

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO



SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

PHYSICAL THERAPY

**DOCTOR OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY**

2025 CONVOCATION

MAY 23, 2025

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ANTHONY FLEG, MD



Anthony Fleg is a family medicine physician at UNM in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the College of Population Health. Originally from Baltimore, Anthony grounds his healing work in undoing racism, health equity, and with a focus on strengths and holistic health. He practices medicine with an understanding that movement is medicine, healing on physical, emotional, and spiritual levels. Not surprisingly, he works closely with his PT colleagues. Dr. Fleg co-founded the Native Health Initiative (NHI), a love grounded partnership, and has dedicated much of his career to improving health in Indigenous communities. He is a proud father of 4 children, an avid runner, and has recently written his second book, *Writing to Heal - The Journey Continues*.

PROGRAM

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

PLEASE STAND IF ABLE

INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM & SPEAKERS

BETH MOODY JONES, PT, DPT, EDD, OCS

Professor & Division Chief

VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

MICHAEL RICHARDS, MD, MPA

Executive Vice President for UNM Health Sciences
Chief Executive Officer of the UNM Health System

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

ANTHONY FLEG, MD

STUDENT ADDRESS

JOHN ERICKSON

DPT Candidate

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AWARDS

CONFERRING OF DEGREES & REMARKS

PATRICIA W. FINN, MD

Dean & Professor, UNM School of Medicine

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

TIFFANY ENACHE, PT, DPT

Associate Professor

PHYSICAL THERAPY PROFESSIONAL PLEDGE

GIANCARLA MARIA EICHLEAY, DPT

RECESSIONAL

PLEASE STAND IF ABLE

Reception immediately following ceremony

REGENTS & LEADERSHIP

The University of New Mexico Regents, President, and Executive Vice President for UNM Health Sciences welcome you to the UNM School of Medicine Division of Physical Therapy 2025 Convocation celebration.

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

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Chair

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Vice Chair, Student Regent

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MICHAEL RICHARDS, MD, MPA
Executive Vice President for UNM Health Sciences
Chief Executive Officer of the UNM Health System

CONVOCATION PLATFORM

MICHAEL RICHARDS, MD, MPA
Executive Vice President, HSC
Chief Executive Officer, UNM Health

PATRICIA W. FINN, MD
Dean, UNM School of Medicine

SHELLY MCCLAUGHLIN, MS, EMT-I
Interim Director for Health Sciences Student Academic Affairs,
UNM Health & Health Sciences
Associate Dean for the Health Professions Programs

GEHRON TREME, MD
Professor & Interim Chair
Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation

FACULTY

BETH MOODY JONES, PT, DPT, EDD, OCS

Professor & Division Chief

DEBORAH DOERFLER, PT, DPT, PHD, OCS

Associate Professor

TIFFANY ENACHE, PT, DPT

Director of Clinical Education & Associate Professor

SUSAN J. LEACH, PT, DPT, PHD, NCS

Associate Professor

ETHAN HILL, PHD

Assistant Professor

ERIC KRUGER, PT, DPT, PHD

Director of Division Research & Assistant Professor

JODI SCHILZ, PHD

Director of Admissions, Director of Student Research,
& Associate Professor

VINH TRAN, PT, DPT, PHD, CCS

Assistant Professor

ROSE VALLEJO, PT, DPT, NCS

Assistant Professor

ADAM WALSH, PT, DPT, OCS, SCS, FAAOMPT

Residency Program Director & Associate Professor

YURI YOSHIDA, PT, PHD

Director of Gait and Motion Analysis Laboratory
& Assistant Professor

TARA SANFORD, PT, DPT, WCS

Program Coordinator of Women's Health Residency, Lecturer III

ADJUNCT & ASSOCIATE FACULTY

Heather Armijo, PT, DPT, PCS
Sunflower Chirieleison, PT, MPT
Elizabeth Cothell, PT, DPT, NCS

Renai Gallagher, PT, DPT, MS
Lisa Peterkin, PT, DPT, OCS
Rachel Granzow, PT, DPT

FACULTY EMERITI

RON ANDREWS, PT, PHD, OCS

BURKE GURNEY, PT, PHD, OCS

KATHY DIERUF, PT, PHD, NCS

FRED CAREY, PT, PHD

JAMES DEXTER, PT, MA

BETH PROVOST, PT, PHD, CHT

SUE QUEEN, PT, PHD

RESIDENCY GRADUATES

ORTHOPAEDICS RESIDENCY

MARCUS SALAZAR CORDOVA, PT, DPT

KARINA MIRAMONTES, PT, DPT

CODY JACK PISZ, PT, DPT

OLIVER SCHULTZ, PT, DPT

WOMEN'S HEALTH RESIDENCY

SHELLEY E. MENK, PT, DPT

Special thanks to DPT classes of 2026 and 2027 for assisting today
and to our staff, Crystal Krabbenhoft and Keith Blumenfeld-Black.

AWARDS

ACADEMIC AWARDS

National Student Honor Society

Academic Honors

Academic Achievement

SERVICE AWARDS

IPE Honors

Student Success Committee

Service-Learning Recognition

Student Service & Altruism Award

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Class of 2025 Student Award

Melissa Sterling Professionalism Award

CLINICAL AWARDS

REACH Student Directors

Outstanding Student Clinician

Outstanding Clinical Instructor

Outstanding Clinical Site

APTA NM AWARDS

Liz Barnett Scholarship

Fred Rutan Scholarship

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Professor Beth Moody Jones Endowed Scholarship
for Physical Therapy

Agnes Faggart Bussiere and Gregory F. Bussiere
Endowed Scholarship

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

KELLY LYNN BENSON

BS, Eastern Oregon University, 2019

ISABELLA BERNINO

BS, New Mexico State University, 2022

Class Vice President

Physical Therapy Representative, Health Sciences Student Council

KARIAN SOREN BREEN

AAS, Eastern Arizona College, 2011

CMT, Arizona School of Integrative Studies, 2015

AS, Pima Community College, 2019

BS, Siena Heights University, 2021

GIANCARLA MARIA EICHLEAY

BFA, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, 2007

JOHN ERICKSON

BA, DePauw University, 2010

MEGHAN GUY

BS, Linfield University, 2022

IPE Certificate of Honors, Service Recognition

REACH Student Director

ANTON HERION-CRUZ

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2015

TONY LIOU

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2017

AMBER MADOLE

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2020

IPE Certificate of Honors, REACH Student Director

STEPHANI McCOY

BBA, The University of New Mexico, 2017

BRIANNA MONTAÑO

BS, New Mexico State University, 2020

JACOB ALDEN MOORE

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2021

MAURINE MORRIS

BA, The University of New Mexico, 2017

IPE Certificate of Honors

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

VIVIAN NAVARRO

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2021

JULIA C. PALMER

BGS, Texas Women's University, 2013

ELKE PETERSON

BKin, University of British Columbia, 2022

**IPE Certificate of Honors, Student Success Committee
Service Recognition**

SARAH ELIZABETH REED

BS, Syracuse University, 2022

**Class Treasurer, IPE Certificate of Honors
Service Recognition, REACH Student Director**

ANTHONY RESENDEZ

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2022

BRIA LYNN RIGGS

BA, Bates College, 2018

**University of Montana Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency Program
Class President, ACAPT National Student Honor Society
IPE Certificate of Honors, Student Success Committee
Service Recognition, REACH Student Director**

CAMERON SINGH SAMRAI

BS, California State University, Sacramento, 2020

Student Success Committee

MADISON LEA VIROSTKO

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2021

DATA WENBERG

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2022

DYLAN WERNER

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2022

ACAPT National Student Honor Society, Service Recognition

ALY WEST

BS, The University of New Mexico, 2021

**ACAPT National Student Honor Society, IPE Certificate of Honors
Student Success Committee, Service Recognition**

50TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD RECIPIENTS

IN THE SUMMER of 2024, the UNM Physical Therapy Program celebrated its 50th anniversary. Three exceptional PTs were recognized for their contributions to the program and for advancing physical therapy care in the state of New Mexico.

RISING STAR

This award is granted to a graduate of the last 10 years who has shown a commitment to teaching, clinical education, and contributing to the profession of physical therapy. It was presented to Heather Armijo, PT, DPT, for her contributions to pediatric physical therapy care and education.



GOLDEN ALUMNA

This award recognizes a previous UNM PT Distinguished Alumni of the Year awardee who continues to make contributions to the field of physical therapy. It was presented to Major Michelle A. Jílek, USAF, BSC for her innovations in preventive and curative care for Air Force pilots, focusing on high-G induced injuries of the spine.



GOLDEN PHYSICAL THERAPIST

This award recognizes a physical therapist who has made or continues to make significant contributions to the field of physical therapy in New Mexico. It was presented to Ron Andrews, PT, PhD, for his time as UNM PT Program faculty and Director, during which he saw the program through growth and the transition to an MPT degree. He also worked with UNM's internationally-known Project ECHO, and assisted with New Mexico's Rural Health Initiative.



PHYSICAL THERAPY PROFESSIONAL PLEDGE

As I enter the profession of physical therapy to practice as a physical therapist, I solemnly and willingly pledge the following:

I will respect the rights and dignity of all individuals and will provide compassionate care.

I will be trustworthy towards my patients and clients and in all other aspects of physical therapy practice.

I will place the welfare of my patients and clients above my own self-interest.

I will provide accurate and relevant information to patients and clients about their care and to the public about physical therapy services.

I will exercise sound judgment and comply with laws and regulations that govern physical therapy and protect the public from unethical, incompetent, and illegal acts.

I will maintain professional competence and promote high standards for physical therapy practice, education, and research.

I will address the health needs of society and strive to effect changes that benefit patients, clients, and the community.

I will respect the rights, knowledge, and skills of colleagues and other healthcare professionals and seek consultation whenever the welfare of the patient or client may be advanced.

Thus, with this pledge, I freely accept the responsibilities that accompany the practice of physical therapy.

**Congratulations,
Class of 2025!**



**SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE**

Students listed in this program granted permission for information to be printed. Only those students who have granted permission are listed.