**The Traits of an Expert CI1**

* **An Expert CI is a Reflective Individual**—reflects upon their skills as a PT/PTA and as a CI

*“The expert CIs actively sought out opportunities in education and life, and they reflected on how new knowledge could improve their interaction with students.”*

* + Reflection on **Teaching and Learning**
    - Utilizes and analyzes all teaching and learning experiences to continually improve their teaching effectiveness (e.g. life experience, continuing education, community teaching, patient education, classroom education)
    - Prepares in advance for incoming students
    - Examines success with current teaching strategies and modifies teaching techniques, as necessary
    - Assesses students in an ongoing manner
    - Understands current curriculum in a student’s education program in order to both teach at a relevant level and learn from their student
    - Utilizes a variety of teaching methodologies, in consideration of individual learning styles
  + Reflection on **Professional Development**
    - Self-motivated
    - Actively seeks out opportunities in education and in life
    - Reflects on how new knowledge can improve their interaction / effectiveness with patients and students
    - Continually self-assesses
  + Reflection on **Relationships**
    - Seeks out and fosters positive working relationships with colleagues, mentors, patients, and students
    - Develops effective communication skills and applies these skills to the CI-student relationship
    - Utilizes role-models to gain knowledge in how to be a teacher
    - Places value on developing a relationship with students
    - Open to and respectful of students’ ideas
    - Seeks out supportive / collegial environments in which to work