

**Wayne State University
Physical Therapy Research Symposium 2026
Monday, April 27, 2026.**

Keynote by [Arun Jayaraman](#), PT, PhD. at 4:00 PM.

Light Refreshments from 5:00-5:30 PM.

Student Presentations start at 5:30 PM. 10 min presentations followed by 5 min Q&A.

**Room 0520 (Backup 0364) and Room 0540 (Backup 0360), EACPHS
Please stay tuned for announcement regarding exact rooms for student presentations at the
end of the keynote**

ROOM 0520 (Backup 0364). GROUP 1. TITLES AND AUTHOR INFORMATION. Room needs keycard access, which has been added to Roche's OneCard.

5:30-5:40 PM. Title: Pilot-Testing the Family Caregiver Activities of Daily Living Training Program for Individuals with Alzheimer's.

Authors: Elizabeth Geno, SPT; Stephanie Ung, SPT; and Maicyn King, SPT

Mentors: Fredrick D. Pociask, PhD; Diane E. Adamo, PhD, and Rosanne DiZazzo-Miller, PhD

5:45-5:55 PM. Title: Investigating Study Habits, Resources, and Learning Styles on NPTE Success.

Authors: Joel Koshko, SPT, Michael Ciaravino, SPT, Laurel Sullivan, SPT, Arianna Trimanez, SPT.

Mentors: Kristina Reid, PT, DPT, PhD.

6:00-6:10 PM. Title: Effects of Anxiety on Comprehensive Examinations

Authors: Daliah Hamdan, SPT, Imaan Siddiqui, SPT, Rania Bekheet, SPT.

Mentors: Kristina Reid, PT, PhD.

6:15-6:25 PM. Title: Comparing Outcomes in Anatomy Across Various Physical Therapy Educational Models

Authors: Jaclyn Deprez, SPT; Nicole McMath, SPT; and Isabela Schultz, SPT

Mentors: Sara F. Maher, PT, PhD, DScPT, OMPT and Jennifer Dickson, PT, DPT, OMPT

6:30-6:40 PM. Title: Sensory Integration in Motion

Authors: Saif Musleh, SPT; Hassan Sabbagh, SPT; Hassan Hamadeh, SPT; Dale Stanley, SPT

Mentors: Nora Fritz, PT, DPT, NCS, PhD; Michael VanNostrand, PhD; Patrick Monaghan, PhD

6:45-6:50 PM. Session Chair closing comments

ROOM 0540 (Backup 0360). GROUP 2. TITLES AND AUTHOR INFORMATION.

5:30-5:40 PM. PM. Title: Modeling Physical Working Capacity at the Pain Threshold (PWC_{PIT}): An Isolated Skeletal Muscle Exercise Paradigm

Authors: Joshua Meseroll, SPT, Dylan Resnick, SPT, Jacob Sawicki, SPT, Daniel Smith, SPT, and Bud Tackett, SPT

Mentor: Moh H. Malek, PhD

5:45-5:55 PM. Title: Caffeine Dose Response for the Physical Working Capacity at the Fatigue Threshold (PWCFT)

Authors: Rena Hamade, SPT, Geena Hanna, SPT, Jordan Hemmingway, SPT, and Katie Krikorian, SPT

Mentor: Moh H. Malek, PhD

6:00-6:10 PM. Title: The effect of curcumin supplementation on donor-cell-derived muscle regeneration in a mouse model of limb-girdle muscular dystrophy.

Authors: Mikayla Bruder, SPT, Eve Davis, SPT, Brooke Hanson, SPT, Morgan McGinnis, SPT, and Mackenzie Wilson, SPT.

Mentor: Joseph A. Roche, BPT, PhD

6:15-6:25 PM. Title: Repurposing an FDA-cleared wound healing matrix for donor-cell-derived muscle regeneration: A pilot study.

Authors: Ria Das, SPT, Meadow Steel, SPT, Wiktoria Surmiak, SPT.

Mentor: Joseph A. Roche, BPT, PhD

6:30-6:40 PM. Title: Enhancing Physical Therapy Students' Engagement in Physical Activity Promotion in a Pro-bono Clinic Through Educational and Supportive Interventions: A Knowledge Translation Study.

Authors: Caitlin Brown, SPT, Lydia McKee, SPT, Morgan Schramm, SPT

Faculty Mentor: Marie Pepin, PT, OMPT, MScPT, DPT

6:45-6:50 PM. Session Chair closing comments

Acknowledgments:

The event organizers thank the students and their mentors for presenting their work. We thank the University and College leadership for supporting student research. We thank our donors for creating scholarships, which enable our students to present their scholarly work at State and National meetings. We thank various funding agencies for acknowledging the value of our PT Program's research projects and providing grant support.

Thank you for attending the 2026 Wayne State University PT Research Symposium. We look forward to seeing you again next year.