

Erland Pettman

Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*

August 4, 2019



Erland Pettman has contributed extensively to the field of physical therapy and has dedicated years to teaching and mentorship of physical therapy students.

Pettman has worked in the field of physical therapy for more than 40 years and has profoundly impacted Andrews University for over 24 years. In 1988, Pettman founded the North American Institute of Manual Therapy (NAIOMT), an internationally recognized and esteemed organization whose aim is to teach and develop advanced manual therapy skills to physical therapists within the United States and, more recently, across the globe. Currently he serves as NAIOMT's president, senior faculty member and chief-examiner. In 2003, Andrews University was fortunate to partner with the NAIOMT organization when Pettman agreed to become the clinical director for the Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy program. While unable to be permanently onsite, he has dedicated his presence at Andrews to teaching intensives six to eight weeks each year.

A truly model scholar, Pettman has presented papers at 19 national conferences and 17 international conferences and has been the keynote speaker at seven of those conferences. He has also written five publications and independently authored a highly sought after textbook. Furthermore, national organizations have recognized Pettman for his contribution to the profession with numerous accolades that rank him among the most prestigious lists of recognizable names in the profession of physical therapy.

Throughout his career, Pettman has volunteered his time for multiple causes including as a mentor to countless Andrews University post-professional students. He also regularly helps DScPT candidates to complete their dissertation projects, either by assisting with research investigation or providing clinical guidance. In addition to serving Andrews, Pettman has generously served the broader community in many ways including serving patients pro bono and offering free weekend courses for therapists.

Pettman exemplifies the professor who will do anything in order to teach the physical therapist how to improve at treating people the right way, the whole body and as real people, not just a diagnosis. His students undoubtedly know that he cares about each individual and the outcome of their efforts. Similarly, his patients appreciate his sincere concern, as he spends hours in order to diagnose and treat the dysfunction that numerous physicians and multiple physical therapists have so frequently failed to effectively treat.

Pettman has been married to his wife, Maggie, for 45 years. He has three children and five grandchildren. While Pettman considers himself semi-retired, he very much enjoys his new job—babysitting!

For his outstanding contributions to his profession and unwavering dedication to his students, colleagues and patients, Andrews University takes great pleasure in honoring Erland Pettman with the degree Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*.