois Attorney General’s committee to write one of the first Handicap parking laws and received the Illinois Attorney General Recognition Award for this effort. While on this committee, they wrote an insurance law that covered persons with a preexisting condition in the state of Illinois which was the first state to pass such a law. During this time, she worked as Chapter Service Director for the Northern Illinois Chapter for Multiple Sclerosis Society. While there she won the National Multiple Sclerosis Award for Employment Program, Over All Program Service Award and the Education Award.

ACADEMY AWARDS

The Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals - 2020

Early Career and Trainee Support “ECATS” program, and the “Becky” J. Adcock, PhD Award for Excellence in Mentoring

American Paraplegia Society (APS)

Estin Comarr Award for Distinguished Clinical Service

William Bockenek, MD

Dr. William L. Bockenek, MD is the Chairman of the Department of PM&R at Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and Chief Medical Officer of Cavaliers Rehabilitation. He is certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Spinal Cord Injury Medicine by the ABPMR, as well as Electrodiagnostic Medicine by the ABEM. He has served on numerous committees and roles with the American Paraplegia Society, and Vice-President of the American Paraplegia Society. He is a former member and chair of the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation where he was chair of the Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Committee for many years, as well as a past Chair of the Residency Review Committee for PM&R within the ACGME. He is also a board member of the American Spinal Injury Association. He is currently the Director of the Program for Academic Leadership within the Association of Academic Physiatrists. Among his many administrative duties, he continues to be an active clinician primarily seeing patients with spinal cord injuries and those with neuromuscular disease/impairment.

EXCELLENCE AWARD

Rebecca “Becky” J. Adcock, PhD Award for Excellence in Mentoring

M. Kristi Henzel, MD, PhD

Dr. Kristi Henzel is AttendingPhysiatrist and Assistant Chief for the Spinal Cord Injury & Diseases (SCI/D) Service at the Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. She is also an Associate Professor of PM&R at Case Western Reserve University/Metropolitan Health Medical Center for which she serves as the SCI Fellowship’s VA Site Director. She has a Bachelors degree in biomedical engineering from Vanderbilt University, as well as an MD & PhD in in Physiology and Biophysics from the University of Louisville. She completed her PM&R residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center followed by Spinal Cord Injury Medicine and research fellowships at MetroHealth and the Cleveland VA, after which she joined the Cleveland VA’s medical staff in 2012. She is Secretary/Treasurer of the American Paraplegia Society and serves on both the APS Board of Directors and ASCIP Finance Committee. She is currently an Associate Editor for the PM&R journal an Sexuality & Disability; and serves as a reviewer for multiple publications. She also serves as an oral board examiner and SCI question writer for the ABPM&R. Her current research interests include prevention of power wheelchair-related lower extremity injuries, the prevention and treatment of chronic pressure injuries, and quality management related to asymptomatic bacteriuria in veterans with SCI/D. She has written a chapter on the medical management of pressure injures and published multiple articles regarding prevention and treatment of pressure injuries. She frequently speaks to medical trainees and the lay public on topics including medical management of SCI, including pressure injuries, autonomic dysreflexia and sexuality after SCI.

BORS Award

Dr. Beverly Hon

Dr. Beverly Hon graduated from Princeton University with a degree in Molecular Biology and certificate in Neuroscience. She received her medical degree from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She completed her PM&R residency and her Spinal Cord Injury fellowship at Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School (NJMS)/Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. She is heavily involved with research and academics during her residency and fellowship and has presented at several national conferences in the rehabilitation field on spinal cord injury. She has a particular interest in medical management of individuals after acute spinal cord injury. She is first author on the chapter “Neuro-Critical Care Management of Acute Spinal Cord Injury” in Spinal Cord Medicine (third edition). Currently, Dr. Hon works for Hackensack Meridian Health JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute, where she manages patients who suffer from a spinal cord injury in both inpatient and outpatient settings. She also serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine. Her goal is to help individuals with a spinal cord injury achieve the best quality of life and highest level of functional independence.

Excellence Award

Leslie Morse, DO

Dr. Leslie Morse, DO, is Chair and Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Minnesota School of Medicine. Her research, as well as her clinical focus, is the care of individuals with SCI, with a long-term goal of developing mechanism-based therapies to prevent and treat SCI-induced osteoporosis. To that end, she is studying the impact of exoskeleton-assisted ambulation on bone health after SCI (a clinical trial supported by the Department of Defense); and the mechanisms of rapid-onset, SCI-related osteoporosis. She also studies the mechanisms contributing to neuropathic pain. Dr. Morse completed her medical training in 2019.
at the University of New England and her residency in PM&R at Boston Medical Center. Author of more than 80 publications, she has received several national teaching awards and presented her work nationally and internationally. Research interests: spinal cord injury and osteoporosis, neuropathic pain, therapies for bone health in SCI, biomarkers of neurological recovery.

American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Psychologists, Social Workers & Counselors (PSWC)

Clinical Performance Award

Herb Ames PhD, ABPP, ABN
Dr. Ames received his PhD in Counseling Psychology in 1993 from Indiana State University and has been with the Department of Veterans Affairs for 25 years. He is currently on staff in the Spinal Cord Injury Care Line at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, Texas, where he holds faculty appointments at the Baylor College of Medicine in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Ames is principal investigator of the “Improving Care Practices and Outcomes for Spinal Cord Injured Veterans” study at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. He is board certified in Rehabilitation Psychology and Geropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology and certified in Neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology. Dr. Ames retains interests in researching measures of psychological and cognitive functioning that efficiently identify psychological distress, cognitive deficits, and disability appraisals that impact quality of life and adaptation to disability.

Spinal Cord Injury Nurses (SCIN) Award

Expanded Role for Excellence in Nursing

Jane Reinhardt, DNP MBA, MSCS, RN
Diane Reinhardt, DNP, MBA, MSCS, RN, CRNN, NE-BC, is Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at Craig Hospital. She received her RN from Mercy Central School of Nursing in 1982, BS in Health Care Management and Corporate Social Responsibility, is Board certified in Rehabilitation Nursing and Executive Nursing. Diane has been in the field since 1982, and has been at Craig Hospital since 1990. She oversees Nursing, Food services, Pharmacy, Infection control, Quality, Wound Care, Respiratory, Diagnostic services/Lab, Community Relations and Benefit programs. She serves on the Denver Metro Leadership Foundation Board and is the community liaison with partners addressing food insecurity and homelessness.

Staff Nurse Award for Excellence

Mary Kruse, RN, BSN, MA, CWOCN, CNS

Therapy Leadership Council (TLC) Awards

Distinguished Clinical Award

Liza Gris will, OTR, ATP
Lisa Gris will, OTR, ATP graduated from University of the Philippines in 1994, earning a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy. Liza has been a Registered Occupational Therapist for over 21 years. In 1998, Liza began her employment with the TIRR system in Houston, Texas. Liza currently works in the role of Senior Clinical OT with TIRR Memorial Hermann treating adults and adolescents with Spinal Cord injuries, Brain injuries, Amputees and other Neurological disorders. Liza also serves as a Clinical Instructor for Level I and Level II OT students, and mentors new OT staff / other clinicians. Liza was awarded Employee of the Year in 2010. Liza is an expert resource person for sexuality and bowel/bladder management for people with spinal cord injury. She has developed this topic of interest for many years and presented nationally on the subject of sexuality and SCI and OT’s unique and critical role. Liza also served as an expert reviewer for the SCI Clinical Practice Guidelines: Sexuality and Reproductive Health in Adults with SCI.

Excellence Award

Katie Powell OTR/L
Katie Powell, OTR/L graduated with a Master’s in Occupational Therapy (OT) from Saint Louis University in 2013 and an occupational therapist and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Clinical Specialist at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee, WI. She served as the co-chair for the Early Career and Trainee Support Committee for the Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals (ASCIP) from 2013-2016 and was a member of the Therapy Leadership Council Board from 2016-2019. While on the TLC Board, Katie established the ASCIP Innovation Lab to share knowledge between clinicians to improve practice and quality of life for people with SCI.

In her role at the Milwaukee VA, Katie has established an OT role in multiple interdisciplinary SCI programs including 3D printing, hands-on healthy education classes, and a Sexual Health team. She is a classifier for the United States Wheelchair Rugby Association. Katie has presented at national conferences and webinars regarding the development of early career practitioners, traveling with a spinal cord injury, community accessibility, sexual health, 3D printing, adaptive sports, and helping patients cope with SCI. She presents regularly at local universities on occupational therapy in SCI. She is also the co-author of a chapter on social participation for individuals with disabilities and a publication on Interdisciplinary Sexual Health Rehab Program for SCI.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Dr. Olufawamini Okanami
Dr. Olufawamini Okanami is an Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, and Urology at Michigan Medicine, and the Interim Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) and Director of Adaptive Sports & Fitness within the Division of Student Life at the University of Michigan. He also serves as the Director of Adaptive Sports in the Michigan Center for Human Athletic Medicine & Performance and is the Spokesperson for Guardian Life in their Equal & Able Partnership.

“Dr. O” was born in Nigeria before immigrating to the US at a young age. He attended High School at Deerfield Academy and Stanford University where he also ran Track & Field, serving as captain his last two seasons and achieving Academic All American recognition.

He then earned his MD from the University of Michigan before matching into Orthopedic Surgery at Yale. At the beginning of his 3rd year he experienced a spinal cord injury, paralyzing him from the chest down. After two surgeries and intense rehabilitation, he was blessed with some return of motor function.

He went on to earn a Master’s in Engineering, Science, and Technology Entrepreneurship from The University of Notre Dame, and completed his Family Medicine Residency at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, Indiana. He served on the St. Joseph County Board of Health, appointed by former Mayor Pete Buttigieg, and is on the board of the River City Challenged Athletes, non-profit supporting the development of adaptive sports teams. He was featured on Robin Roberts’ Good Morning America Series “Thriver Thursday,” and has a catch phrase, “Disabling Disability,” hoping to demonstrate that DIAbility doesn’t mean DIAbility. He is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honors Society, received Michigan Medicine’s Distinguished Early Career Alumni Award in 2020, and was given the “A Teacher’s Teacher Award” by the Academy of Medical Educators.

Nationally, he serves as the Disability Issues representative on the Steering Committee for the Group on Diversity and Inclusion at the AAMC, and the National Medical Association’s Council on Medical Legislation. He speaks around the country on topics related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, including, but not limited to the lack of black male physicians and creating a health system that is accessible and inclusive to both patients and providers with disabilities, and has been featured on CBS News, PBS News Hour, and MSNBC’s Morning Joe. He is leading efforts to create an adaptive sports program, providing access to physical fitness and recreational and competitive sports for all.

NAMED LECTURES

The Anthony DiMarco Lectureship

Naseema B Merchant, MD, FCCP FACP, FHM
Dr. Naseema Merchant is currently a faculty member in the section of Pulmonary Medicine and academic leader at the VA Connecticut Health Care System and as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Merchant obtained her MD degree from the Aga Khan University, completed a residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Medicine from Yale University School of Medicine. After several years of serving, as a staff intensivist, pulmonologist and hospitalist at Middletown Hospital in Middletown, CT, she joined the VA Connecticut and Yale. Her areas of interest and scholarship include health care quality, safety and medical education. She is currently the site-director of internal medicine Clerkship and program director for the Chief Residency Program in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety at the VA. She is a core faculty in the Yale Traditional Internal Medicine Residency Program and also co-directs the Distinction Pathway in QI and Physician Leadership for the Internal Medicine residents.

Dr. Naseema Merchant is currently a faculty member in the section of Pulmonary Medicine and academic leader at the VA Connecticut Health Care System and as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Merchant obtained her MD degree from the Aga Khan University, completed a residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Medicine from Yale University School of Medicine. After several years of serving, as a staff intensivist, pulmonologist and hospitalist at Middletown Hospital in Middletown, CT, she joined the VA Connecticut and Yale. Her areas of interest and scholarship include health care quality, safety and medical education. She is currently the site-director of internal medicine Clerkship and program director for the Chief Residency Program in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety at the VA. She is a core faculty in the Yale Traditional Internal Medicine Residency Program and also co-directs the Distinction Pathway in QI and Physician Leadership for the Internal Medicine residents.
Donald Munro Lecture

Steven Kirshblum, MD

Dr. Steven Kirshblum is nationally recognized for his work in the area of spinal cord injury research and rehabilitation. He joined Kessler Institute in 1990 and currently serves as the Chair of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Medicine and Science (UAMS). He is the Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, the Chief Medical Officer of the Kessler Foundation, and Chief Academic Officer for PM&R at the University of Medicine and Science (UAMS). In his role as the Chief Medical Officer and the Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, he has led the development of innovative medical education and clinical care programs focused on improving outcomes for patients with spinal cord injury (SCI).

Essie Morgan Lecture

Lisa Ottomanelli, PhD

Lisa Ottomanelli is a national thought leader committed to promoting effective interventions to restore and enhance employment and community reintegration for persons with disabilities. As a psychologist and researcher in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Administration, she has over 25 years of experience serving Veterans with spinal cord injuries and other cognitive and mental disabilities, working with diverse interdisciplinary teams, and advocating for systems change to implement best practices in employment services. After earning her doctorate in clinical psychology from Texas Tech University and completing her internship at the VA North Texas Health Care System in Dallas, Texas, while working as a psychologist in the SCI Center, she became acutely aware of the gap in services for vocational needs. She addressed this need by leading a program of VA research that established IPS as the most effective form of vocational rehabilitation for persons with SCI. At James A. Halley Veterans’ Hospital and Clinics, in Tampa, Florida, she continues to work on expanding the implementation of IPS to improve the quality of life for Veterans and others with SCI, and she consults on projects extending services to populations with other disabilities. Ultimately, this work supported VA national policy changes that expanded employment services to Veterans with physical disabilities.

Lisa is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling at the University of South Florida, in Tampa, and serves on the Board of Psychologists, Social Workers, and Counselors of the Academy of SCI Professionals (ASCP) and on the Vocational Rehabilitation Core Committee of the International Spinal Cord Society (ISCSo).

Lisa is an international speaker and author of articles, book chapters, toolkits, and guides on employment and disability for both consumers and professionals. She has won several awards for her scholarship, leadership, and research including the Clinical Excellence Award from the Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Elizabeth and Sidney Licht Award from the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Jayanthi Lecture

Brittany Snider, DO

Dr. Snider is a Senior Associate Consultant in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Mayo Clinic. She completed her PM&R residency at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN and completed a fellowship at Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation/Rutgers New Jersey Medical School in West Orange, NJ. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Mayo Clinic and is a member of the Mayo Clinic Aspirations Program. Her clinical practice focuses on spinal cord dysfunction, neurorehabilitation, and spasticity management. Her research interests include the prevention and management of secondary complications, predictors of neurological recovery, and restoration of function in persons with SCI. Dr. Snider is also interested in medical education and is an active member of the ASIA Education Committee.

TLC Distinguished Lecture

Lynn Worobey, PhD, DPT, ATP

Lynn Worobey, PhD, DPT, ATP is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Pittsburgh and a Research Scientist at the VA R&D Center of Excellence. She received her doctorate in biomechanics from the University of Pittsburgh. She has extensive experience in biomechanics and is a certified Assistive Technology Professional (ATP). In order to achieve a more direct interaction with patients she went on to complete a clinical doctorate in physical therapy. Her interests include maximizing function and preventing secondary injury for individuals who utilize assistive technology in both a research and clinical setting. She has led studies involving quantitative ultrasound, upper limb mechanics, training in functional mobility, wheelchair quality, and the ergonomics of transfers and wheelchair propulsion. She currently provides clinical care in an inpatient rehabilitation setting.

Audrey Nelson Lecture

Dr. Lana Sargent, PhD, RN, CRNP

Lana Sargent is an Assistant Professor at Virginia Commonwealth School of Nursing, Affiliate faculty at the School of Pharmacy and a Geriatric Nurse Practitioner at VCU Health System. She is an appointed member of the Virginia Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Commission and serves on the Data and Information Systems group. Dr. Sargent has over 15 years of clinical experience providing care for low-income minority community-dwelling older adults. As a nurse scientist, her program of research is aimed at determining the factors that will aid in early detection and prevention of physical and cognitive decline in older adults. With support from the National Institute of Health and National Institute of Aging, she has published key papers on measures for cognitive frailty and putative mechanisms of cognitive decline, and function ability in older adults.
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Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

The Paralysis Resource Center (PRC) at the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation promotes the health, well-being, and independence of people living with paralysis, spinal cord injury, or mobility impairment as well as their caregivers and families by providing free comprehensive information, resources, peer support and referral services in order to achieve a better quality of life.

www.christopherdanareeve.org

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www.craighospital.org

Craig H. Neilsen Foundation

The Craig H. Neilsen Foundation is the largest private funder of spinal cord injury research, rehabilitation, clinical training, and programmatic support in the United States and Canada. The Foundation partners with scientific, charitable and educational organizations conducting spinal cord injury research, training in spinal cord medicine, and supports grassroots organizations providing services to assist individuals affected by spinal cord injury. Drawing ongoing inspiration from its founder, the Foundation is dedicated to a future where individuals with spinal cord injuries live full and productive lives as active participants in their communities.

www.chnfoundation.org

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www.helphopelive.org

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www.kesslerfoundation.org

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