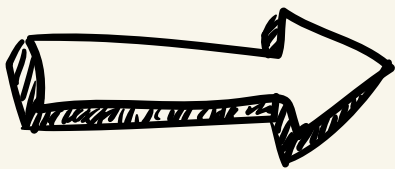


THE PT PULSE

*South College Knoxville DPT
April 2025*

IN THIS
ISSUE



Upcoming Events

Weekly open calls, Virtual Open House, our 10th Anniversary, and More!

What's New?

Introducing our new Assistant Program Director!

Faculty Spotlight

Meet Dr. Carling Butler!

Student Spotlight

Read all about Bailey from the Class of 2026!

Student Special Interest Groups

April's sSIG is all about Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Cultural Competance.

Volunteer Opportunities

How South College Knoxville DPT is involved in the community

Knoxville Happenings




What's going on in Knoxville?



CALLING LOCAL PTAS AND PT TECHS!

Join us this summer as we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of South College Knoxville's School of Physical Therapy with a FREE in-person CEU event!

This special evening is perfect for anyone eager to:

-  Dive into a dynamic PT topic
-  Connect with fellow professionals and local clinics
-  Explore educational pathways like our PTA and DPT programs

Whether you're looking to learn, grow your network, or simply celebrate the profession we love, we'd love to see you there!

Further details such as date, time, and CEU topic will be coming out by the end of the month. please fill out our form in you would like to receive the invitation!



ASK US ANYTHING

SOUTH COLLEGE DPT KNOXVILLE WEEKLY OPEN ZOOM SESSIONS



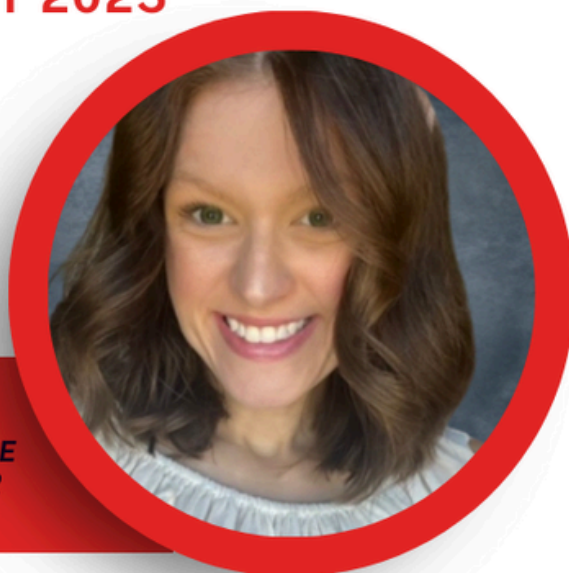
EVERY FRIDAY THROUGH MAY 2025
12PM-12:30PM ET

[Click here to join!](#)

PRESENTER

ROSE WILLIAMS

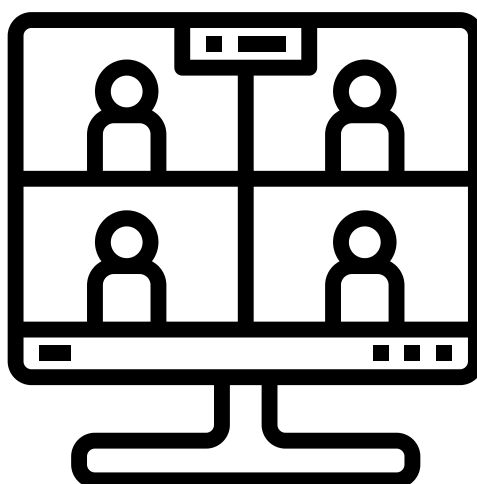
*SOUTH COLLEGE KNOXVILLE
DPT ADMISSIONS OFFICER*



DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT....

PREREQUISITES
CLINICAL ROTATIONS
COURSEWORK
APPLICATION PROCESS
FACULTY/STAFF
ANYTHING NOT LISTED

IF SO, JOIN ONE OF OUR CALLS!



SOUTH COLLEGE KNOXVILLE VIRTUAL DPT OPEN HOUSE

Discover the South College Doctor of Physical Therapy program from the comfort of your home.

- **Meet faculty, staff, and current students**
- **Learn about our curriculum**
- **Get your questions answered in real time**



Thursday
April 24, 2025



12pm ET and
6pm ET

REGISTER NOW



<https://forms.office.com/r/nYSJzjS9rr>



rwilliams@south.edu



**EMILY HENNEMAN IS OUR
NEW ASSISTANT PROGRAM
DIRECTOR**

We are thrilled to announce that Emily Henneman, PT, DPT, GCS, CEEAA, has been elected Assistant Program Director—a role she steps into with her signature enthusiasm, insight, and heart for education. Dr. Henneman currently serves as Chair of the Admissions Committee and Assistant Director of Clinical Education. She brings over a decade of clinical and academic experience as a physical therapist to her leadership roles. A proud alumna of the University of Minnesota's Doctor of Physical Therapy program, she is an APTA board-certified Geriatric Clinical Specialist and Certified Exercise Expert for Aging Adults.

Her passion for working with older adults began in high school as a certified nursing assistant and grew into her practice as a physical therapist. She has worked with older adults in various settings including outpatient, home health and hospice/palliative care. The same passion is reflected in her scholarly work, which includes publications on the role of physical therapists in hospice care, the use of simulation experiences in DPT education, and clinical education practices.

Dr. Henneman's leadership style is rooted in empathy, excellence, and collaboration: qualities that will undoubtedly shape the next chapter of our program.

Outside of work, you will find her shuttling her four kiddos between activities, reading a good book, baking, and enjoying quality time with family.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Henneman on this well-deserved appointment!





MEET DR. CARLING BUTLER



MY “WHY”

An outspoken mentor always says, “Patients need more inspiration, not more education.”

We inspire change in others (patients, peers, family, friends, strangers), not by lecturing them or trying to change them, but by inspiring them.

At South College we work hard to lead by example in and out of the classroom to inspire our next generation of physical therapists because we know the downstream impact is massive. **Our graduates who lead with this same motto inspire thousands of patients across the States, and beyond, every single day.** Our program reach is incredible! **That’s my why!**



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Where you’ll find me:

- Cardiopulmonary Practice (Q4), Pharmacology (Q5), and Differential Diagnosis & Screening for Referral (Q6)
- Zoom calls with Dr. Fritsch as Co-Directors of Curriculum
- I live in Dallas-Fort Worth, TX.

Professional work:

- Doctor of Physical Therapy & Master of Science in Clinical Investigation from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO (*Fun fact: Dr. Kothe was 2 years ahead of me in DPT school!*)
- Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Orthopedic PT & Cardiovascular & Pulmonary PT
- UT Southwestern Medical Center (Acute & Critical Care) and seasonally with the **Texas Ballet Theatre**.
- Last peer-reviewed product: Co-authored a chapter in the American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s Ambulatory Care Pharmacist’s Survival Guide, 5th edition (2024) on “*Leveraging interdisciplinary partnerships to develop a pharmacist-led geriatric diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) program.*”

[Find Dr. Butler’s LinkedIn here](#)





BAILEY



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

HOMETOWN:

I'm originally from Sevierville, TN, but I currently live in Orlando, FL.

HOBBIES:

I love to read (last year I read 35 books, many of them nearly 1,000 pages). I love to be outside, and I spend a lot of time with my kitty, Luna !

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SOUTH COLLEGE?

South was not originally on my radar. I found out about it when I was doing one last search through PTCAS. The accelerated aspect has its appeal, but it was the hybrid design that really caught my eye! As a student, I function best when I can spend a lot of solo time with the material, and with traditional programs, it can be hard to do that when you are in class and in person all day. Now, I get to learn how I want to and where I want to while still getting top notch instruction and guidance from our faculty.

FAVORITE THING LEARNED IN PT SCHOOL:

We just started some neuroanatomy, so learning about the design of the spinal cord and nervous system has been fascinating to me so far. I also love learning from faculty who clearly love what they are teaching!

FUN FACT:

I was on the University of Alabama Million Dollar Band Color Guard for 3 years! I knew without a doubt I wanted to be a PT when I worked with my first patient as a tech, and she told me that in only a couple of visits I had already helped her get motivated to get better and she knew I was on the right path.

Each month, we will be highlighting one of our student special interest groups (sSIGs).

A sSIG is a group where students with shared interests in a specific area of physical therapy can gather, network, learn more about that topic, and potentially organize related events or activities.



DEIC



The Student Special Interest Group (sSIG) of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Cultural Competence (DEIC) is designed to actively foster an environment where students can explore the impact of cultural awareness, health disparities, and equitable treatment practices in our field. Through educational sessions, community outreach, and student-led discussions, we empower students to become advocates for their patients and leaders in the profession.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER IN PHYSICAL THERAPY?

- **Patient-Centered Care** – Each patient's cultural background, language, and experiences influence how they perceive pain, rehab, and healthcare overall. Culturally competent physical therapists are better equipped to provide individualized, patient-centered treatment building trust and improving outcomes.
- **Reducing Health Disparities** – Minority communities often face barriers to accessing physical therapy services, from economic challenges to systemic biases in healthcare. As future PTs, we have a responsibility to recognize these disparities and work toward inclusive, accessible rehabilitation.
- **Stronger Therapeutic Alliances** – Research shows that when patients feel respected and understood by their provider, they are more likely to follow their treatment plans, leading to better recovery and long-term wellness.
- **Professional Growth & Leadership** – Growth in cultural competence is beneficial to patient care, strengthens clinical reasoning, enhances communication skills, and prepares PTs to lead in diverse healthcare settings.

HOW MANY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE?

The number of active participants varies for each cohort, but we typically have 5-7 students engaged in meetings, discussions, and opportunities. The DEIC is open to all South College DPT students, regardless of background or prior experiences. Whether you're deeply involved in efforts or simply want to learn and grow in a more inclusive space, we welcome your participation.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ACTIVITIES/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

Yes, DEIC is always open to volunteer opportunities within the community. We host guest speakers who are experienced in various topics like cultural competence in healthcare, addressing bias in patient care, and health disparities. We create safe spaces for students to share experiences and discuss challenges related to diversity and inclusion in physical therapy. We build connections with peers, faculty, and professionals who share a commitment to equity in healthcare.



ANY OTHER FUN FACTS?

- Being part of the DEIC provides a great opportunity for professional growth, networking, and leadership experience!
- We collaborate with other student SIGs and faculty to enhance inclusivity throughout the DPT program.
- Participation in DEIC activities can strengthen resumes and residency applications by demonstrating a commitment to cultural competence and advocacy in physical therapy.
- We encourage new ideas! Students can propose projects or initiatives they're passionate about, and with faculty's support, we help bring them to life!



CORE VALUE: SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



We're off and racing to support a great cause! Join us for Racing to End Hunger: Derby Day for Second Harvest of East Tennessee, happening April 9 – May 1.

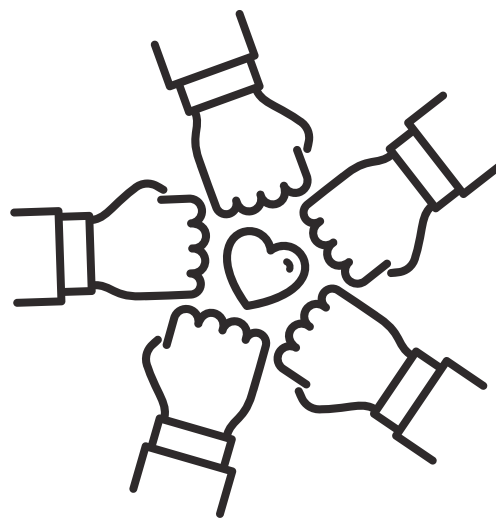
Most-needed items include:

- Peanut butter & almond butter
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Canned vegetables & fruit
- Beans (canned or dry)
- Pasta & pasta sauce
- Boxed meals (mac & cheese, rice, etc.)
- Soup & chili

Prefer not to lug in cans?

No problem! You can participate in the Virtual Food Drive instead — just click the link below to donate:

<https://secondharvestetn.fenly.org/drive/southcollege/>



South College DPT is pairing with Special Olympics TN to help with various events all over TN.

The Summer Games will be held in Nashville, TN this year and South College will be there!

Check out

<https://specialolympicstn.volunteerhub.com/vv2/>

for volunteer opportunities.



Knoxville Marathon Aid Station Was A Success!

In the last issue, we discussed the opportunity to volunteer at the Covenant Health Knoxville Marathon.

On Sunday, April 6th, we had topical pain relief gel, Vaseline for chafing, dry towels, a canopy to escape the pouring rain, gummies to replenish glycogen, and a massage gun to help with leg pain.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE SCRUFFY CITY?

WAIT, WHY IS KNOXVILLE CALLED THAT?



The nickname "Scruffy City" traces back to 1980, when a columnist from The Wall Street Journal criticized Knoxville as too "scruffy" to host the 1982 World's Fair. Instead of taking offense, the city embraced the label with pride. Knoxville went on to prove the critics wrong by hosting one of the most successful and well-attended World's Fairs in U.S. history. Today, "Scruffy City" is a badge of honor: celebrating Knoxville's resilience, creativity, and unpolished charm.

See that tower with the gold ball on top? It's called the **Sunsphere**, and was built for the 1982 World's Fair!

DOWNTOWN HAPPENINGS

This past weekend in Knoxville was the Rossini Festival, The Rossini Festival is Knoxville Opera's annual International Street Fair that celebrates the global impact on the music, food, art, and culture of East Tennessee. This free festival averages half a million attendees and provides live entertainment, foods from all over the world, and local craftsmanship. The weather was perfect for springtime strolling in the heart of Downtown Knoxville.



WHERE CAN I GET GROCERIES OR A BITE TO EAT?

The South College Parkside Campus is located in Farragut, a suburb of Knoxville. **Right next door is Turkey Creek**, a lively area full of restaurants, shops, and entertainment, making it a great place for students to relax and have fun after class.

Familiar searched for locations here are Walmart, Target, Starbucks, Chick-Fil-A, etc.. But Turkey Creek also boasts many locally owned gems.
[Click here for the directory!](#)

WHERE CAN I GO TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS?

A local favorite is Concord Park, located about 4 miles away from campus. The park has almost 14 miles of trails, and 2 miles of paved greenway. This 500 acre location has sand volleyball courts, watersports rentals, swimming areas, and more!
[Click here for more info!](#)



Anchor Park: Situated near Fort Loudoun Lake, this park features fishing piers, playgrounds, picnic areas, and paved trails, making it ideal for family outings and nature walks.

McFee Park: This expansive 50-acre park boasts a splash pad, playground, picnic shelters, and sports fields, serving as a hub for community events during the warmer months.

Mayor Bob Leonard Park: Known for its sports facilities, walking trails, and open green spaces, this park is a favorite among locals for both recreation and community gatherings.



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South College
Physical Therapy

[FOR OUR PROGRAM
VIEWBOOK, CLICK HERE!](#)

**This viewbook is a
great resource for
general information
on our program,
admissions
requirements,
clinicals, and more.**