

# Parkinson's Foundation Physical Therapy Faculty Program Evaluation

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## KEY FINDINGS:

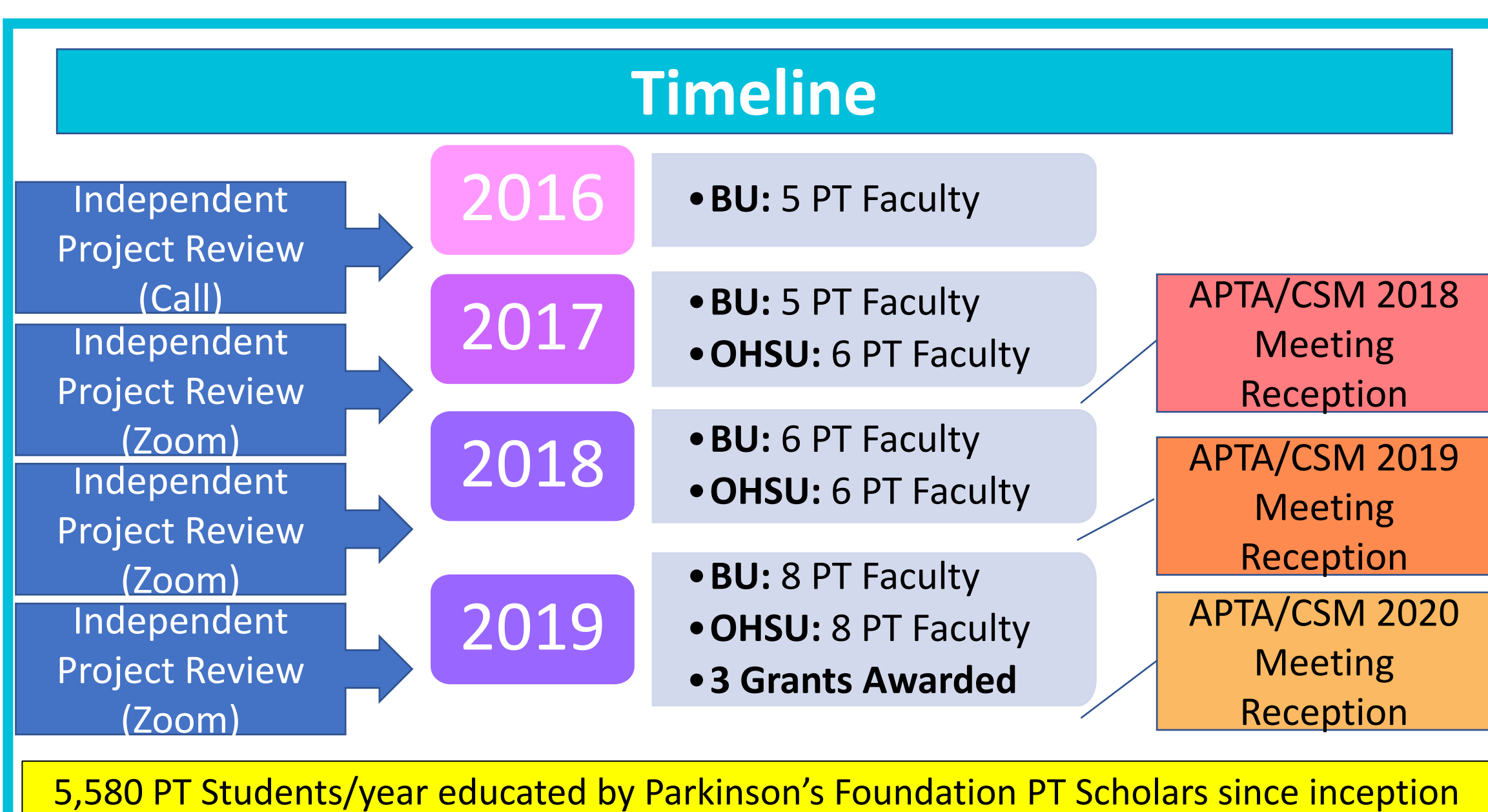
The Parkinson's Foundation Physical Therapy Faculty Program improves curriculum content, teaching and treatment confidence, and specialized knowledge related to PD.

## Background

- In 2016, the Parkinson's Foundation partnered with clinical and research experts to implement a training program for physical therapy (PT) faculty who want to develop skills in teaching entry-level PT students about Parkinson's disease (PD).
- The program is offered free to PT faculty.
- Purpose:** This report describes the PT Faculty Program and its outcomes from 2016-2019.

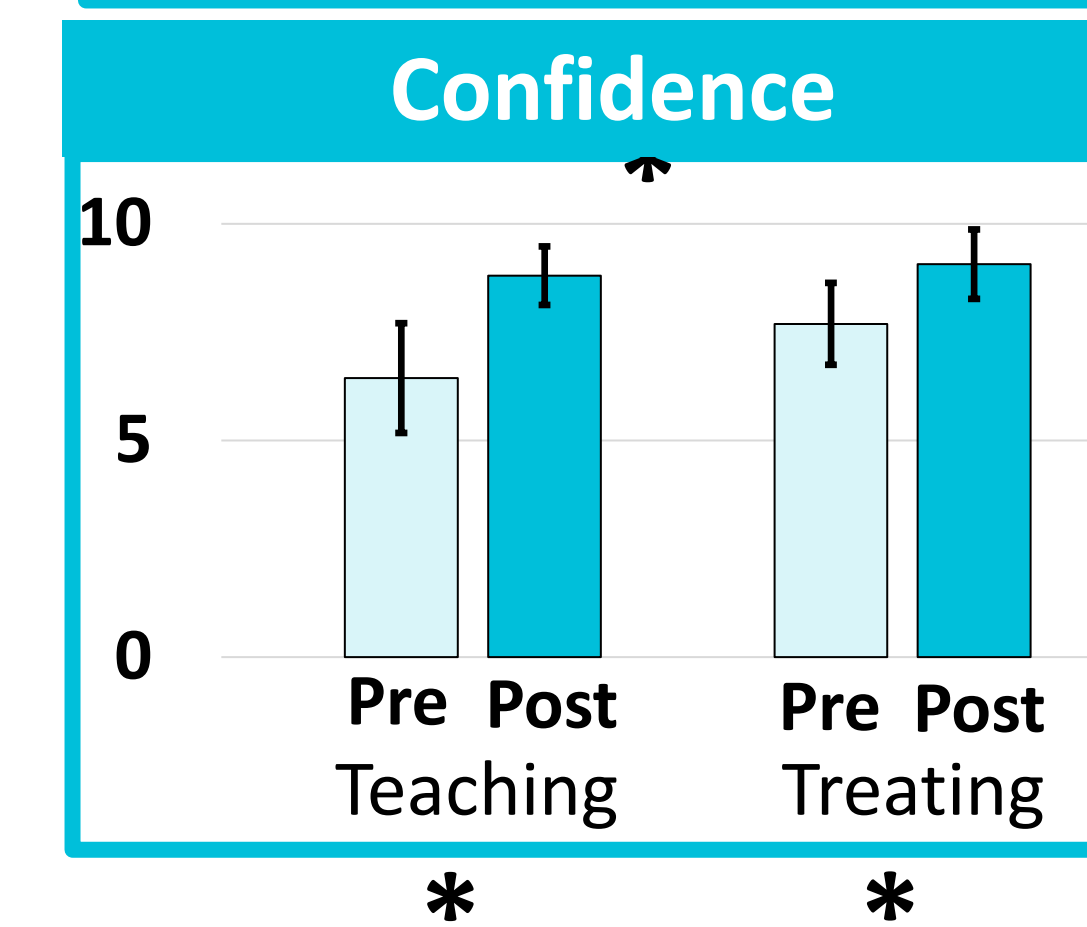
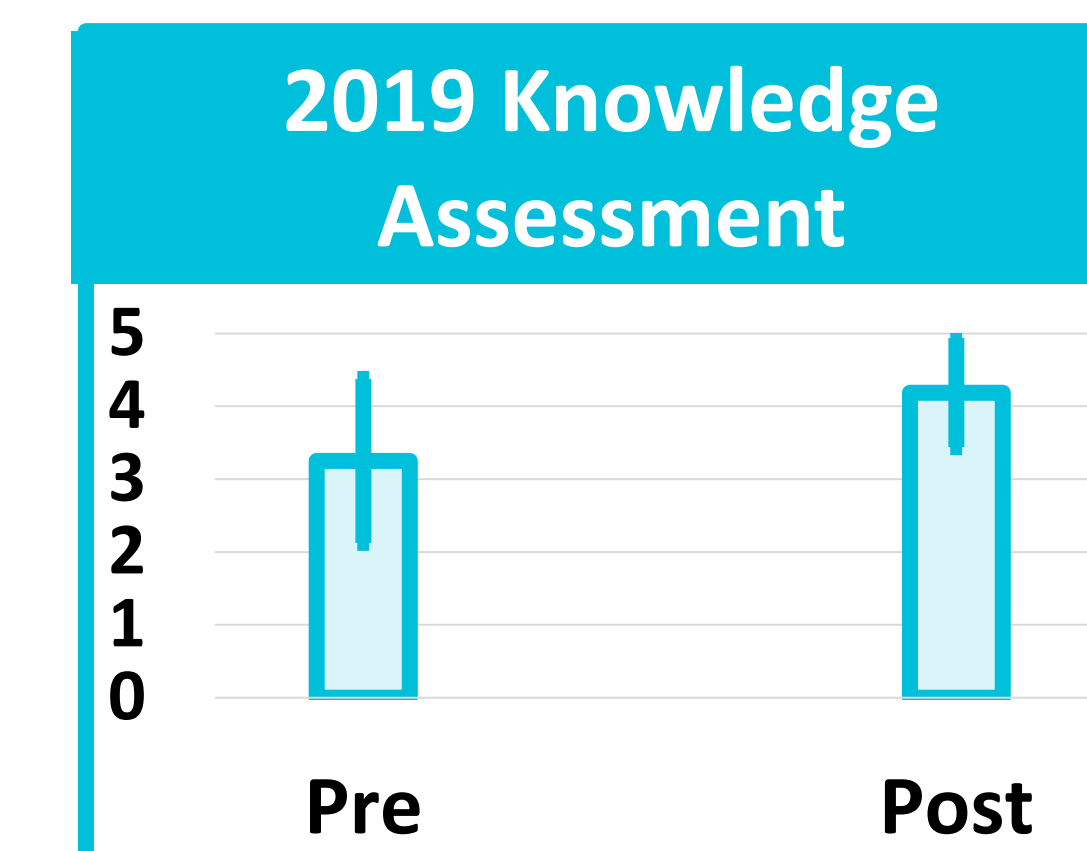
## Methodology

- The PT Faculty Program provides faculty with PD-specific didactic and observational training at expert clinical and research centers.
- The 4-day curriculum was aligned across the two centers to include PD medical and surgical management, PT delivery models for PD, PT evaluation and treatment for PD, and curriculum planning.
- Program evaluation surveys include knowledge and confidence domains.



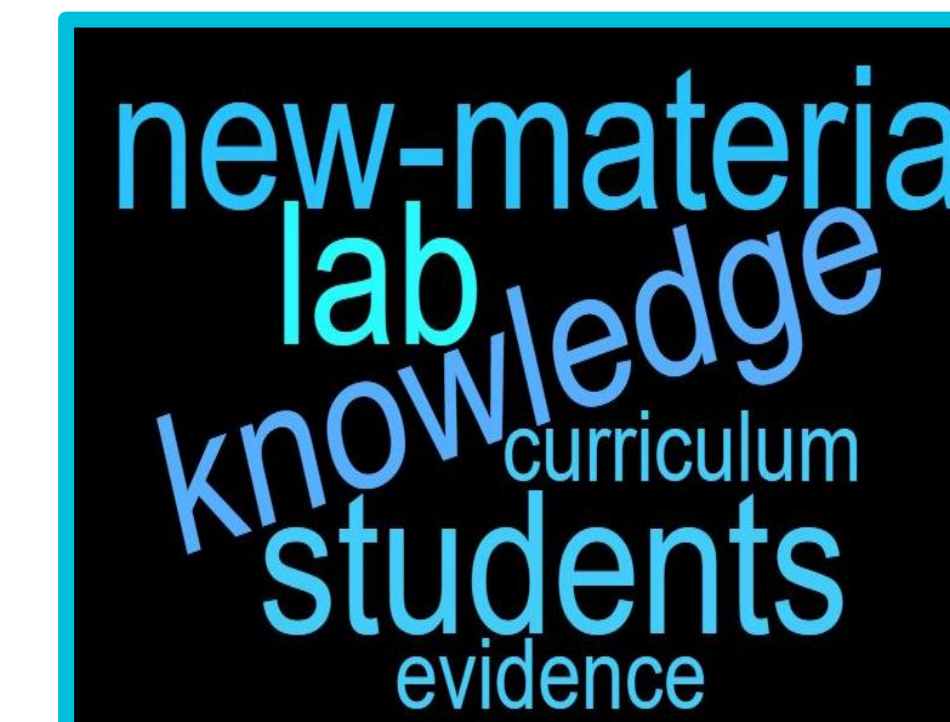
## Results

- Reach:** As of March 2020, 44 faculty members have completed the program, 16 in 2019. These 44 faculty have taught approximately 5580 PT students since the inception of the PT Faculty Training Program.
- Knowledge Improved:** Participants significantly increased their knowledge from before to after the training on a five question test ( $p=0.009$ ).
- Teaching and Treating Confidence:** Participants had improved confidence teaching about PD and treating people with PD ( $p<0.0001$  and  $p<0.001$ , respectively).
- Benefits of PT Faculty Training:** Themes related to benefits of PT Faculty Training in 2019 included impact related to improved curriculum content.

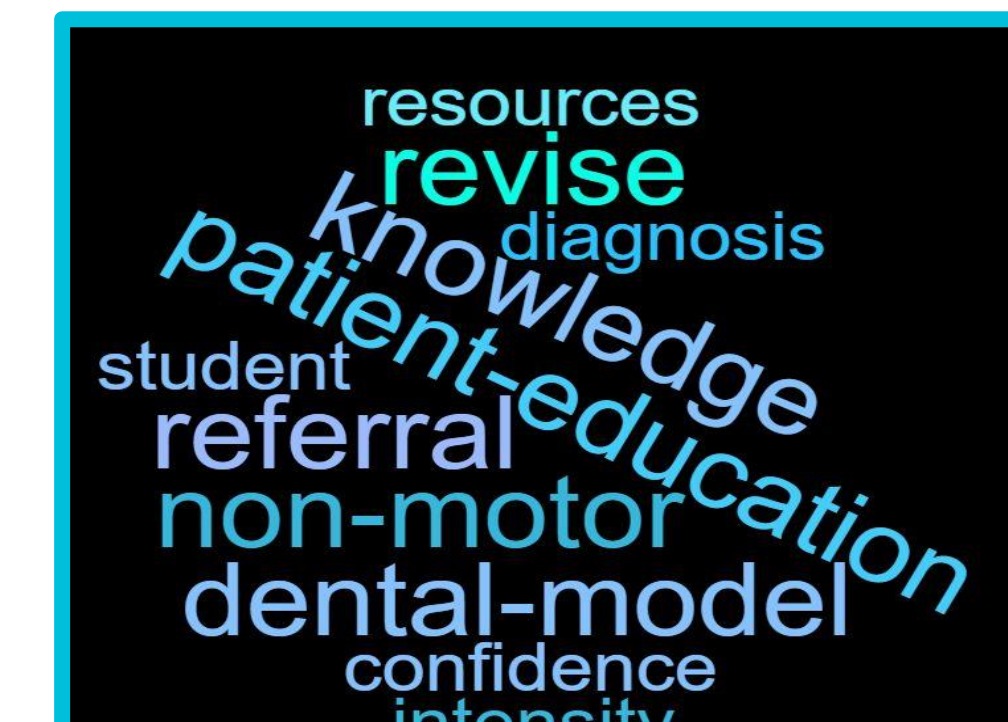


### Benefits of PT Faculty Training Occurred in Teaching and Clinical Domains (2019)

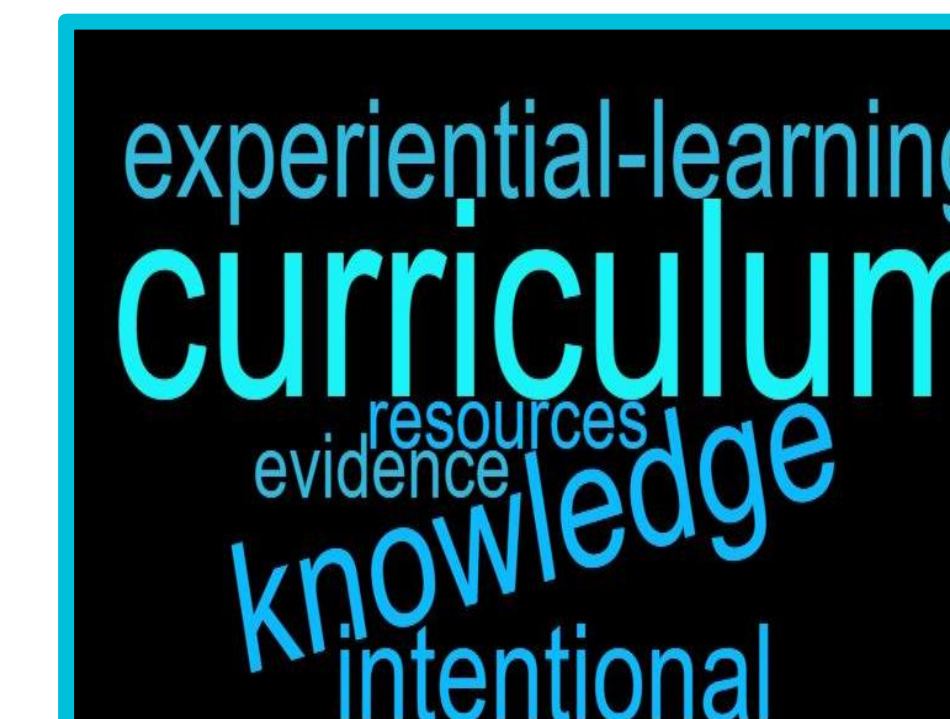
#### Teaching Benefits



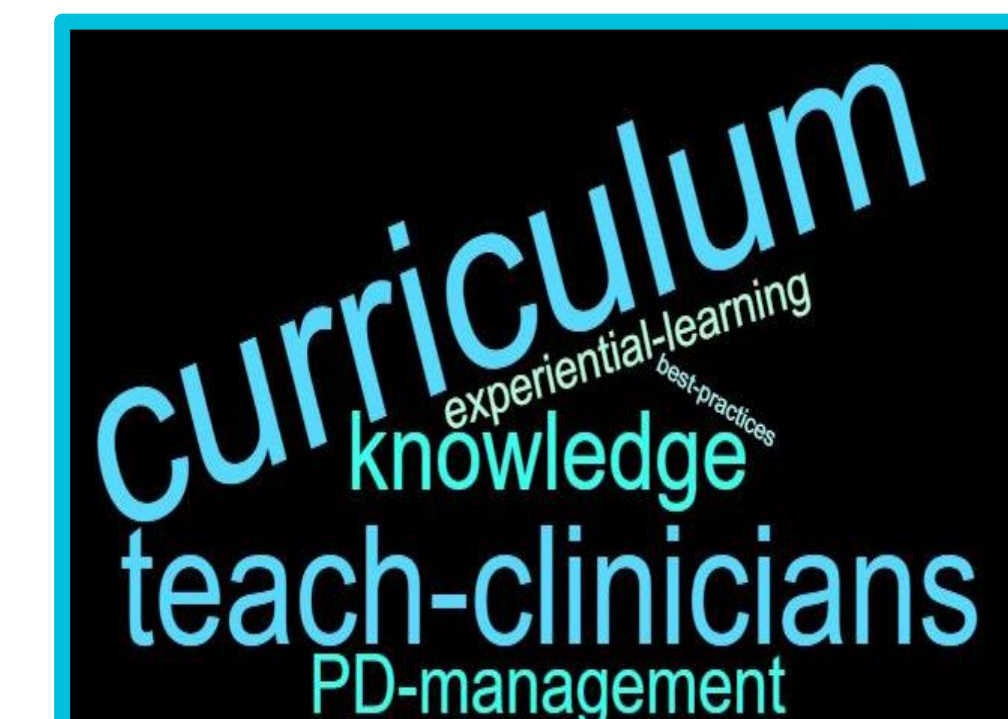
#### Clinical Benefits



#### PT Student Impact



#### Project Topics



## Conclusion

- Training PT Faculty in the teaching and clinical expertise for people with PD improves teaching and curriculum.
- Future Directions:**
  - Grants have been offered through competitive applications to further develop PT Faculty and facilitate their success.
  - An online educational platform has been developed by the Parkinson's Foundation to share curriculum development resources with faculty trainees.
  - The PT Faculty Alumni Association continues to share resources and education between Faculty.

## Acknowledgements

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