

### **Benjamin Smith, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA**

Ben Smith joined the Board of Directors of the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) in January 2020 as the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) nominee.

Smith is currently the Director of Didactic Education at the Florida State University College of Medicine, School of Physician Assistant Practice. Smith received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Georgia and also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies at the Medical College of Georgia. In 2018 he received a Master of Physician Assistant Studies at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He earned a Doctor of Medical Science degree in 2019 from the University of Lynchburg.

He served as the 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the Association of Rheumatology Professionals- the first PA to do so. He previously served as the chair of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) Commission on Continuing Professional Development and Education. In addition, Smith served for five years as the interprofessional member of the American Board of Internal Medicine Rheumatology Specialty Board.

He serves as a peer reviewer for the *JBJS Journal of Orthopedics for Physician Assistants* and the *Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants*. Currently he serves as the Scientific Editor for the American College of Rheumatology Association of Rheumatology Professional's *Advanced Rheumatology Course*. He has also published numerous works focused on rheumatology and geriatrics.

In 2015 Smith was named a Distinguished Fellow of the AAPA.

Smith continues to practice one day per week at a rheumatology clinic in Thomasville, Georgia where he has devoted his career.