

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Victoria A. Hornyak, PT, DPT, GCS**

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Department of Physical Therapy, University of Pittsburgh

### **Education**

#### **University of Pittsburgh**

Pittsburgh, PA  
2012-2015  
Master of Science, Medical Education, 2015

#### **Temple University**

Philadelphia, PA  
2007-2009  
Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy, 2009

#### **Duquesne University**

Pittsburgh, PA  
1990-1993  
B.S. Health Sciences, 1992  
Master of Physical Therapy, 1993

#### **Saint Mary's College**

Notre Dame, IN  
1988-1990  
Biology Major, no degree earned

### **Licensure Information**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania PT 008290L

### **Certifications:**

ABPTS: Geriatric Clinical Specialist, 2005, 2015

## **Employment and Positions Held**

### **ACADEMIC**

Assistant Professor (non-tenure stream)  
Department of Physical Therapy  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2013-present

Instructor  
University of Pittsburgh  
Department of Physical Therapy  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2008-2013

Teaching Assistant (part-time)  
Department of Physical Therapy  
University of Pittsburgh,  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2006-2008

### **NON-ACADEMIC**

Physical Therapist, Casual  
Centers for Rehab Services  
UPMC Presbyterian  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2008-present

Compliance Specialist  
Centers for Rehab Services, Corporate Division  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2008-2011

Senior Physical Therapist, Weekend Coordinator  
Centers for Rehab Services, UPMC Presbyterian  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2000-2008

Senior Physical Therapist, Acute Medicine Team  
Centers for Rehab Services, UPMC Presbyterian,  
Pittsburgh, PA  
2000

Staff Physical Therapist  
Kane Regional Center  
McKeesport, PA  
1996-2000

Staff Physical Therapist  
McKeesport Hospital  
McKeesport, PA  
1993-1996

### **Peer Reviewed Publications**

Brach JS, Lowry K, Perera S, **Hornnyak V**, Wert D, Studenski SA, VanSwearingen JM. Improving motor control in walking: A randomized clinical trial in older adults with subclinical walking difficulty. Arch Phys Med Rehabil. 2015; 96(3):388-94.

**Hornnyak V**. Brach JS, Wert DM, Hile E, Studenski SA, VanSwearingen JM. What is the relation between fear of falling and physical activity in older adults? Arch Phys Med Rehab. 2013; 94(12):2529-34.

### **Published Abstracts of Peer Reviewed Presentations**

**Hornnyak V**, Hergenroeder A. The use of assessment virtual patients to examine clinical decision making. Platform presentation, APTA Combined Sections Meeting. Anaheim, CA. 2016.

**Hornnyak V**, VanSwearingen JM. A new model of knowledge translation for physical therapy clinicians who work in skilled nursing facilities: a case study. American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting . Oral Presentation. Indianapolis, IN. 2015.

**Hornnyak V**, VanSwearingen JM. A new model of knowledge translation for physical therapy clinicians who work in skilled nursing facilities: a case study. American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. Poster Presentation. Washington, DC. 2015.

**Hornnyak V**, VanSwearingen JM. Factor analysis of change in Late Life Function and Disability Index scores. American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. Poster Presentation. Orlando, FL. 2014.

**Hornnyak V**, VanSwearingen JM. Differences in mobility, aging expectations and confidence among older adults with varying levels of fear of falling. American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting. Oral Presentation. Las Vegas, NV 2014.

**Hornnyak, V**, VanSwearingen JM. Is gait intervention-related change in fear or confidence in walking related to change in function? American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. Poster Presentation. Grapevine, TX, 2013.

**Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Wert DL, Studenski SA, Brach JS. The relative role of falls, fear and cognition in physical function in older adults. American Physical therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting. Oral Presentation. San Diego, CA, 2013.

**Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Wert DL, Studenski SA, Brach JS. How do falls, fear and cognition influence the association between physical performance and self-reported function in older adults? American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. Poster Presentation. Seattle, WA, 2012.

**Hornyak V**, Brach JS, Wert DM, VanSwearingen JM. Informing fall reduction interventions for the elderly: cognitive function and white matter disease by falls and fear of falling status. American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting. Oral Presentation. New Orleans, LA. 2011

Brach J, Hile E, **Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Wert DM. Return Motor Skill to Walking. American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting. Educational Programming. New Orleans, LA. 2011.

**Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Brach JS. Walking for exercise attenuates the association between fear of falling and mobility. American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. Poster Presentation. Washington, DC, 2011.

**Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Wert DM, Hile E, Talkowski J, Studenski SA, Brach JS. Associations among fear of falling, physical function and physical activity in older adults. American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting, San Diego, CA Oral Presentation, 2010.

#### **Non-Peer Reviewed Publications**

**Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Brach JS. Measurement of gait speed. Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation. 2012. 28(1); 27-32.

**Hornyak, V**. Achievements of Olympic proportions. GeriNotes. 2005. 12(6);23.

#### **Non-Peer reviewed Presentations**

**Hornyak V**. "Gait and Cognition in Older Adults: Linking Thinking and Walking" University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Clinical Connections. Pittsburgh, PA, 2014.

**Hornyak V**, VanSwearingen JM, Brach JS. "Assistive Devices" and "Gait Assessment for the Older Adult". University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Macy Interprofessional Series in Geriatrics, 2012-2014.

**Hornyak V**. "Best Practices in Prescribing Assistive Devices" University of Pittsburgh Medicine Residency and Geriatric Fellowship Noon Conferences 2011-2014.

**Hornyak V**. "Gait Assessment of the Older Adult" University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, 2012.

**Hornyak V**. "Diabetes in the Older Adult: Considerations for Physical Therapy" PPTA Southwest District Mini Combined Sections Meeting, 2009.

**Hornyak V, Panzino T.** “Geriatric Assessment” UPMC Centers for Rehab Services Acute/Long-Term Care Division Regional Inservice, 2005.

### **Current Funded Grant Activity**

**Hornyak, V.** Wright, R. Co-Project Directors

Grant: **Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP)**

Mid-Atlantic Geriatric Workforce Development Center, Dr. Richard Schultz, Center Director

Project Title: Advancing Dementia-Care Competency and Preparedness Across Disciplines

Award Amount: Salary funded at 15% for 3 years

Source: Health Resources Services Administration 2015-2018

Description: The project goal is to adapt existing communication skills programs to better interact with patients who have dementia. Targeted learners are students in Medicine and Physical Therapy, at various time points in their training.

### **Previously Funded Grant Activity**

**Hornyak V.** Project Director/Principal Investigator

Grant: **Geriatric Academic Career Award** HRSA K01HP20478

Project Title: “Development of a Translational Educator in Geriatrics”

Award Amount: 5-year \$350,000 Career Development Award

Source: Health Resources Services Administration, 2010-2015.

Description: The project goal was to develop models for translation of evidence-based physical therapy assessment and treatment procedures to everyday practice in inter-professional geriatrics. The main research conducted through the grant was titled “A comparison of two continuing education methods on the practice patterns of physical therapists who work in skilled nursing facilities.” Additionally, this career development award was used to pursue a Master’s Degree in Medical Education.

Hergenroeder A, **Hornyak V.** Co-Project Directors

Grant: **Innovation in Education Award**

Project title: “The Use of Assessment Virtual Patients to Examine Clinical Decision-Making”

Award Amount: \$5,000

Source: University of Pittsburgh, Office of the Provost, 2014.

Description: This project was designed to develop online “virtual cases” to assess clinical decision-making in 2<sup>nd</sup> year DPT students prior to their entry into the year-long clinical internship. The project is permanently housed in the course PT2079 “Management of the Medically Complex Patient”. The virtual cases feature interactive, branching options for decision-making, augmented by embedded videos using standardized patients and colleagues. Decision-making is assessed using pre-determined metrics and compared to in-person performance using standardized patients.

## **Research Activity**

### **Research Coordinator**

“Comparison of two exercise interventions to improve gait and cognition in older adults.” Principal Investigator: Jessie VanSwearingen, PT, PhD. 2011-2013.

### **Research Coordinator**

“Comparison of two exercise interventions to improve gait variability in older adults.” Principal Investigator: Jennifer Brach, PT, PhD. 2009 – 2011.

### **Research Assistant**

“Thinking, moving, feeling: shared neurobiology.” Principal Investigators: Jessie VanSwearingen, PT, PhD, Stephanie Studenski MD and Charles Reynolds. 2008 – 2009.

## **Membership in Professional Organizations**

American Physical Therapy Association, Member, 1993-present  
Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy  
Education Section

American Geriatrics Society, Member, 2012-2015

## **Service to the University**

### **University Level:**

**Working Group on Interprofessional Education , 2014-present**  
Representative for the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

### **School Level:**

**Faculty Undergraduate Mentor, 2012-present**  
Mentor undergraduate students who wish to pursue career in health sciences.

### **Department Level:**

**Member, Ethics and Professionalism Committee, 2011-present**  
Plan and execute, with other committee members, all activities related to the preparation for and execution of the Professional Pledge Ceremony for first-year DPT students.

**Faculty Mentor, Geriatrics Special Interest Group, 2014- present**  
Guide interested students to scholarship and service activities that will enhance their understanding of older adults.

## **Community Service**

Medical Volunteer, National Senior Games, Pittsburgh, PA. 2005.

Volunteer, St. Therese of Lisieux Parish and School, Munhall, PA  
Committee Chairperson, Parish Festival, 2005-present  
Member, School Advisory Council, 2003-2006; 2009-2011  
Chairperson of Fashion Show/Auction fundraiser for 350 guests, 2006  
Career Day presenter , 2009-2011  
Basketball Coach, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Instructional League, 2011-12 season  
Musical Theater Program: Costume Director for Spring Musicals 2013-present

## **Honors and Awards**

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center  
Aging Institute Research Day  
Highest Honor, Junior Faculty  
2011

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center  
Institute of Rehabilitation and Research, Research Day  
Honorable mention, Post-Doc Category  
2012

University of Pittsburgh  
School of Medicine  
Outstanding Scholarship in Medical Education Award  
2015

## **Current Teaching Responsibilities in the Entry-level Physical Therapy Program:**

Fall Semester, Year 1 (2008-present)

### **PT2041 Patient Management 1**

Instructor and coordinator of an introductory course in the DPT program covering the patient/client management process using topics including acute care management, mobility training, integumentary repair and protection, diabetes and modalities.

Spring Semester , Year 1 (2008-present)

### **PT2042 Patient Management 2**

Instructor and coordinator of the second course in the series. The patient/client management model is used to frame the evaluation and treatment of patients with amputations, total joint replacement, rheumatic disorders, cancer, and selected women's health topics.

Spring Semester, Year 2 (2009-present)

PT2058 Geriatrics

The course provides a working knowledge of age-related changes in bodily system function and some insights to distinguish between aging and lifestyle influences on performance of older adults. Examination and outcome measures needed to determine prognosis and response to intervention are explored. The content is designed to complement the student's knowledge of examination and intervention so the student can adapt standard approaches relative to the biology and physiology of aging.

**Teaching Responsibilities – other departments**

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Fall Semester (2015-present)

MS-1 Introduction to Medical Interviewing

The purpose of this 7-week course is to provide a life-like learning environment in which medical students develop and practice effective medical interviewing skills. The course uses standardized patients whom are interviewed by students as they practice specific components of history-taking. As an instructor, I facilitate the process using principles of adult experiential learning with a small group of 8-10 medical students for the duration of the course.

**Continuing Education Attended:**

American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting 2011-2016

Educational sessions include, but are not limited to: "Managing Critically Ill Patients: Exploring Challenges and Solutions"; "Walking Speed in Clinical Practice"; "Geriatrics Platform Presentations"; "Turning the Traditional Classroom into a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Knowledge Exchange"

American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting 2011-2015

Educational Sessions include but are not limited to: "The Personal Trainer Approach to Publishing Educational Projects"; "Addressing the Need for Universal Interdisciplinary Team Training in Geriatric Professional Education"; "Exploration of Mobility in Hospitalized Older Adults"; "Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing CMS Innovation Awards"; "Function and Outcomes Paper Session"