

George Fox University School of Physical Therapy Presents

# Application of Neurobiological Pain Mechanisms to a Chronic Orthopaedic Injury

*By Ruth L. Chimenti DPT, PhD*

NOVEMBER 10, 2016  
CANYON COMMONS - ROOM 101 - 6-8PM  
*(CEU'S WILL BE OFFERED)*



This talk will focus on how changes in the central nervous system can contribute to chronic musculoskeletal pain. Central sensitization and how it is assessed in animals and humans will be discussed in the context of published and ongoing research. Theoretical implications for clinical care of chronic pain patients will be discussed based on current translational research in patients with Achilles tendinopathy.



Dr. Chimenti's long-term goal is to improve care for chronic musculoskeletal conditions by addressing both peripheral and central nervous system contributors to pain. Dr. Chimenti attended the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Washington University. While there she participated in the T32 Predoctoral Interdisciplinary Clinical Research Training Program under the mentorship of Professor Linda Van Dillen. After graduating with her clinical doctorate, she worked at the Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis, an outpatient orthopaedic clinic. She received a Sproull Fellowship and Florence P. Kendall Doctoral Scholarship to support her dissertation in an interdisciplinary program at the University of Rochester. During this time, she did foot and ankle research under the mentorship of Professor Jeff Houck in the Movement Analysis Laboratory at Ithaca College. Dr. Chimenti did a postdoctoral fellowship focused on translating advances in ultrasound imaging to clinical research in the Biomedical Engineering Department at the University of Rochester. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science on the T32 Pain Research Training Grant at the University of Iowa. Her current research, under the guidance of Professor Kathleen Sluka, focuses on identifying and treating peripheral and central contributors to chronic pain in Achilles tendinopathy.

