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For Immediate Release:

The American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AACPDM) Welcomes Kristie Bjornson, PT, MS, PhD, as new Second Vice President

The AACPDM Board of Directors is excited to announce Kristie Bjornson, PT, MS, PhD, as the Second Vice President of the Academy.

Milwaukee, WI., December 9, 2024 - The American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AACPDM) is pleased to announce, Kristie Bjornson, PT, MS, PhD, as the 2024-2025 Second Vice President.

AACPDM President (2023-24), M. Wade Shrader, MD, from Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware, states, "Kristie offers a unique perspective to the Board of Directors, backed by extensive experience. Her deep understanding of the Academy and the communities it serves is exceptional. Taking on the role of Second Vice President is yet another achievement she has earned through her volunteer work with the Academy."

Dr. Kristie Bjornson is a professor of pediatrics at Developmental Medicine, Pediatrics, Adjunct Research Professor, Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Washington, and Seattle Children's Hospital Research Institute. Dr. Bjornson attended physical therapy school at the University of Minnesota. She obtained her Master's in Rehabilitation Science and PhD in Nursing Science at the University of Washington. She has over 45 years of clinical experience in settings such as the NICU, public schools, birth-to-three centers, and Seattle Children's Hospital.

Dr. Bjornson has been an active member and presenter at AACPDM since 1987. She has served on several committees and taskforces,



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including Adapted Sports and Recreation (1992-95, Chair 1994); Nominating (1995-96); Research Awards (1995-97, 2013-18); Membership (1995-99, Chair 1998); Research (2007-11); Scientific Review Committee (2014, 2020). Dr. Bjornson was Scientific Program Co-Chair for the 2010 Annual Meeting. She served as a director on the board (1999-2004, 2019-2022) and as Secretary (2003-2007).

ABOUT AACPDM:

The American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AACPDM) is an organization made up of over 1,100 healthcare professionals dedicated to improving the health and quality of life for individuals with cerebral palsy and other childhoodonset disabilities.

What distinguishes AACPDM is the collaborative approach of its members, who work together to establish a global network aimed at achieving the best possible outcomes for patients. Our membership includes pediatricians, neurologists, surgeons, physiatrists, therapists, nurses, special educators, engineers, and scientists.

The mission of the AACPDM is: Empowering and supporting a collaborative multidisciplinary community that:

- Provides accessible and robust scientific education for health professionals and researchers;
- Fosters innovative research as well as its dissemination and implementation; and
- Advocates for equitable access to evidence based and patient centered care.

Learn more about our Academy by visiting www.aacpdm.org.

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