



**Teaching Research Literacy**  
**Teach your Teachers**  
*Continuing Education Opportunity for Massage Therapy Educators  
and Schools*



**An important announcement**

We are happy to announce that the Massage Therapy Foundation (MTF) has begun planning a program that will offer a class for massage school educators on the vital topic of **teaching research literacy** beginning in 2009. The MTF will send a presenter to your school to work with your entire faculty in an exciting eight-hour in-service workshop that qualifies for NCBTMB continuing education credits.

**A little history, a peek at the future**

Until the last 10 years or so, many claims for the benefits of massage have been based on anecdotal evidence and traditional stories. Now however, enormous amounts of scientific research is being performed and published about the effects of massage therapy for a host of populations, pathologies, and conditions.

Unfortunately not many massage therapists have the skills to understand or evaluate these studies. Still fewer are qualified to lead or participate in high-value research projects. It is important to change this trend, and to clearly identify our role in leading the way in research in our field. If we don't, research about massage will continue to be conducted—but not by massage therapists. This compromises results, and limits our ability to gain the knowledge and evidence we need to support the future of our profession.

The Massage Therapy Foundation is dedicated to answering this need by improving research literacy skills where education begins: in the massage classroom. We will travel to your school to provide your whole faculty with the skills and ideas to incorporate basic principles of research literacy into your existing core curriculum. Other schools in your area may also be invited to participate in this event.

**Teaching research literacy: not enough time, not enough expertise**

Many schools recognize the importance of addressing research concepts and findings that are relevant to the practice of massage therapy, but they often feel constrained by two things: lack of time, and the lack of faculty expertise. Wouldn't it be helpful if there were a way to incorporate vital principles of research literacy, without major changes to the structure of your curriculum? The MTF Teaching Research Literacy educator workshop can do just that.

**Benefits to massage schools**

- Be ahead of the curve in curriculum development
- Learn how to use the best available information to promote evidence-informed education and practice
- Support lecture and technique classes with credible, verifiable data
- Provide a high-quality program to your faculty that is approved as continuing education by the NCBTMB (8 CE hours)
- Strengthen the knowledge base, skills, and confidence of your instructors
- Prepare faculty to be advisors to students who want to participate in the prestigious MTF Student Case Report Contest
- Improve massage outcomes in student clinics, internships, and eventually in your students' professional placements
- Prepare graduates to work with other health care providers, and to communicate accurately about how massage can change peoples' lives
- Meet and exceed COMTA requirements in research literacy
- **Raise the bar for the future of the massage therapy profession!**

**Be the first school in your area to sponsor this cutting edge training!**

We hope you are interested in hosting a Teaching Research Literacy Workshop at your institution. For more information, please contact: **Alison Pittas, Foundation Research and Grants Manager**, 847-905-1667 or [apittas@massagetherapyfoundation.org](mailto:apittas@massagetherapyfoundation.org).