The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) College of Health Sciences invites nominations and applications for the position of Program Director, Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, at the associate professor or professor level. The successful candidate will be a talented and experienced national leader, who will cultivate excellence in research, teaching, and service. This year-round position represents an excellent opportunity for an outstanding individual to build on an established program and shape the direction of new initiatives. Multiple research opportunities are available in both community and clinical settings. Appointment at the Associate Professor/ Professor level is commensurate with a history of teaching excellence and scholarship.

THE PROGRAM: Founded in 1993, the original Master of Physical Therapy Program transitioned to a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program (http://chs.utep.edu/pt/) in 2010. The DPT Program admits 36 students per year. Each cohort attends classes and clinical rotations for 8 consecutive semesters, graduating 31 months after entering the program. The current full-time and adjunct faculty members have expertise in acute care, cardiopulmonary, integument, service learning, orthopedics, neuromuscular rehabilitation, geriatrics, and pediatrics. DPT faculty members hold primary appointments in the DPT Program and may participate in the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences PhD Program. Faculty members are also encouraged to collaborate in teaching and research with faculty from other programs across the University, clinical partners, and other regional universities.

THE DEPARTMENT: The Department of Rehabilitation Sciences currently includes four academic units: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology, and Rehabilitation Counseling. All units offer a graduate degree (DPT, MOT, MS in SLP, MRC). A pre-professional undergraduate degree in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences is also planned. Departmental faculty members actively participate in the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences PhD Program jointly administered by the College of Health Sciences and School of Nursing. Full-time faculty members in the department are widely recognized for their research and teaching on rehabilitation sciences in a US-Mexico border context. The department thrives in recently renovated facilities with easy access to the UTEP campus, Fort Bliss, public transportation, major medical centers, and downtown El Paso. A $2.3 million renovation updated and expanded teaching laboratories and virtual reality research facilities, and a clinic for on-site faculty practice, clinical teaching, and research. Renovation of the anatomy laboratory is in the planning stages and will result in state-of-the-art anatomical science education facilities.
THE COLLEGE: The College of Health Sciences provides teaching, research, and service related to the applied health sciences (http://chs.utep.edu). It has five departments (Clinical Laboratory Science, Kinesiology, Public Health Sciences, Rehabilitation Sciences, and Social Work) and a collaborative relationship with the University of Texas at Houston School of Public Health-El Paso regional campus. Strong collaborative ties also exist with the UTEP School of Nursing, the UTEP-University of Texas at Austin Cooperative Pharmacy Program, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso. The College has over 60 full-time faculty members, serves over 2000 students, and is nationally recognized for its innovative research in border health and Hispanic health and health disparities. It has a record of success with NIH and external health research funding. College faculty members have been awarded $15.6 million in external funding during the past five years for their innovative health research projects. They conduct research that spans basic and clinical science, from community to global health. The breadth of their research expertise includes health education and promotion, health literacy, chronic and communicable disease prevention and management, maternal-child health, nutrition, exercise science, disability and rehabilitation sciences, social stigma, and mental health. A cadre of graduate students assists faculty in conducting a variety of projects relevant to improving health outcomes in the US-Mexico border region. Our $60 million 135,000 sq. ft. building on the main campus houses state-of-the-art clinical and research laboratories, innovative teaching and clinical simulation spaces, and faculty and administrative offices.

THE UNIVERSITY: The University of Texas at El Paso is an emerging national research university at the heart of the US-Mexico border region committed to the ideals of access and excellence. A leader among Hispanic-serving institutions, UTEP enrolls over 23,000 students, about 80 percent of them Hispanic, and is the only doctoral research university in the nation with a majority Mexican-American student body.

UTEP offers 71 bachelor’s, 76 master’s, and 20 doctoral programs with more in development. UTEP’s over $83 million in research spending a year ranks the University among the top 200 universities in the nation. Its more than $40 million in federal research spending ranks fourth among all Texas public universities.

The center for intellectual capital in the region, UTEP has awarded more than 110,000 degrees since its founding in 1914. A major economic engine in the Paso del Norte region, UTEP is the fifth largest employer in El Paso, with more than $418 million in expenditures in 2013-2014. UTEP adds $1.3 billion annually in business volume to the region’s economy, and UTEP students donated more than 560,581 hours of community service, an equivalent of $13.1 million, in 2012-2013.

In its 2014 national university rankings, Washington Monthly ranked UTEP in the top 10 overall, with UTEP maintaining its #1 ranking as the nation’s leading university in fostering student social mobility. Our success in achieving both affordability and high quality in the low-resourced US-Mexico border setting requires a deep commitment by all UTEP faculty, staff, friends, and supporters. That commitment ensures that students who entrust us with their aspirations are given every opportunity not only to pursue them, but to engage in enriched educational experiences on our campus that will prepare them to compete successfully with their peers from
across the globe. UTEP is not only redefining public higher education regionally and throughout Texas; our impact is being strongly validated across the nation. UTEP also offers exciting Division I athletic programs; award-winning theater, dance, and music programs; art galleries and a museum; and continuing and lifelong education programs open to the public.

**EL PASO:** El Paso County is a highly livable, bi-cultural community of 800,000 people, which offers affordable homes and attractive neighborhoods. It is one of the safest large cities in the United States. Shielded by mountains on three sides, El Paso experiences more than 300 days of sunshine annually and a dry climate, making it possible to enjoy outdoor activities year round. The city of El Paso is adjacent to both the state of New Mexico and the country of Mexico, making it one of the nation’s leading areas for border health research. El Paso comprises 248 square miles, making it the sixth largest city in Texas, and 19th largest city in the United States. The international and multicultural characteristics of the Paso del Norte provide faculty with unique opportunities to address the border region’s most challenging health issues.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Represent the Program to the local, state, and national academic and clinical communities.
- Manage program evaluation and report outcomes at the College, University, State, Regional, and National levels (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, and the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education).
- Assist with program planning, evaluation, and development.
- Mentor faculty and graduate students.
- Conduct faculty evaluations.
- Routinely provide recommendations for appointment, re-appointment, retention, dismissal, promotion, and merit salary determinations of faculty and staff.
- Manage the appointment of all program committees and chairs of committees; solicit advice from the faculty; call and conduct faculty meetings; and perform other program and/or departmental academic administrative duties as may be assigned by the Chair of the Rehabilitation Sciences Department and/or the Dean of the College.
- Initiate recommendations for and manage the annual budget.
- Plan for and monitor expenditures and ensure compliance with administrative policies and procedures.
- Prepare and schedule course offerings and assign duties, including teaching, for faculty and staff personnel.
- Assign allocated space and facilities; ensure proper maintenance and security of equipment and facilities.
- Approve degree plans for students.
- Carry a limited teaching load and perform university service and community outreach.
- Thrive in a bicultural setting, embrace the opportunities to work with underserved groups, and flourish in a team environment.
- Establish an independent, externally-funded research program.
QUALIFICATIONS:

- Trusted leader with a demonstrated ability to work effectively with faculty, staff, and students from diverse ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Preference will be given to candidates with a strong collaborative research record, an orientation towards community-centered research, and a record of prior work experience in a multicultural setting.
- Expertise in curriculum and evaluation as well as a strong record of teaching excellence, service, and academic scholarship, as demonstrated by research publications and the ability to secure extramural research funding, consistent with appointment to the rank of associate professor or professor.
- Experience in mentoring junior faculty.
- Evidence of progressively responsible leadership and resource management experience in a U.S. higher education setting.
- A record of active participation or leadership roles in professional organizations.
- Experience with CAPTE program accreditation.
- An earned degree in physical therapy AND an earned academic doctorate from an accredited university.
- Eligibility for licensure as a physical therapist in Texas.
- A minimum of six years of full-time higher education experience, with a minimum of three years of full-time experience in a physical therapist education program.

BENEFITS: This position represents an excellent opportunity for an outstanding individual to build on an established program and shape the direction of new initiatives. Multiple research opportunities are available in community and clinical settings on both sides of the US-Mexico border. The position comes with excellent fringe benefits.

SALARY: The initial salary is negotiable and based on qualifications and experience.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Review of applications will begin immediately, and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicants should submit a single PDF that includes the following: (1) a cover letter describing qualifications and interest in the position; (2) a current curriculum vitae; and (3) names and complete contact information for three professional references. Applicants will be notified before references are contacted. For more information, please contact Celia Pechak, PT, Ph.D. at cmpechak@utep.edu.

Applications must be submitted by email to:

Jan Greenwood or Betty Turner Asher
Greenwood/Asher & Associates, Inc.
42 Business Center Drive, Suite 206
Miramar Beach, FL 32550
Phone: 850.650.2277 Fax: 850.650.2272
E-mail: jangreenwood@greenwoodsearch.com
bettyasher@greenwoodsearch.com

Hiring decision is based upon budget approval.
The University of Texas at El Paso is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity in employment or the provision of services.