



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
JULIUS P.A. DEWALD, PT, PHD

As we closeout 2025, I would like to take a moment to reflect in more detail on the extraordinary accomplishments of the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences (PTHMS).

This year was marked by meaningful

progress and resilience across professional education, graduate training, research, clinical programs, and departmental operations, often under challenging and unpredictable conditions. What follows is a more comprehensive accounting of these accomplishments, made possible by the dedication of our faculty, staff, students, residents, fellows, and trainees.



NUPTHMS CLASS OF 2028

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT) PROGRAM

Class of 2025 Outcomes

- 90.4% first-time pass rate on the NPTE
- 96.8% ultimate pass rate, with only three graduates outstanding
- 93 graduates

Scholarships and Philanthropy

Over the past five years, philanthropic support has grown significantly, expanding our donor funds from six to eight and nearly doubling our impact. We launched new endowed programs and research initiatives, created four new scholarships (including two endowed) and more than doubled both the number and total value of scholarships awarded. Additional scholarships coming soon.

-EDUCATION-

- Ranked #4 PT Program by USN&WR.
- 6 Post-Professional Residency & Fellowship Programs.
- PhD in Systems Neuroscience.
- DPT/PhD dual degree in Engineering.
- DPT/MPH dual degree in Public Health.
- Full department status within the Medical School.
- We are a Nationally, regionally, & locally awarded Department & Faculty.
- STRIDE student-faculty advising program.
- ROADMAP student-alumni formal mentorship program.
- 'Alumni and Student Network' brings our community together.
- 4 faculty promotions
- 1 staff promotion

-RESEARCH & GRANTS 2025-

- 49 proposals submitted
- 26 faculty and 6 graduate students submitted proposals
- Total requested funding: \$43 million
- 13 new grants awarded in 2025
- 50 active grants during the year
- \$907,825 in new funding awarded in 2025
- \$6.9 million in total active funding (including out-year commitments)
- 11 newly funded faculty grants (faculty)
- 3 graduate student awards
- 1 postdoctoral award

Northwestern

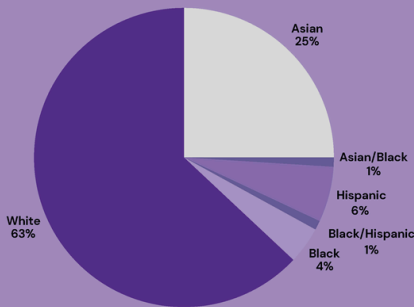
Physical Therapy & Human Movement Sciences

99 Students

75 Female/Women

24 Male/Men

Class of 2028



From 24 States



Citizens or dual-citizens
of 10 Countries
17 Languages

Studied at 66 Universities
25 Majors
3.8 Overall GPA

CLINICAL EDUCATION, RESIDENCIES & FELLOWSHIPS

Our residency and fellowship programs continue to grow in size, scope, and national reputation, with sustained **100% first-time board pass rates across programs**. Highlights include expansion of orthopaedic and neurologic residencies, accreditation of the Division I Sports Fellowship, and continued development of Women's Health and Advanced Orthopaedic Fellowships.

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

DPT-PHD IN ENGINEERING PROGRAM

Eight students are currently enrolled in the program

- 2 students in the DPT program (1 first-year, 1 second-year)
- 6 students in the BME program (2 post-DPT, 4 pre-DPT)

NUIN – MOVEMENT & REHABILITATION SCIENCE (MRS)

Twelve students are currently enrolled, including two first-year students rotating in MRS laboratories

DPT-MPH DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAM

- Class of 2026: 2 students
- Class of 2027: 4 students
- Class of 2028: 2 students

ACCREDITATION & PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

This October, PTHMS welcomed CAPTE, the nationally recognized accrediting body for PT & PTA programs. We thank our CAPTE Self-Study Committee, for their exceptional work in completing the Self-Study Report and guiding the DPT program successfully through the on-site visit. This was a major undertaking requiring sustained effort, coordination, and attention to detail, and the outcome reflects the strength and stability of our program.

-AWARDS- NATIONAL

ALEX BENGTTSSON, DPT, FAAOMPT
AAOMPT Emerging Leader Award

SHAMALI DUSANE, PT, PhD
2025 ACRM Stroke ISIG Outstanding Scientific Poster Award (w/ co-authors)

LOIS HEDMAN, PT, DScPT, MS, FAPTA
2025 Catherine Worthingham Fellow

DAVALYN PARTAIN, PT, DPT
IPTA Clinical Educator of the Year

KELLY XIE, SPT ('26)
IPTA Outstanding Physical Therapist Student

LOCAL & INSTITUTIONAL

CORI ARQUINES, PT, MHPE
John X. Thomas Jr. Best Teachers of Feinberg Award

Feinberg Academy of Medical Educators Inductees (FAME):

Megan Freeland, PT, DPT, PCS
Vicki Tysseling, PT, PhD