

Meryl I. Cohen DPT, PT, CCS

Outstanding Teaching Awardee

Meryl I. Cohen is an associate professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at the Miller School on Medicine. She is a graduate of Boston University Sargent College with a certificate in physical therapy, and she earned her master's degree in cardiac rehabilitation from Medical College of Virginia, and her Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions. In 1985, she became one of the first three clinical specialists in any specialty area in the physical therapy profession, making her the first non-physician clinical specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital and a leader in the advancement of the profession. She was a founding member of the Specialization Academy of Content Experts, developing a process for the construction of board examinations across specialty areas.

She joined the University of Miami in 1999, becoming an associate professor in 2018. She has led the development and implementation of the cardiopulmonary curriculum in the D.P.T. and residency programs, developed the cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation programs at the University of Miami Health System, Miami VA Medical Center, and Jackson Memorial Hospital, and is the director of the first cardiopulmonary residency program in the state of Florida. She is the course master for Medical Pathology Seminar IV and Cardiorespiratory Physical Therapy, while also providing annual cardiopulmonary lectures for the geriatric, pediatric, neurologic, and orthopedic University of Miami physical therapy residents and conducting teaching practicums for the cardiopulmonary physical therapy Ph.D. candidates.

Cohen has authored and published eight peer-reviewed manuscripts, 15 textbook chapters, one textbook, and 35 research abstracts. Among her many awards and honors, she is a recipient of The Linda Crane Lectureship award, and in 2014 she was accepted as a Catherine Worthingham Fellow, the highest award given by the American Physical Therapy Association. Among her many prestigious awards and maybe the most telling of her talent and passion for teaching is the University of Miami Doctor of Physical Therapy "Teacher of the Year" award, which she has won eight times in her 22 years at the U.

