

## Biography for Amy Bala, PT, DPT, WCC, CWS, FACCWS, Updated Fall 2023

Amy Bala is presently employed as a University Lecturer, Senior Status, and is the Co-Director of Clinical Education for the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Governors State University located in University Park, Illinois. She teaches content related to inpatient patient care, integumentary, orthotics and prosthetics, medical surgical conditions, cardiopulmonary, inpatient settings, research, and clinical education. Her current research interests include wound care, inpatient acute care, mindfulness, leadership, orthotics and prosthetics, and higher education. She was the recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award at Governors State University in 2020. Amy is a current Doctoral Candidate in the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Interdisciplinary Leadership program with a concentration in Higher Education Administration at Governors State University. Her doctoral research proposal is in mindfulness and leadership in higher education.

Amy earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1999; her Master's Degree in Physical Therapy from Midwestern University in 2003; and her transitional Doctor in Physical Therapy Degree from Governors State University in 2017. Her tDPT capstone research project was entitled "*Survey of wound assessment tools used by physical therapists to document healing progress for patients with open wounds: A research study.*" She has presented at local, regional, and national conferences, including the Illinois Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference, the American Physical Therapy Association's Acute Care Bridge the Gap Conference, the Association of Allied Health Professionals Conference, The Wild on Wounds conference, and Research Day at Governors State University.

Amy currently serves on committees for the Specialization Academy of Content Experts, the Illinois Physical Therapy Association and the APTA. Amy has served on prior committees and task forces work groups for the Academy of Clinical Electrophysiology and Wound Management, National Alliance on Wound Care, Illinois Physical Therapy Association clinic education special interest group, and a variety of program, college, and university committees affiliated with Governors State University.

Amy worked as a full-time staff Physical Therapist from 2003-2014 in inpatient and outpatient wound care, inpatient acute care and inpatient rehabilitation at hospitals in the Chicagoland area. She hopes to resume clinical work upon graduating from her EdD program. Amy earned her Wound Care Certified credential through the National Alliance of Wound Care in 2004, her Certified Wound Specialist credential through the American Academy of Wound Management in 2007 and 2017, and her Fellow of the College of Clinical Wound Specialists through the American College of Clinical Wound Specialists; and she maintains all credentials. She served as both a Clinical Instructor and the Site Coordinator for Clinical Education for METT Therapy Services from 2003 - 2014. Amy is a an APTA Certified Clinical Instructor and an Advanced Clinical Instructor through the American Physical Therapy Association.