
W26 Massage Student Town Hall #2– Meeting Minutes

Date: April 1, 2026

Format: Via Zoom

Facilitator: David Sol, Vice President & Dean of Therapeutic Bodywork and Doctoral Completion Programs

Attendees: Massage Therapy students, faculty, staff

1. Purpose of Meeting

- Provide program updates for the current and upcoming term
 - Share faculty, scheduling, and program developments
 - Address student questions and dispel circulating rumors
 - Open forum for student feedback and Q&A
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2. Announcements & Updates

A. Student Engagement & Events

- **“Massage Makes Me Healthy and Happy” Event**
 - Held on March 5, 2026
 - ~25 students attended in person
 - Featured 4 panelists who provided positive feedback and expressed interest in future participation
- Additional events (not limited to panels) are in development

B. Student Resources

- **Massage Makes Me Healthy and Happy Bracelets**
 - Available at the front desk (ask Craig)
- **ABMP (Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals) Membership**
 - Pacific College (NY campus) is now an ABMP member
 - All massage students are student members
 - Personalized membership packets available at the front desk
 - Benefits include:
 - Entry to win a **\$5,000 scholarship** (school also eligible for \$5,000)
 - Study aids, massage technique videos, self-care tools
 - Early access to a website builder
 - Discounted first-year professional membership after graduation (**\$89 vs. \$200**)
 - Optional paid exam prep tools (Exam Coach Plus, 5-Minute Muscles app)

C. ABMP Educational Opportunities

- **Free ABMP Summit: *Aging Clients***
 - Date: **May 12**
 - Format: 3-hour virtual summit (starts 11:45 a.m. ET)
 - Open to students, especially those interested in working with older adults
 - **Massage Is for Everybody Week**
 - Dates: **July 19–25**
 - Focus: Accessibility and equity in massage therapy
 - School-level participation planned (details forthcoming)
 - Potential **\$2,500 award** for schools via ABMP contests
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3. Program Updates

A. Faculty Hiring

- **7 new faculty members hired** for the spring term
- All course sections now have faculty assigned
 - “TBD” listings remain only due to HR onboarding timing
- Increased faculty allows:
 - Day, evening, and some weekend scheduling
 - Improved course access and on-time graduation

B. New Director of Massage Therapy & Asian Bodywork

- Position has been filled; start date in **late April**
- Director will be:
 - On campus **4 days/week**, 1 remote day
 - Available across mornings, afternoons, and evenings
- Role:
 - On-site leadership and student/faculty support
 - Works collaboratively with the VP & Dean (David Sol)
- David Sol remains Vice President & Dean of the massage program

C. Massage Practice Labs

- **All labs are now fully faculty-led** (no longer run by TAs)
- Labs run:
 - **Weeks 2–14** of the spring term
 - No labs in Week 1 or Week 15
- Schedule includes:
 - Labs every weekday (no Saturdays)
 - Time options:
 - **Wednesday & Friday 11:30–1:00**
 - **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 4:30–6:00**
- Benefits:

- Faculty-led instruction
- Support aligned with hands-on classes

4. Scheduling Transparency

A. Live Master Schedule Spreadsheet

- Organized by term level (Terms 1–5)
 - Includes:
 - Course details, faculty, dates, times
 - Enrollment counts and waitlists
 - TA eligibility
 - Notes on holidays (e.g., Memorial Day, July 4)
 - Enrollment updated weekly
 - Intended as a “**one-stop source**” for program scheduling
 - Used to reconcile discrepancies with the student information system
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5. Graduation

- **Graduation Date:** Sunday, April 19
 - Dean will attend and distribute diplomas
 - Formal congratulations extended to all graduating students
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6. Program Clarification & Rumor Control

A. AOS Program Status

- **The AOS (Associate of Occupational Studies) program is NOT being eliminated**
- All academic programs must undergo periodic program review (accreditation requirement)

B. Federal Policy Context

- Changes from the U.S. Department of Education affect:
 - Federal financial aid
 - Gainful Employment rules
- New York State licensure requires **1,000 hours**
- Current AOS program provides **1,200 hours** (20% more)
- Federal funding may soon cover **only required hours**

C. Proposed Certificate Program

- School is **considering** (not finalizing) a **1,000-hour certificate program**
- Purpose:
 - Maintain eligibility for federal financial aid
 - Align strictly with licensure requirements

- Key clarifications:
 - AOS program continues
 - Certificate would be an additional option
 - No immediate impact on current students
 - State approval process may take **9+ months**
 - Certificate launch would likely be **over a year away**
 - Students nearing graduation will not be affected
 - The draft proposal still needs to go through committee & faculty approval
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7. Student Questions & Feedback

Scheduling & Section Times

- Limited flexibility due to:
 - Shared space with acupuncture program
 - Room availability constraints
- Duplicate class times exist due to waitlist demand
- Clinic schedules could not be adjusted for spring
- **Change for Fall Term:**
 - All academic and clinic scheduling will be overseen by program deans for better coordination

Clinic Operations

- Concern raised about **shortages of sheets/linens**
- Administration aware; staffing and logistics improvements underway
- Student praised maintenance team for responsiveness

Licensing & Exams

- Graduates finishing in August can sit for:
 - NY State exam or MBLEx in September
- Action items for students:
 - Begin exam applications early
 - Complete transcript release authorization
- Student Services confirmed support for timely processing

Facilities Issues

- Maintenance questions to be relayed to Facilities
 - Positive feedback acknowledged
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8. Next Steps

- Additional town hall planned for **late May (Weeks 3–4 of Spring Term)**
- Students encouraged to:
 - Reach out directly to the Dean with concerns
 - Avoid spreading rumors; seek clarification instead



W26 NY Massage Student Town Hall Meeting #2

April 1, 2026

Agenda



Announcements &
Updates



Q & A

Massage Makes Me Healthy & Happy Event

- We had over 25 students attend the in-person event.
- Our four panelists all enjoyed the event and spoke highly of our students and the experience.
- We are planning on offering other massage specific events in the future.



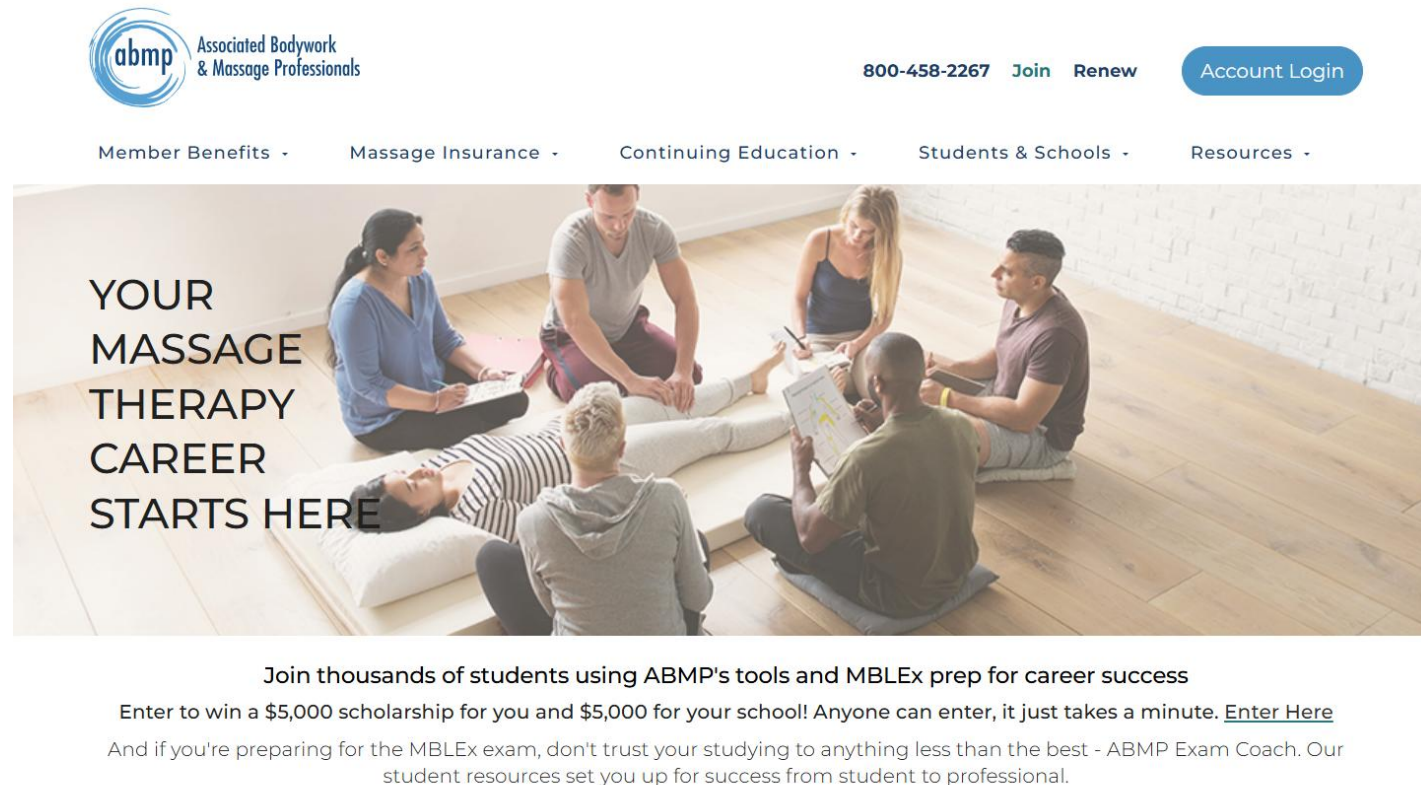
Get Your MMMHH Bracelets, Today!

- Continue to Celebrate the Power of Massage, all year round.
- Pick up your Massage Makes Me Healthy & Happy Bracelet from the front desk.
- Show off your support for massage therapy



ABMP Student Membership

- PCHS NY massage program and students are now members of the Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP) association.
- Remember to pick up your individualized membership packet from the front desk.
- Explore all the student benefits: <https://www.abmp.com/students>



The image shows a screenshot of the ABMP website. At the top left is the ABMP logo, which consists of a blue circle with the letters 'abmp' inside, followed by the text 'Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals'. To the right of the logo is the phone number '800-458-2267' and the words 'Join' and 'Renew'. Further right is a blue button with the text 'Account Login'. Below the logo and navigation is a horizontal menu with the following items: 'Member Benefits -', 'Massage Insurance -', 'Continuing Education -', 'Students & Schools -', and 'Resources -'. Below the menu is a large banner image showing a group of people sitting on the floor in a circle, engaged in a discussion or study session. Overlaid on the left side of the banner is the text 'YOUR MASSAGE THERAPY CAREER STARTS HERE'. Below the banner is a promotional message: 'Join thousands of students using ABMP's tools and MBLEx prep for career success'. Below this message is a link to enter a scholarship contest: 'Enter to win a \$5,000 scholarship for you and \$5,000 for your school! Anyone can enter, it just takes a minute. [Enter Here](#)'. Below the link is another line of text: 'And if you're preparing for the MBLEx exam, don't trust your studying to anything less than the best - ABMP Exam Coach. Our student resources set you up for success from student to professional.'

2026 ABMP CE SUMMIT: AGING CLIENTS

ABMP CE SUMMIT AGING CLIENTS

TUESDAY, MAY 12



2026 ABMP
FREE CE
Summit:
Aging Clients

JOIN US AT THE ABMP CE SUMMIT!

This online event addresses a reality all practitioners face: aging clients. Learn how the body changes over time, common age-related pathologies, and practical, hands-on techniques for working confidently with senior clients—from active to medically complex.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to connect and engage with your massage and bodywork community from around the world while you learn and earn CE.

This online event—including 3 hours of CE—is FREE for everyone in the profession.

REGISTER

<https://www.abmp.com/events/register/WA-051226>

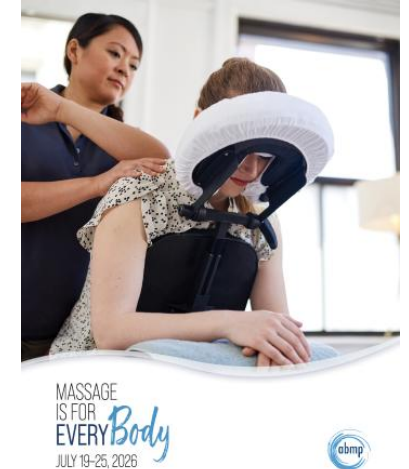
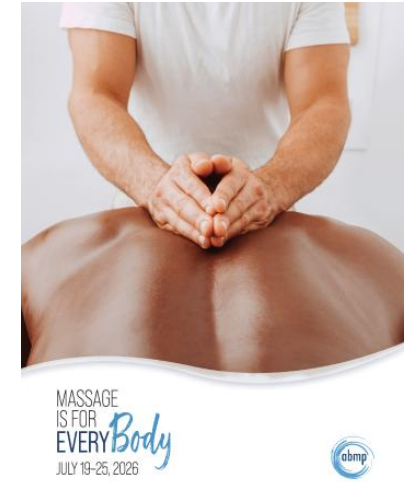
ABMP's Massage is for Everybody

- Celebrate ABMP's Massage Is For Everybody Week

The 5 Guiding Principles behind ABMP's Massage Is for Everybody Mission

- These are the *whys* behind the mission:
 1. Serve as advocates for the proven physical and emotional benefits of massage and bodywork.
 2. Honor the healing role practitioners play in our communities.
 3. Bring massage and bodywork to underserved populations.
 4. Uphold the professionalism, ethics, and standards that build trust in massage and bodywork.
 5. Spread awareness of massage and bodywork as viable career options for a new generation.

- **July 19-25, 2026**
- Stay Tuned to learn more about this exciting event!



<https://www.abmp.com/massage-week-intro>

Welcome New Faculty

- Recently hired 7 new massage faculty for the Spring 2026 term.
 - This allows us to offer additional sections during the day, evening, and weekend.
 - It allows us to offer multiple elective courses during the term.





Welcome New Director of Massage Therapy & Asian Bodywork

- We recently hired a new, on-ground, full-time Director of Massage Therapy & Asian Bodywork.
 - Starting Spring term.
 - Will be on campus 4 days a week.
 - Available to support students and faculty.
 - Working collaboratively with VP & Dean

Spring 2026 Massage Practice Lab Schedule

- Led Exclusively by Faculty
- Offered Week 2-Week 14
- Both Lunch & Dinner Options

Day	Time	Dates
Mondays	4:30PM to 6:00PM	5/11/26 to 8/3/26
Tuesdays	4:30PM to 6:00PM	5/12/26 to 8/4/26
Wednesdays	11:30AM to 1:00PM	5/13/26 to 8/5/26
Thursdays	4:30PM to 6:00PM	5/14/26 to 8/6/26
Fridays	11:30AM to 1:00PM	5/15/26 to 8/7/26

S26 Schedule By Term Level

- You can check the status of all message courses including any updated information via this [spreadsheet link](#).
- Updates:
 - Few new sections added
 - Three sections cancelled

TBD or YELLOW Courses are NOT Confirmed
GREEN Highlights--New Hires--In Process
Scheduled Massage Labs

TeacherDescrip	SecondaryTeachers	DAYS	StartTime	EndTime	ClassStart	ClassEnd	MaxStudents	Format	Hours	Notes
Dr. Lixia Wu		Monday	9:15:00 AM	12:05:00 PM	5/4/2026	7/13/2026	18	Ground	30.0	No class 5/25. Extra week added
Daniel Alasuvanto		Monday	1:15:00 PM	4:30:00 AM	5/4/2026	8/3/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 5/25. 15 minutes added
Matthew Danziger		Monday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/11/2026	8/3/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Nohelani McCoy		Monday	6:15:00 PM	9:15:00 PM	5/4/2026	5/11/2026	20	Ground	6.0	
Nohelani McCoy		Monday	6:15:00 PM	9:25:00 PM	5/18/2026	8/3/2026	20	Ground	37.5	No class 5/25. 20 minutes added
Nohelani McCoy		Tuesday	1:15:00 PM	4:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	5/12/2026	20	Ground	6.0	
Nohelani McCoy		Tuesday	1:15:00 PM	4:10:00 PM	5/19/2026	8/4/2026	20	Ground	37.5	
Jessica Malat		Tuesday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/12/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Vernon Jenkins		Tuesday	6:15:00 PM	9:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	45.0	
Mark Diaz Rodriguez		Wednesday	11:30:00 AM	1:00:00 PM	5/13/2026	8/5/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Somaliah Williams		Wednesday	1:15:00 PM	4:15:00 PM	5/6/2026	8/5/2026	16	Ground	45.0	
Daniel Alasuvanto		Wednesday	6:15:00 PM	9:30:00 PM	5/6/2026	8/5/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 5/13. 15 minutes added
Kevin Williams		Thursday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/14/2026	8/6/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Maryanne Oleksowicz		Friday	9:00:00 AM	12:15:00 PM	5/8/2026	8/7/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 7/3. 15 minutes added
Lixia Wu		Friday	11:30:00 AM	1:00:00 PM	5/15/2026	8/7/2026	16	Ground	0.0	No Lab 7/3. Open Massage Lab for all m
Daniel Alasuvanto		Friday	1:15:00 PM	4:30:00 PM	5/8/2026	8/7/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 7/3. 15 minutes added
Daniel Alasuvanto		Friday	6:15:00 PM	9:30:00 PM	5/8/2026	8/7/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 7/3. 15 minutes added
Kristina Cubrilo Santos		Saturday	10:00:00 AM	1:15:00 PM	5/9/2026	8/15/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 5/23 or 7/4. 15 minutes & extra
Lixia Wu		Saturday	2:00:00 PM	5:05:00 PM	5/9/2026	7/25/2026	16	Ground	30.0	No class 5/23 or 7/4. 2 extra weeks add
Matthew Danziger		Monday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/11/2026	8/3/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Daniel Alasuvanto		Monday	6:15:00 PM	9:30:00 PM	5/4/2026	8/3/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 5/25. 15 minutes added
Jessica Malat		Tuesday	1:15:00 PM	4:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	45.0	
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Maryanne Oleksowicz		Tuesday	6:00:00 PM	9:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class XX. 15 minutes added [skip da
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Selina Greene		Thursday	9:15:00 AM	12:30:00 PM	5/7/2026	8/6/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 7/2. Extra time added
Sherry Zhang		Thursday	1:15:00 PM	4:05:00 PM	5/7/2026	7/9/2026	16	Ground	30.0	
Kevin Williams		Thursday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/14/2026	8/6/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
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Maryanne Oleksowicz		Friday	1:15:00 PM	4:30:00 PM	5/8/2026	8/7/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 7/3. 15 minutes added
Lixia Wu		Friday	1:15:00 PM	4:30:00 PM	5/8/2026	8/7/2026	16	Ground	45.0	No class 7/3. 15 minutes added
Lixia Wu		Friday	6:15:00 PM	9:30:00 PM	5/8/2026	8/7/2026	16	Ground	45.0	No class 7/3. 15 minutes added
Lixia Wu		Saturday	10:15:00 AM	1:05:00 PM	5/9/2026	7/25/2026	16	Ground	30.0	No class 5/23 or 7/4. 2 extra weeks add
Robin Berger		Monday	1:15:00 PM	4:30:00 PM	5/4/2026	8/5/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class 5/25. 15 minutes added
Matthew Danziger		Monday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/11/2026	8/3/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
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Maryanne Oleksowicz		Tuesday	9:00:00 AM	12:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	20	Ground	45.0	No class XX. 15 minutes added. [skip da
James Nicholson		Tuesday	1:15:00 PM	4:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	45.0	
Jessica Malat		Tuesday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/12/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Kevin Williams	* Davis, Melyssa	Wednesday	9:00:00 AM	1:00:00 PM	5/6/2026	8/12/2026	18	Ground	60.0	
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Somaliah Williams		Monday	1:00:00 PM	5:30:00 PM	5/4/2026	8/10/2026	16	Ground	60.0	No class 5/25. 30 minutes added
Alexander Rowe		Monday	1:00:00 PM	5:30:00 PM	5/4/2026	8/10/2026	16	Ground	60.0	No class 5/25. 30 minutes added
Matthew Danziger		Monday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/11/2026	8/3/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Meixian Huang		Tuesday	9:15:00 AM	12:15:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	45.0	
Maryanne Oleksowicz		Tuesday	1:15:00 PM	4:30:00 PM	5/5/2026	8/4/2026	16	Ground	45.0	No class XX. 15 minutes added. [skip da
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Mark Diaz Rodriguez		Wednesday	11:30:00 AM	1:00:00 PM	5/13/2026	8/5/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud
Robin Berger		Wednesday	1:15:00 PM	4:15:00 PM	5/6/2026	8/5/2026	16	Ground	45.0	New course section addition 3/5/26
Somaliah Williams		Wednesday	5:00:00 PM	9:00:00 PM	5/6/2026	8/12/2026	16	Ground	60.0	
Kevin Williams		Thursday	4:30:00 PM	6:00:00 PM	5/14/2026	8/6/2026	16	Ground	0.0	Open Massage Lab for all massage stud

Graduation on Sunday, April 19

Congratulations

Curriculum Updates & Future Programs

- All programs go through curriculum and program review
- Programs regularly need to make appropriate updates as needed
- U.S. Department of Education making changes to how they fund academic programs
- The massage program will be going through a review, including the consideration to create a 4-term, 1000-hour certificate program
 - Draft proposal needs to go through approval process
 - This will take at least a year to get approved



