



2026 ACADEMY FALL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE  
September 11-13, 2026  
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

<b>Friday, Sept 11</b>		
6:00-7:00 PM	Badge Pick-Up Open & Pre-Lecture Reception with Food and Beverages. <b>TBA</b>	
7:00-8:00 PM	2026 Ellen Hillegass Keynote Lecture: <i>Title TBA</i> <b>TBA</b> <i>Meryl Cohen</i>	
8:00-10:00 PM	Post Lecture Networking Event: <b>TBA</b>	
<b>Saturday, Sept 12</b>		
7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast/Badge Pick-up <b>TBA</b> Speaker Ready Room: <b>TBA</b>	
8:00-9:30 AM	Quit Fibbin': PT Management of Atrial Fibrillation <b>TBA</b> <i>Speaker: Morgan Johanson , PT, MSPT, DHSc, CCS</i>	MAD About POTS: A Dangerous Duo Preceding Cardiac Arrest in a Young Adult <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Megan Kim, PT, DPT, ATC, LAT &amp; Crystal Ramsey, PT, DPT</i>
9:30-9:45 AM	Break	
9:45-11:15 AM	Providing Blood Flow Restriction Exercise to Patients with Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Disease: A Practical Session <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Lawrence P. Cahalin PT, PhD; Johnny Owens PT, MPT; Zachary Dunkle PT, DPT, OCS; Gabriela Tenorio PT, DPT</i>	From Heartbeats to Host Defense: Exercise in the Immune-Modulated Cardiopulmonary Patient <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Ellen Hillegass PT, EdD, CCS &amp; Angela Campbell, PT, DPT, CCS</i>
11:15-11:30 AM	Break	



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11:30-1:00 PM	The Weight of Breath: Understanding Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome in Physical Therapy Practice <b>TBA</b> <i>Speaker: Amanda Fields, PT, DPT, PhD, CCS</i>	Exercise testing and prescription in Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab: The complex, co-morbid patient. <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Stephanie Kostsuca, PT, DPT, CCS; Crystal Gluch PT, DPT, CCS, GCS; Kayla Jones PT, DPT, CCS</i>
1:00-2:30 PM	Lunch (On Your Own) & Networking	
2:30-4:00 PM	CVP Resident Presentations <b>TBA</b> <i>Resident Speakers: TBA</i>	
4:00-4:15 PM	Break	
4:15-5:45 PM	Cardiopulmonary Physiology: Implications for the Physical Therapist <b>TBA</b> <i>Brian Carlin, MD</i>	
6:30-8:30 PM	Optional Networking Social <b>TBA</b>	
<b>Sunday, Sept 13</b>		
7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast/Networking <b>TBA</b> Speaker Ready Room: <b>TBA</b>	
8:00-9:30 AM	Breath as a Biomarker: Respiratory Muscle Performance as a Vital Sign in Chronic Disease <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Lawrence P. Cahalin PT, PhD; Daniel E Forman, MD, FAHA, FACC; &amp; Jacob M. Haus, PhD</i>	Transplanting Evidence into Practice - a Review of Evidence for PT in Heart and Lung Transplant <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Arianna Farnsworth, PT, DPT; Bryan Lohse PT, DPT; &amp; Maxwell Hunter PT, DPT</i>
9:30-10:00 AM	Break/Networking	



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<p>10:00-11:30 AM</p>	<p>Surviving Twice: Navigating the Crossroads of Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease in Rehabilitation <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Jordan Felsberg , PT, DPT, CCS &amp; G. Stephen Morris, PT, PhD, FACSM</i></p>	<p>POCUS for the CVP PT <b>TBA</b> <i>Speakers: Brady Anderson, PT, DPT, CCS; Stephen Ramsey, PT, DPT, CCS; Richard Severin, PT, DPT, Ph.D., CCS; Casey Farrell, PT, DPT; Matthew Butler, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT</i></p> <p><b>Please note this session runs until 1pm</b></p>
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