



ANNUAL ELECTIONS 2022

This is a chance as an APTA Arizona Member to voice an opinion about those people who will be helping guide the future of physical therapy in Arizona. The APTA Arizona election will be done by mail and email ballot. The ballots will be tallied and announced at the fall business meeting on October 23, 2021. No voting will take place at the business meeting.

This year we will be electing: Districts 2 & 4 Representative, Chief Delegate, 5 Delegates, a PTA Caucus Representative and a PTA Caucus Representative Alternative.

This notice is to introduce you to all the candidates running for the election. Electronic ballots must be received no later than 3 hours prior to the Fall Members meeting

Slate of Candidates

District 4 Director

Jennifer Zoucha

Chief Delegate

Lori Pearlmutter
Seth Peterson

Delegates (Vote for 5)

Kayla Black
Laura Goedhart
Jamie Kuettel
Ellen Lowe
James V. Lynskey
Suzanne O'Neal
Seth Peterson

PTA Caucus Representative

Joshua Davis
Kacey Kline

PTA Caucus Representative Alternate

Lynette Lauterbach
Silke Mildenberger

2022 APTA Arizona Nominating



DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR

CANDIDATE

Jennifer Zoucha

Education:

Doctorate of Physical Therapy (Northern Arizona University) 2003; B.S. in Exercise Science (Northern Arizona University) 2000; Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist 2003

Employment:

Tucson Orthopaedic Insititute (2006-present)
Four years in management, 11 years inpatient care

APTA Arizona & APTA Engagement:

I am and have been an active APTA Arizona member since 2000, volunteering to help with a variety of positions over multiple years. I was elected to serve on the Nominating Committee and completed a three-year term, helping to locate a variety of candidates for State Association positions. I currently participate in the State Government Affairs Committee, and I am also a lead contact for the APTA Arizona Political Action Committee, which raises funds for Arizona public officials who actively support the P.T. profession. My company has also supported hosting and leading multiple District 4 meetings over the past four years to help promote professional development and networking in Southern Arizona. I am Level 1 trained as a CI through the APTA and remain committed to consistently instructing local P.T. and P.T.A. students for their rotations at our outpatient clinic.

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

I actively volunteer for my children's sports and classroom activities during the year. I am a volunteer room parent for my son's preschool, and I participate in a variety of volunteer jobs with my seven-year-old's swim team and ballet academy. For multiple years I sat on the Lighthouse/City YMCA board, where I organized a yearly 5K race that raised over \$100,000 to help support local children in need. I have also been an active member of the Southern Arizona Roadrunners Board, which promotes running and fitness in the Tucson Community.

Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

I have been an active member of the APTA since 2000, getting involved in a variety of ways with our local Association over the years to help support our profession. I was elected to serve on the Nominating Committee for three years, which helped me understand each elected position in the Association and find strong candidates to serve in those positions. I am currently an active member of the State Government Affairs Committee and the Political Action Committee, which has helped me better understand our professional challenges at a state and local level. I am interested in running for the District 4 position to help continue to keep our Southern District strong for networking and professional development. I have helped organize multiple district meetings in the past, bringing in speakers and also helping with venues. Due to my multiple years of APTA Arizona involvement, I have a good understanding of what the role of District Representative entails. I feel that I can fulfill the requirements needed to lead the District and be a strong Board Member for our State Association.

Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

Over the past few years, I have helped our current District 4 Representative set up local APTA Arizona meetings and coordinate speakers to present on relevant orthopedic topics. I have had multiple leadership roles in the community as well as management experience in the clinic, which gives me a good understanding of how to coordinate meetings/events. I constantly volunteer much of my free time to help at children's events and fitness promotion activities.

I look forward to serving on the APTA Arizona Board to help keep our Association strong and support our profession.

Discuss two major challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

One challenge that our Association faces is struggling to have a large presence of clinicians at State Business Meetings, which makes it difficult to pass the new business to keep our Association moving forward. I will continue to work with other Board members to solve this issue so we can update our Bylaws and pass important Association motions. I hope that linking our Spring 2020 conference with large national APTA events like NEXT (coming to Phoenix June 3-6th) will motivate more clinicians to attend our Business meetings and give members the ability to earn high quality continuing education credit at a minimal cost.

Another challenge our Association faces is capturing and retaining new members to help our professional voice grow. After working alongside our Early Profession Special Interest Group (EPSIG) at Spring and Fall Conferences, it is apparent that linking new professionals with seasoned ones is vital to help new graduates feel part of a professional community that the APTA Arizona provides. I plan on continuing to support their efforts to spur new clinicians to join our Association and help build a sense of community, spanning from the early professional to the highly experienced clinician in order for us to have a well-rounded Association.



CHIEF DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Lori Pearlmutter

EDUCATION:

Masters Public Health – University of Arizona

BS Physical Therapy – Northern Arizona University

RELEVANT CERTIFICATIONS: Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ)

EMPLOYMENT:

A.C.O. Executive/ Director Population Health – North Central Az Accountable Care – Prescott, AZ 2019-Present

Quality Manager – North Country HealthCare – Flagstaff, AZ 2016-2019

Director of Rehabilitation – Kachina Point Rehabilitation Hospital – Sedona, AZ 2016

Senior Manager Therapy – Banner Healthcare – Page, AZ 2015-2016

Process Improvement Advisor – Steward Healthcare Network Boston, Ma 2014-2015

Director Therapy Svcs/Wellness/Cardiac Rehabilitation – Flagstaff Medical Center – Flagstaff AZ 2009-2014

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

Executive Board (Treasurer) - APTA Health Policy Admin/The Catalyst Section 2019-present

Executive Board (Secretary) - APTA Acute Care Academy 2016-2019

Payment and Practice Committee - APTA Health Policy and Administration/The Catalyst 2016-2019

Board (Nominating Committee Chair) - APTA Acute Care Academy 2014-2015

Member Nominating Committee - APTA Acute Care Academy 2012-2014

Delegate - APTA Arizona House of Delegates 2010-2011, 2012-2013

Ethics Committee – APTA Arizona

Nominating Committee Chair - APTA Arizona

Vice President - APTA Arizona 1994-1995

Public Relations Chair - APTA Arizona 1986-1989

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Co-Chair Summit Society - United Way of Northern Arizona 2017-2018

Board/Executive Board (President)- Northland Family Help Center Shelter Services – Flagstaff, AZ 2013-2015

Diabetes Together Community Task Force – Flagstaff, AZ 2012-2013

Advisory Board – Native Americans for Community Action – Flagstaff, AZ

Executive Board (Secretary, VP, President) – Flagstaff Family YMCA 2004-2010

Member Arizona Governor's Council On Traumatic Brain Injury

Board (incl Chair) Arizona Governor's Council on Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases 1991-1995

Humanitarian Efforts Reaching Out (HERO) Medical Mission to Nicaragua 2014

Northern Arizona Volunteer Medical Corps (NAVMC) Medical Mission to Haiti - 2011

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

My many years of leadership in the workplace, the APTAAZ, and the APTA will benefit the Delegation. One of the strengths of the Arizona Delegation is its diversity, which necessitates a Chief Delegate to help explore many sides of an issue while assuring that all voices are heard, and all ideas are considered. I have led many large teams, sometimes with disparate goals and viewpoints, who have been able to come to a consensus on complex issues. Team members shared that my ability to listen and find common ground was essential to these successes.

Continued – Delegate Lori Pearlmutter

The Chief Delegate serves on the Board of Directors. My experience working with highly skilled, talented, and motivated people to create a mission and vision and operationalize that mission and vision to achieve strategic aims will be an advantage in this role. I want to use my skills and experience to help the APTAAZ/APTA to move into the next hundred years!

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

As someone who has embraced professional and community leadership throughout my career in a wide variety of settings, I believe I will be a strong Chief Delegate. I do have five years under my belt as a delegate and have been a key player in the development and communication of motions proposed by Arizona. I have been on the national APTA scene for many years, serving on academy and section boards, and through this leadership, have connected with P.T.s all over the country who work in a variety of areas. These connections have provided me with a robust understanding of the challenges P.T.s face. My professional career has been atypical, increasing my awareness of challenges faced by other aligned professions. Recent Quality Management and Population Health positions have opened my eyes to novel opportunities for P.T.s. My APTA and work roles assure I understand the day-to-day concerns about issues such as payment, reimbursement, productivity requirements, and student debt. Working in non-traditional roles has revealed to me how some of the bigger issues like Value-Based Care, Population Health, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are linked to the day-to-day concerns of a Physical Therapist. I would be honored to be able to use my comprehensive viewpoint in working with the Delegation and the Board.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

- A. P.T.s have so much to offer our patients and healthcare. Unfortunately, we still have a way to go in how we are perceived by other healthcare professionals, something that has been apparent during this pandemic. It seems we constantly need to prove we are "essential." At the beginning of the pandemic, I saw P.T.s repurposed as nurses' aides – screening temperatures, working in the supply chain, or furloughed. Now, as the country and the world see what can happen with COVID long term, we are suddenly important again. Throughout my career, I have seen this cycle repeated ad nauseum. Reimbursement is an important and essential focus for us, and we must continue to lobby to prevent cuts and assure we have a reasonable piece of the pie. But we need to be more innovative, advocating our value to the greater healthcare community for long term change. I don't think we will ever achieve our aims, no matter how much lobbying we do, until we move out of "our lane." and take seats at the larger healthcare table. We see nurses, doctors, and other healthcare providers running insurance companies, hospitals, sitting on think tanks in D.C., or even giving healthcare advice at Amazon. P.T.s must be in those positions as well. And the P.T. community must support P.T.s who want to move into those opportunities. Our ability to support each other to work at the top of our skill set and interest level will have an impact on us being able to be more visible and influence larger policy. Moving into more expansive areas may even attract more P.T.s into APTA leadership roles. As the Chief Officer of an A.C.O., I have met many "movers and shakers" in the healthcare world and have communicated the value of P.T. outside of our "traditional" roles. I have written and called leaders in the state and at the national level. I am active in local politics and contribute to state and national P.T. PACs. I think we all must identify where we have influence and share our message in the most effective manner. Being a part of the House of Delegates, driving APTA policy is another way I believe I can make an impact. I also do believe changing our mindset on our capabilities as P.T.s may solve some of the issues regarding the potential overabundance of P.T.s in the next 5-10 years. If we expand our ideas of where P.T.s work, the problem may solve itself.
- B. Student debt is worrying every healthcare profession. It leads to less people choosing to enter educational programs and increases the entire nation's vulnerability to poor health. Because it is a ubiquitous and multifaceted issue, we will not be able to solve it without joining forces with others in the same boat to develop creative solutions. Can more of our healthcare dollars be used to support students and early professionals? Are there more opportunities for forgiving debt? There are interventions that may seem expensive in the short run but may, in the long run, improve health and reduce costs, and potentially improve the opportunity for people of all backgrounds to choose P.T. as a profession. We need to have a voice in the larger groups asking the same questions. I know the APTA has increased its visibility, and I think the delegations can assure effective solutions continue to be put forth and sustained. My eclectic background will help me identify creative solutions, and my understanding of the APTA and the House of Delegates will make me a good Chief Delegate to help guide the Delegation into actionable and achievable motions that become solutions.



CHIEF DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Seth Peterson

EDUCATION:

Fellowship, Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy, Evidence in Motion

Residency, Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, Arizona School of Health Sciences, A.T. Still University

Doctor of Physical Therapy, Arizona School of Health Sciences, A.T. Still University Bachelor of Arts, Biology, Luther College

EMPLOYMENT:

2020-Present: Founder and C.E.O., The Movement Brainery.

Develop continuing education courses, host of "Masters in Motion" podcast, lead social media and marketing efforts.

2018-Present: Founder and President, The Motive.

Private practice delivering outpatient orthopedic services. Grown to 4 clinicians (2 physical therapists, 1 naturopathic doctor, 1 acupuncturist).

2014-Present: Adjunct professor, Arizona School of Health Sciences, A.T. Still University. 2013-2018: Physical therapist, ProActive Physical Therapy.

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

2020 APTA AZ Emerging Leader Award.

2019-Present: Chair, Continuing Education Committee, APTA AZ. 2018-2019: Member, Continuing Education Committee, APTA AZ. 2017-Present: Delegate, APTA AZ.

2020-Present: Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, APTA AZ. 2020-Present: Telehealth Advisor for Arizona, APTA Business.

2010-Present: Membership in: Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, APTA, APTA AZ.

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

2010-Present. Member, American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT) 2018-2021: Walk Leader, Walk with a Doc.

Started Oro Valley Chapter of Non-Profit aiming to increase community engagement in walking outdoors, including recruiting speakers.

2010, 2013: Volunteer Medical Staff, Rock n Roll Marathon.

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

I think I've demonstrated leadership qualities so far in my career by starting my two businesses, leading research teams, and being involved in multiple committees at the state level. My private practice got through the past year unscathed and I feel our team has certainly grown stronger. I try to look at these challenges as an opportunity, and was able to have one of the most productive years I've ever had last year. An overarching philosophy of mine is to simply be nice to others and seek out other perspectives on problems, which I find to almost always be beneficial to the team.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

My vision for this position, the Chief Delegate, would be to foster a greater team-based approach than we have had in the recent past. This would include getting more delegate involvement in motion development and ideally growing a structured path for delegates to transition into the Chief Delegate position, which remains an uphill climb. I believe we could also better operationalize our solicitation of member input, which has been valuable in the past. I've been a member of the Delegation for the past few years and believe having a previous member of the Delegation take on this role would be beneficial to all.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

Unfortunately, we have a tremendous amount of challenges facing physical therapy. We have the high cost of school, decreasing payment from insurers, a potential oversupply of physical therapists, and reaction by employers to pressure employees to do things against their best clinical judgement. It is clear that we need multiple solutions to these problems. I can't see a solution that doesn't require some level of discomfort for the stakeholders involved. However, I'd like to propose that we center ourselves and our actions on the reason for our existence: the patient.

Continued - Seth Peterson

We can't forget or shy away from the challenging positions that will come at us, speak truth to power, and remember that we are truly fighting for the patients that we serve. As a professional association celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, we should have a long-term mindset and stay grounded in our values. Some of the pertinent issues that I see facing our profession in the future relate to finding a way to continue to improve our product - the quality of physical therapy so that patients themselves (and perhaps their employers) are singing our praises. So that the legislators that experience physical therapy themselves are thrilled with the experience. As long as we continue to provide substandard care, claim to provide highly skilled care while letting untrained aides do most of the work, and double-book patients, the public and the legislators will continue to be underwhelmed with our profession. Some more immediate ways that I can see to improve our product would be to revamp the continuing education review process, which appears to allow too many not evidence-based courses to be approved, and develop a more expansive media team across the country to highlight those successes.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Kayla Black

Education:

Doctor of Education (Leadership and Innovation), Arizona State University (expected: 2023)
Teaching for Equity Fellowship, Duke University (2019)
Faculty Development Residency, Duke University (2019)
Board Certified Clinical Specialist in Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy (2018)
Doctor of Physical Therapy, Duke University (2014)
Bachelor of Science (Kinesiology), Arizona State University (2010)

Employment:

D.P.T. Director of Student Affairs & Assistant Professor, Hawaii Pacific University (2021-Present)
Physical Therapist, St. Joseph's Hospital & Medical Center (2020-2021)
Assistant Professor, A.T. Still University (2019-2021)
Medical Instructor & Physical Therapist, Duke University (2018-2019)
Physical Therapist, Medical University of South Carolina (2015-2017)
Physical Therapist, Grand Strand Health Care (2014-2015)

APTA Arizona & APTA Engagement:

American Physical Therapy Association (2012-Present)
Academy of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Physical Therapy Education Committee (2020)
H.P.A. The Catalyst LGBTQ+ Catalyst Group Education Committee (2018-2020)
H.P.A. The Catalyst PT Proud Membership Committee (2020-2022)
American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties, Specialization Academy of Content Experts, Appointed Member and Item Writer (2020-2022)

Community/ Civic Activities and Engagement in Other Professional Associations:

Summer Discovery Program, Duke Doctor of Physical Therapy Program (2018-2021)
This is a pipeline program for undergraduate students interested in serving communities underrepresented among licensed P.T.s. In 2018 & 2019, I assisted with reviewing applications to the program, actively engaged with programming in-person during 2018 and 2019, and continued to participate virtually the last two years as a mentor and panel member.

Stroke/ Neuro Camp, Duke Doctor of Physical Therapy Program (2018-2019)

A supervising physical therapist for students treating patients from the local community with neurological impairments in an intensive model.
Career Class, James B. Edwards Elementary School (2017)
Educating elementary school students on the profession of physical therapy.

Advocacy Committee, Johns Island Young Professionals (2016-2017)

Attended meetings and met with local stakeholders and lawmakers as a new community organization.
Shots for a Spin, Wheelchair Basketball Events (2015 - 2017)

Continued – Kayla Black

Several events throughout the community to raise awareness around wheelchair basketball opportunities and raise money for the local wheelchair basketball team in Charleston, SC.

Great Strides South Carolina & Charleston's Best and Brightest, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (2015-2017)

Fundraising events throughout the community, including runs/walks, raffles, fundraiser dinners with the MUSC Cystic Fibrosis Team in Charleston, SC.

Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona:

My core values of accountability, authenticity, and love guide my actions as a physical therapist, educator, and member of our global society. Patients, students, and colleagues can rely on me to do the work that I commit to and say that I will do. While I keep a busy schedule, I am able to thrive because of my organizational skills and zealous work ethic. As an authentic leader, maintaining transparency and being responsive to the needs of APTA Arizona is of utmost importance to me. Finally, loving this profession and the patients, students, and colleagues will sustain my commitment to be a fierce advocate for all.

What experiences would be you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

My initial desire to serve in the capacity as a state delegate came from interactions with a professional mentor of mine who currently serves on the ATPA Board of Directors. Through his work and mentorship as one of my D.P.T. faculty and residency directors, I know I am ready for the commitment that is required of this position. In addition to having professional relationships with some of the current delegates, I believe there are many unique aspects of my training that make me a strong candidate.

My experiences collaborating on multidisciplinary teams in the clinical and higher education environments support my ability to accomplish many tasks that could not be done alone. In my clinical work as an acute care physical therapist, I pulled together teams to better serve the needs of patients by not accepting the standard of care and developed evidence-informed protocols. Through a Faculty Development Residency and Teaching for Equity Fellowship, I gained the tools to navigate power structures and engage in critical conversations that are essential to this work. In the academic space, I work with colleagues to create and change policies and procedures to create a more inclusive environment for students from minoritized groups.

Lastly, in my current doctoral program at A.S.U., I am being trained in action research which links action (interventions or innovations) and research through critical reflection to create transformative change. This type of research is meant to be practical in nature, engage a wide variety of stakeholders, and is appropriate for guiding policy change. Through these experiences, I am confident I would bring unique perspectives and experiences to a highly experienced team of delegates.

Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

1. Making physical therapy a profession that reflects those it serves. A number of physical therapy programs have shifted to a holistic admissions process, and cohorts of D.P.T. graduates have yet to reflect the diversity programs have hoped for. The APTA's P.T. Moves Me Student Recruitment campaign aiming to recruit students from diverse backgrounds, targeting elementary through college students may be a start. I believe collaboration among the APTA, universities, and colleges, and local clinicians may be essential to providing robust mentorship opportunities that can foster continued engagement and agency to pursue a career in physical therapy. As P.T. Moves Me Ambassadors engage with children and young adults in their communities, we need to critically evaluate which schools are being targeted (for example, including Title 1 schools). Furthermore, we need to support current students enrolled in programs from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in P.T. and P.T.A. education. Few programs and/or universities have faculty that reflect the student population and lack the infrastructure to support the needs of these students. I believe the APTA can serve as an example to push institutions to create inclusive policies and invest in resources that can provide meaningful support for academic success, well-being, and belongingness for the diverse student body we know is needed to best serve our patients.

2. Access to physical therapy. COVID-19 disproportionately impacted communities of color, and now up to 30% of survivors are suffering from long-hauler symptoms that can be addressed through physical therapy. Now, more than ever, with the recognition of our role in this population by the C.D.C., I think we need to ask ourselves not only if these folks are being referred to physical therapy, but do they have access to physical therapy? Access to physical therapy services outside of an acute care hospital requires privilege associated with health insurance and the ability to pay. While reimbursement from payors must always remain at the forefront of our advocacy, I am certain that with the creativity our profession leveraged throughout the pandemic, we can develop models of care in which those that have traditionally not had access to post-acute and outpatient physical therapy services can get the therapy needed to thrive.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Laura Goedhart

EDUCATION:

APTA Geriatrics - Certified Exercise Expert for Aging Adults - November 2018
Doctor of Physical Therapy - Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI – August 2017
LSVT BIG Certification - Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT) Global - Feb 2017
Interprofessional Education Program Certificate - Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education, and Research Center -June 2016
Bachelor of Arts, Science for Elementary Teachers - Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, MI - Dec 2000

EMPLOYMENT:

Banner Physical Therapy, Sun City West, AZ Nov 2018 – present
Outpatient Multidisciplinary Clinic
Treatment of patients with vestibular, neurological, and orthopedic conditions, focused on geriatric physical therapy

Biomechanix Physical Therapy, Goodyear, AZ Oct 2017 – Nov 2018
Outpatient Orthopedic Clinic
Treatment of patients with orthopedic and neurological diagnoses

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

ABPTS Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Geriatric Physical Therapy 2021
Arizona Physical Therapy Association member 2017—present
House of Delegates 2018 – 2019
Early Professional Special Interest Group (EPSIG) member 2017 – present
American Physical Therapy Association member 2014 – present
Geriatric Section member 2018 – present
Balance and Falls Special Interest Group member 2018 – present
Michigan Physical Therapy Association member 2014 – 2017
Michigan Physical Therapy Association Outstanding Student Award 2016
Michigan Physical Therapy Association Team Rehabilitation Scholarship 2016

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Adaptive Ballroom Dance Clinic 2017
Spectrum Health Innovations Team 2016

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

I am eager to serve you as a delegate. My leadership qualities, including a passion for our profession, collaboration, and perspective, will enable me to be effective in this role.

I am passionate about our profession and the need for advocacy. I gained a deep appreciation for advocacy during my time in the doctorate program at Grand Valley State University when I had the opportunity to take several courses taught by the president of the Michigan Physical Therapy Association. Now, as a full-time clinician, I see firsthand the need for and benefits of physical therapist interventions, as well as the limitations and challenges that our profession faces. I am eager to help move the physical therapy profession forward so that we can continue to improve the lives of our patients and the health of our communities. My prior term as a delegate also increased my passion for involvement in the APTA, and I was excited by the opportunity to serve.

I know that collaboration is a key component in advocacy. To reach our goals, we must work collaboratively with others who share our viewpoints and those who do not. My leadership experiences have enabled me to develop effective collaborative skills, including active listening and seeking common goals. During my prior term as a delegate, I utilized these skills to build relationships with other members of the Arizona

Continued - Laura Goedhart

delegation and other delegations within the House of Delegates. I am eager to continue this process so that we can continue to work together to move our profession forward.

As an early professional and board-certified clinical specialist, I have both a strong clinical background and a firsthand perspective of the ideas and challenges of an early professional. This perspective would help expand representation in the House of Delegates to be a more well-rounded reflection of Arizona physical therapists and better represent the needs and ideas of early professionals within the physical therapy field.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

During my prior term as a delegate, I had the opportunity to analyze proposed motions, ask key questions, and address the House. I worked with other members of the Arizona delegation to help identify challenges faced by physical therapists in Arizona in order to continue to support the forward movement of our profession. I also had the opportunity to observe a House of Delegates Reference Committee meeting in order to increase my understanding of how to write effective motions. This prior experience as delegate gives me a strong foundation that will empower me to be effective if elected to serve in this next term.

Before transitioning to physical therapy, I worked for 10 years as a job trainer and information specialist at Our Daily Bread Ministries. One of my responsibilities was representing the needs of my department to the larger organization. I met with team members, listened carefully to their ideas, analyzed the potential impact on my team as well as other parts of the organization, and effectively represented the needs of my team in meetings with individuals from other areas. This experience would help me to effectively represent your needs and ideas within the House of Delegates.

I was the first individual in my doctorate program to complete the Interprofessional Education Program. This program is a multi-year commitment involving education, simulation, collaboration, and volunteer work with students from other medical disciplines. I gained experience in representing the physical therapy profession to others who have less knowledge of physical therapy. I had the opportunity to continue to build my skills in analyzing potential changes, advocating for the needs of physical therapy, and respectfully communicating the negative impact of potential changes. This experience will help me to effectively analyze proposed motions and communicate with other members of the House of Delegates.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

As physical therapists, we have a key role in improving the health of our communities. However, patients, insurance companies, lawmakers, and members of other medical professions often demonstrate a lack of understanding of the benefits of physical therapy. Addressing this lack of understanding regarding the value of physical therapist interventions is foundational to our efforts to advocate for better reimbursement for our services, permanent telehealth access, and student loan forgiveness. As a delegate, I would work with other members of the House to increase the effort to educate others regarding the value of physical therapist interventions as it relates to each of these areas. I would join APTA's effort to advocate for student loan forgiveness and work with other members of the House of Delegates to advocate for increasing reimbursement.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion have been an area frequently addressed by the House of Delegates in recent years. Many steps have been taken to identify ways to increase diversity within the physical therapy profession. I believe we must continue this effort by working to increase representation of under-represented groups within the House of Delegates and other leadership positions within the APTA. As a delegate, I would recommend ways to address this challenge, such as an analysis of the diversity currently present within the group of candidates for leadership positions in order to identify under-represented groups and any barriers preventing a more diverse candidate pool. This analysis should not be limited to personal factors but should also include professional factors such as practice setting, practice area, and career stage. The goal would be to have a leadership that reflects the diversity within our profession in order to better represent the needs of the diverse group of physical therapists that our leadership serves. I would also suggest additional steps to reach out to physical therapists within Arizona to hear what is important to you so that the Arizona delegation can more effectively represent your needs within the House of Delegates.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Jamie Kuettel

EDUCATION:

09/27/2021-ongoing A.T. Still University College of Graduate Health Studies - Mesa, Arizona - Doctor of Education
8/2012- 8/2013 HonorHealth/NAU Neurologic Residency Program - HonorHealth Osborn - Scottsdale, Arizona
(Neurologic Physical Therapy - Neurologic Resident)
8/2007- 8/2010 A.T. Still University School of Health Sciences - Mesa, Arizona - Physical Therapy - Doctor of Physical Therapy
8/2002- 5/2006 University of Arizona - Tucson, Arizona - Physiology and Chemistry - Bachelor of Science (Major in Physiology, Minor in Chemistry)

EMPLOYMENT:

12/2016- Present
Assistant Professor - A.T. Still University School of Health Sciences - Physical Therapy Department - Mesa, Arizona
12/2016- Present
PRN Physical Therapist – HonorHealth - Scottsdale, Arizona
08/2018- Present
Contract Physical Therapist - Root P.T. - Fountain Hills, Arizona
7/2010- 12/2016
Physical Therapist – HonorHealth - Scottsdale, Arizona

APTA Arizona & APTA Engagement:

2009 - present APTA member
 Neurology, Geriatric, and Education section member
 Residency and Fellowship Education Special Interest Group
 Scholarship of Education Special Interest Group
 Academic Faculty Special Interest Group

02/2021-06/2021 ANPT Abstract Reviewer for ANPT national conference
01/2021-Present APTA PT Moves Me, Ambassador
01/2020-12/2020 ACAPT advisor to Preadmission Task Force
07/2019-present Abstract reviewer for C.S.M. submitted abstracts (neuro-related)
2019-12/2020 APTA task force committee addressing documentation needs for prevention and wellness
2009- Present APTA ARIZONA member
2019-present APTA ARIZONA Scholarship Committee Chair
2017-2019 ASPTA Scholarship Committee member
2018 APTA credentialed clinical instructor level 2
2019 APTE Faculty development workshop completion
2019 Medical Education Research Certificate (MERC) completed 6/6 courses
2016-2021 Arizona House of Delegates Delegate (3 consecutive 2 year terms)
2015 ABPTS Certified Geriatric Specialist
2013 ABPTS Certified Neurologic Specialist

ENGAGEMENT:

ATSU PT Faculty Advisor for Move for Mason Scholarship fund and fundraising events 2019- present
ATSU SPTA faculty mentor 2018- present
ATSU PT department alumni reception presentation: From Clinic to Classroom, March 25, 2021.
ATSU Physical Therapy Department Research Fund. Developing Leaders among Students of Physical Therapy. Primary Investigator. Grant Funded Feb 2021 for NVivo software and laptop. ATSU Scientific Research Fund.
Clinical Variability of the Six-Minute Walk Test Protocols by Licensed Physical Therapists: A Survey. CSM 2021 poster presentation
C.S.M. 2019 Platform Presentation: Configurations of the Six-Minute Walk Test do the number of turns matter
Guest Speaker for ATSU PT department first year celebration- 07/2017
Poster presentation C.S.M. 2017: The feasibility of tracking strength gains using the supine

Continued - Jamie Kuettel

Hip extensor manual muscle test in a neurologic population.

Poster presentation C.S.M. 2016: Clinical Decision Making for a patient with decreased

Ankle range of motion post cerebrovascular accident: an individualized approach.

Research activity

Primary investigator: Do D.P.T. student's perceptions of older adults change following a 10-week geriatric course involving community interactions?

Primary investigator: Is the MusicGlove® a feasible and effective home-based treatment device for hand function in patients with Parkinson's Disease? A pilot study

Sub-investigator: Configurations of the Six Minute Walk Test for people with Parkinson's disease: Do the number of turns matter?

Participation in development and production of empathy video for production to the National Parkinson's Foundation Website.

Attended

CSM 2021- Virtual

House of Delegates 2020- Virtual

C.S.M. 2020 Denver Colorado

House of Delegates 2019 Chicago

C.S.M. 2019 Washington DC

FSBPT NPTE regional item writing workshop 09/2019

C.S.M. 2018 New Orleans

C.S.M. 2017 San Antonio

House of Delegates 2017 Boston

House of Delegates 2018 Orlando

House of Delegates 2019 Chicago

C.E.U. Courses organized and delivered:

Vestibular Rehabilitation Update as part of A.T. Still neuro residency program. Examination and Intervention- organized and canceled due to COVID
Outcome measures for stroke and traumatic brain injury- Practice and Application. A.T. Stills Neuro residency program. October 20, 2018. A.T. Still University

Vestibular Rehabilitation Update as part of A.T. Still neuro residency program. Examination and Intervention May 19, 2018, 7.5 contact hours
Outcome measures for stroke and traumatic brain injury as part of A.T. Still neuro residency program. Let's Practice! Oct 2017 A.T. Still University

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

October 26, 2019	Box4Bucks: event for Parkinson's Disease
September 24, 2019	Corbins Legacy Health Fair: fitness room A.T. Still University
January 16, 2019	Assisted wheelchair and able-bodied participants in learning to Curl at Coyotes Curling Club
January 13, 2019	Volunteer at a Parkinson's exercise retreat organized by Spooner Physical therapy- assisted in leading exercise sessions 4 hrs
November 30, 2018	Feed my starving children packing event 2 hours
October 26, 2018	Special smiles A.T. Still University 6 hrs
September 25, 2018	Corbans Legacy Health fair, backpack screens 4 hrs
Jan 20-21 st , 2018	Volunteer at Parkinson's Retreat organized by Spooner physical therapy Scottsdale 8 hrs
2017-2018	Volunteer in Kindergarten class Ashland Ranch elementary 8 hrs
September 23, 2017	Volunteered at Renew Retreat for people with Parkinson's and their families Tucson, AZ 6 hrs
May 24, 2017	Assisted a lunch and learned at Health South East Valley in vestibular rehabilitation 2 hrs

March 1, 2017

Volunteered at Boxing event for people with Parkinson's held at 12th round Fit Boxing and in collaboration with Root Physical Therapy 2 hrs

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

Leadership qualities that I possess that would enhance and support the current needs of APTA Arizona include honesty and integrity, good communication skills, accountability, organization, professionalism, and passion. I believe I exemplify these qualities in my day-to-day roles as an educator and in interactions with my peers, students, and patients and can easily utilize them in a continued role as a delegate. I currently serve many leadership roles both at the university and state levels. This, along with my history of serving as a delegate for the past 6 years, qualify me to represent our chapter at professional conferences and in the House itself. In my role at A.T. Still University, I lead the admissions committee as the Director of Progression and Retention. Additionally, I am the faculty advisor and mentor to two student groups, the ATSU SPTA and the Move for Mason Scholarship fund. In these roles, I use my leadership skills daily in order to continue to the business of the admissions committee while making sure we are recruiting a full and qualified cohort. I also mentor the students who lead their fellow classmates throughout the year as part of the SPTA. Because many of my leadership roles address different audiences, I believe I have the skills necessary to connect with all P.T.'s, P.T.A.'s, and S.P.T.s across Arizona to represent our chapter well. I believe I have the qualities necessary to continuing to serve you and look forward to running and participating again in the future.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

I have recently ended my third 2-year term serving on the Arizona house of delegates, 6 years total. These 6 years were an excellent learning experience for me and I have taken every opportunity possible to gain knowledge into the history, process and procedures of the APTA and AZ House of delegates. In 2018 I presented RC47-18: Charge: Adjustment in documentation requirement for prevention and wellness interactions to the H.O.D. This motion passed and I have subsequently been involved in an APTA generated task force for evaluating documentation for prevention and wellness. This has allowed me to stay current with the motion and also personally assist with the follow-through of previously passed motions. Personally, I stay current and involved in the APTA's actions and movements and enjoy the opportunity to use the H.O.D. as a voice of the membership. As an individual, I have a passion for serving and finding ways to move the profession of physical therapy forward. This most recent year, the H.O.D. was virtual, which was an interesting way to see how involved and committed our membership could still be even in this fashion.

I feel my past six years of experience as a member of the H.O.D., as well as my continued desire to represent our states chapter professionally, make me a strong candidate for reelection.

3. Discuss 2 major challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

There are many challenges facing the profession of physical therapy; however, two come to mind, which I would like to discuss here. The first of which is the increasing cost of physical therapy education. Physical Therapy schools have continued to raise their tuition levels, adding to the increase of student loan debt that is burdening our profession and placing our graduates in a place where their income can no longer substantiate the cost of their education. Additionally students are entering physical therapy programs unaware of their final financial burden/cost if education as well as low financial literacy. How can we improve this?

As the Director of Progression and Retention, we are seeing declining admissions rates yearly. What are some of the contributing factors to this? How can we continue to recruit diverse, qualified students? Are we setting ourselves up for an issue of manpower and deficits in the workforce in the future, are the financial strains leading to decreased membership engagement as one reason, or are individuals unaware of the profession of physical therapy as a career choice? Investigating the issue of declining admissions rates would be a concern I would like to investigate.

I thank you for your time and consideration.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Ellen Lowe

EDUCATION:

Fellowship in Educational Leadership - APTA
PhD – Touro University International
M.H.S. – University of Indianapolis
B.S. – Boston University

EMPLOYMENT:

Professor – University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences – May 1, 2019, to present
Director of Clinical Education – Franklin Pierce University – October 2016 to May 31, 2019
Associate Professor, Program Director, Institute Chair – the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences – August 2007 – October 2016
ACCE, Assistant Professor – A.T. Still University - September 2008 – August 2007
Instructor, ACCE Apollo College – 1997 – 1998
Senior Physical Therapist – Institute for Bone and Joint Disorders 1994 – 1995
Staff Therapist/Clinical Coordinator – CIGNA Health Plan – 1994 – 1995
Physical Therapist – Hand Rehabilitation Associates – 1992 – 1994
Physical Therapist – Sports Medicine Institute – 1990 – 1992
Physical Therapy Supervisor – Therapy Rehabilitation Services – 1985 – 1990
Senior Physical Therapist – Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital – 18-980 -1985
Assistant Director of Physical Therapy – S. Luke's Hospital – 1978 – 1980
Physical Therapist – Norwalk Hospital – 1974 - 1978

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

Arizona Delegate 2017 to present
APTA Arizona Practice Committee member July 2017 – Present
APTA Education Section Awards Committee 2010 – 2013
CAPTA Education Section C.E.U. evaluator 2009 – 2010
Trainer for the APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor Program 2004 – 2019
APTA Arizona Bylaws Committee (approximately) 2004 to 2007
APTA Arizona Secretary (approximately) 1998 – 1999
APTA Member since 1976

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona in this role.

I have had the opportunity to develop leadership skills through a variety of experiences. Major strengths I gained through my fellowship with the APTA Educational Leadership Institute were: improvement in my ability to give direction, greater aptitude for organizing responsibilities, and proficiency in dealing with conflict. In my position as program director and Institute chair, I honed a collaborative leadership style with an analytical and inclusive problem-solving approach. It is these qualities that I believe make me well-suited to solicit input and opinions from Arizona therapists to represent their needs. I believe my professional demeanor and calm voice of reason has been an asset in the position of Delegate for the APTA Arizona. My energy and passion for the profession are also positive qualities.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

During my service as an Arizona Delegate for the past four years I became familiar with the expectations and processes for the House of Delegates. This experience has prepared me to continue my service to the APTA and the Arizona chapter.

In 1998, I was the Secretary of the AZ PTA Board, and I served on the APTA Arizona Bylaws Committee for approximately 4 years following that. This service gave me insight into the structure and function of the Association as well as an opportunity to experience the systems and procedures involved with Association governing.

Continued – CANDIDATE Ellen Lowe

I have developed a network of colleagues through a variety of experiences. One such experience is participation in the Educational Leadership Institute, where I gained close ties to the 24 therapists in my cohort who hailed from across the country. Additional exposure to a wide network included my involvement as C.E.U. Evaluator for the CAPTA and a member of the APTA Education Section Awards Committee. I have delivered poster presentations at a number of APTA-sponsored conferences as well as programs for other organizations. This has helped me develop my ability to speak publicly and interact professionally with therapists and other professionals across a wide spectrum.

I have been a physical therapist for over 45 years. This rich history has helped me develop a perspective on how far the profession has come and what it has taken to get here. As a result, I don't take our position in society for granted and appreciate the grit required to continue to advance the profession of physical therapy.

1. Discuss 2 major challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas

A. Reimbursement for Services

Reimbursement for services continues to challenge our profession. It seems that we are approaching a profession where reimbursement drives treatment rather than the other way around. I believe that one factor contributing to our current state of reimbursement is the lack of recognition for the scope and depth of physical therapy. We need to explore avenues to expand our exposure and influence. One way to do this would be for physical therapists to seek to be appointed to health-related committees on local, state, and national levels. Many committees and task forces that shape health strategies in the areas of exercise and movement affect physical therapy yet have no physical therapy representation. We can and should seek mentorship and support from our Association and individuals who have experience in this area. We should identify appropriate councils and enlist support and references to seek appointments. Additionally, we can work to improve recognition and visibility by designing and developing integrated clinical and community screening programs as individuals and members of interprofessional teams.

Another avenue we should take is to "do the research." Can we use registries and "big data" to support the efficacy of our treatment strategies? Can we do it "better and cheaper"? If so, we must market that.

B. Increasing Diversity in Physical Therapy

Despite the fact that the issue of diversity in physical therapy has been in the forefront for several years, it continues to be a challenge to our profession. The importance of increasing diversity is demonstrated through its inclusion in the APTA Cultural Competence/Diversity Plan created by the B.O.D. as well as a variety of APTA core documents. The most recent House of Delegates included several motions relating to diversity and cultural competence, demonstrating the continued importance of addressing this issue.

Regardless of the focus for several years, there continues to be a disparity of diversity within the profession. Culture is an important consideration for ineffective healthcare delivery. According to the I.O.M. report, increasing ethnic/racial diversity among health care professionals is important because diversity is associated with improved access to care for ethnic/racial minorities, greater patient choice and satisfaction, better patient-clinician communication, and improved educational experiences. I believe that education is critical to help therapists recognize and address their biases. A more "diversity-friendly" environment could encourage a more diverse population to enter the profession, thereby providing more culturally sensitive healthcare.

Finding ways to make physical therapist education more accessible to diverse populations is another avenue to explore. Targeted student recruitment, including scholarships, peer recruitment, and more holistic application processes, are all potential strategies.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

James Lynskey

EDUCATION:

APTA Educational Leadership Institute Fellowship - 2016-2017, Graduate
Georgetown University, Washington, DC - 1998-2005, Ph.D., Neuroscience
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA - 1994-1995, M.P.T., Physical Therapy
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA - 1990-1994, B.S., Health Sciences

EMPLOYMENT:

2019- present Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy – Phoenix, Creighton University; Phoenix, AZ
2005-2019 Faculty, Physical Therapy Department, A.T. Still University of Health Sciences; Mesa, AZ
2013-2014 Adjunct Faculty, School of Biological and Health Systems Engineering Arizona State University; Tempe, AZ
2007-2015 PRN Physical Therapist, Barrow Neuro-Rehabilitation Center at St. Joseph's Hospital; Phoenix, AZ
2005-2013 Researcher, Center for Adaptive Neural Systems, Arizona State University; Tempe, AZ

1999-2004 PRN Physical Therapist, Sibley Memorial Hospital; Washington, DC
1997-1998 PRN Physical Therapist, St. Luke's Medical Center; Phoenix, AZ
1995-1998 Physical Therapist, Scottsdale Health Care - Osborn Campus; Scottsdale, AZ

APTA Arizona & APTA

ENGAGEMENT:

APTA Arizona
2018-2019 - Alternate Delegate for the Arizona Delegation to the APTA House of Delegates
2019-present - Delegate for the Arizona Delegation to the APTA House of Delegates

APTA - 2003-present Member
2008-2015 Neurology Section, Research Committee
2012-2015 Chair, Neurology Section, Research Committee
2015, 2017-19, 21 Abstract Reviewer, Neurology Section
2015-2016 Abstract Reviewer, IV Step
2007-present Journal of Physical Therapy, reviewer
2007-present Journal of Neurological Physical Therapy, reviewer
2017-present Journal of Neurological Physical Therapy, Editorial Board Member
2020-present Co-chair, Clinical Practice Guideline Workgroup

Continued – CANDIDATE James Lynskey

Community/Civic Engagement:

St. Vincent de Paul Free Medical Clinic 2021-present - Volunteer Physical Therapist
TOPS: Volunteer 2018-19 - An event that provides free physicals to high school athletes
Give Kids a Smile Day, Arizona School of Oral and Dental Health - Faculty volunteer/P.T. student volunteer co-organizer - 2010-2016, 2018
Special Smiles Day, Arizona School of Oral and Dental Health - Faculty volunteer/P.T. student volunteer co-organizer - 2016, 2018
Duel in the Desert: Volunteer 2017 - An adaptive sports competition hosted by Ability 360
Annual Day on the Lake: Volunteer 2010-2014, 2019
An adaptive water sports event for individuals with neurological injuries and disorders.

Other Professional Associations:

2019-present Arizona Physical Therapy Directors, member
2009-2016 American Society for Neurorehabilitation (ASNR)
2009-2016 Member
2010-2015 Member, Programming Committee
2016 Member, Membership Committee
2000-2014 Society for Neuroscience
2012-2013 American College of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM)
2015-present Physiotherapy Theory and Practice, reviewer
2008-present Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Design, reviewer
2006-present Experimental Neurology, reviewer

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

My approach to leadership can be characterized as authentic and collaborative. I strive to be authentic in my words and actions to enable trust in others. Furthermore, I strive to promote collaboration and consensus building, as these are essential for leadership in a professional organization. In my current and previous leadership positions, my main goal has been to advance the mission of the organization. If given this opportunity, I will continue to work hard on behalf of APTA Arizona to advance our agenda and improve clinical practice for Arizona physical therapists and our patients.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

My years of experience as a clinician, an educator, and an active member of the APTA have given me insight into the many issues facing physical therapists in Arizona and across the country. My experiences have also allowed me to build a network of colleagues in Arizona and Nationally. As an alternate and a delegate for the Arizona Delegation to the APTA House of Delegates since 2018, I participate in the AZ delegate meetings, review of motions, and the House of Delegates meetings. From this experience, I have gained valuable knowledge and experience regarding the issues facing our profession and our APTA governance. This experience also ignited a passion for continuing to serve Arizona as a delegate and make positive changes in the governance of our profession. If re-elected, I will continue to work with my colleagues locally and across the country to address important issues and work diligently to ensure the success of our profession.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

Two of the major challenges facing the physical therapy profession are reimbursement and student loan debt.

On the issue of reimbursement, we need to make sure our services are valued, effective, and cost-effective by both the public and third-party payers. This requires evidence, publicity, and possibly changes in practice. If re-elected as a delegate, I will work with colleagues to improve reimbursement for physical therapy services.

On the issue of student loan debt, we need to halt tuition increases (hopefully even reduce tuition), investigate alternate forms of education, and lobby for student loan forgiveness. This requires coordinated efforts between the APTA House of delegates, the APTA Board of Directors, clinicians, lobbyists, and academicians. I will work with colleagues in all of the aforementioned areas to address



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Suzanne O'Neal

EDUCATION:

Doctor of Health Science - University of Indianapolis – 2020
Doctor of Physical Therapy (transitional) - Northern Arizona University – 2012
Master of Science in Physical Therapy - University of South Florida - 2006
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology - University of South Florida - 2001

EMPLOYMENT:

Associate Professor with Tenure
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program
Midwestern University
Glendale, AZ
2014 – Present

Physical Therapist – PRN
Center for Transitional Neurorehabilitation
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
Phoenix, AZ
2014 – Present

Physical Therapist – PRN
Scottsdale Healthcare Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital
Scottsdale, AZ
April 2014 – November 2014

Physical Therapist
HonorHealth Scottsdale (formerly Scottsdale Healthcare)
Outpatient Neurologic Therapy
Scottsdale, AZ
September 2011 – November 2014

Physical Therapist
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
Outpatient Neurologic Therapy
Phoenix, AZ
February 2008 – September 2011

Physical Therapist
Morton Plant Hospital
Outpatient Rehab
Clearwater, FL
October 2006 – February 2008

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

APTA Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy
Orthotics and Neuroprosthetics Knowledge Translation Task Force
Member (appointed) - May 2019 – Present
APTA Arizona Nomination Committee - 2021 – Present
APTA Arizona Scholarship Committee - Member - 2017 - Present

Continued – CANDIDATE Suzanne O'Neal

APTA Arizona District 1 Representative - January 2019 – December 2020

Arizona House of Representatives ad hoc Committee for Multiple Sclerosis Awareness and Education
Member (appointed) - October 2015

APTA Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy - Parkinson's Disease EDGE Task Force
Member (appointed) - January 2013 – February 2014

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Special Olympics Arizona - Clinical Director - 2008 – Present

Numerous community service activities, including the Baehr Challenge for Parkinson's disease, Ability 360 events such as Rugby Rave, Rock Steady Boxing for Parkinson's Disease, and the Arizona Disabled Sports Desert Challenge games.

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

My students have described my leadership qualities as passionate, compassionate, motivational, and empowering. I try to be a neutral ear and listen to different perspectives. I believe these qualities can lead to productive conversations and solutions..

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

I was the APTA Arizona District 1 Representative for the 2019-2021 term. I feel so fortunate to have had this opportunity as it allowed me to gain insight into the behind-the-scenes working of our chapter. Additionally, it brought to light some of the challenges this profession is facing or could potentially face in the future. This position also allowed me to network with other members of our community, which has been invaluable. These experiences has led to a better understanding of our profession as well as extended my local connections.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

There seems to be several challenges facing our program, such as the CMS fee schedules, the increasing student debt, rising tuitions, and the future workforce statistics. One way to contribute to a positive agenda is by continued public awareness of these issues. Being in academia, people in my position have the unique opportunity to start this awareness early. By coming up with ideas to empower and motivate students, I feel that this could lead to increasing number of professional advocates in the future.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Seth Peterson

Education:

Residency, Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, Arizona School of Health Sciences, A.T. Still University
Doctor of Physical Therapy, Arizona School of Health Sciences, A.T. Still University
Bachelor of Arts, Biology, Luther College

EMPLOYMENT:

2020-Present: Founder and C.E.O., The Movement Brainery.

Develop continuing education courses, host of "Masters in Motion" podcast, lead social media and marketing efforts.

2018-Present: Founder and President, The Motive.

Private practice delivering outpatient orthopedic services. Grown to 4 clinicians (2 physical therapists, 1 naturopathic doctor, 1 acupuncturist).

2014-Present: Adjunct professor, Arizona School of Health Sciences, A.T. Still University.

Continued – Candidate Seth Peterson

2013-2018: Physical therapist, ProActive Physical Therapy.

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

2020 APTA AZ Emerging Leader Award.

2019-Present: Chair, Continuing Education Committee, APTA AZ.

2018-2019: Member, Continuing Education Committee, APTA AZ.

2017-Present: Delegate, APTA AZ.

2020-Present: Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, APTA AZ.

2020-Present: Telehealth Advisor for Arizona, APTA Business.

2010-Present: Membership in Academy of Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, APTA, APTA AZ.

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

2010-Present. Member, American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT)

2018-2021: Walk Leader, Walk with a Doc.

Started Oro Valley Chapter of Non-Profit, aiming to increase community engagement in walking outdoors, including recruiting speakers.

2010, 2013: Volunteer Medical Staff, Rock n Roll Marathon.

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

I think I've demonstrated leadership qualities so far in my career by starting my two businesses, leading research teams, and being involved in multiple committees at the state level. My private practice got through the past year unscathed, and I feel our team has certainly grown stronger. I try to look at these challenges as an opportunity and was able to have one of the most productive years I had ever had last year. An overarching philosophy of mine is to simply be nice to others and seek out other perspectives on problems, which I find to almost always be beneficial to the team.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

My vision for this position, the Chief Delegate, would be to foster a greater team-based approach than we have had in the recent past. This would include getting more delegate involvement in motion development and ideally growing a structured path for delegates to transition into the Chief Delegate position, which remains an uphill climb. I believe we could also better operationalize our solicitation of member input, which has been valuable in the past. I've been a member of the Delegation for the past few years and believe having a previous member of the Delegation take on this role would be beneficial to all.

Continued – CANDIDATE – SETH PETERSON

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

Unfortunately, we have a tremendous amount of challenges facing physical therapy. We have the high cost of school, decreasing payment from insurers, a potential oversupply of physical therapists, and reactions by employers to pressure employees to do things against their best clinical judgment. It is clear that we need multiple solutions to these problems. I can't see a solution that doesn't require some level of discomfort for the stakeholders involved. However, I'd like to propose that we center ourselves and our actions on the reason for our existence: the patient.

We can't forget or shy away from the challenging positions that will come at us, speak truth to power, and remember that we are truly fighting for the patients that we serve. As a professional association celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, we should have a long-term mindset and stay grounded in our values. Some of the pertinent issues that I see facing our profession in the future relate to finding a way to continue to improve our product - the quality of physical therapy so that patients themselves (and perhaps their employers) are singing our praises. So that the legislators that experience physical therapy themselves are thrilled with the experience. As long as we continue to provide substandard care, claim to provide highly skilled care while letting untrained aides do most of the work, and double-book patients, the public and the legislators will continue to be underwhelmed with our profession. Some more immediate ways that I can see to improve our product would be to revamp the continuing education review process, which appears to allow too many not evidence-based courses to be approved, and develop a more expansive media team across the country to highlight those successes.



DELEGATE

CANDIDATE

Jim Roush

EDUCATION:

BSPT Northwestern University; 1988
Ph.D. University of Southern of Southern California; 1984
M.S. University of Arizona, 1977
B.S. University of Arizona, 1976

EMPLOYMENT:

Professor Emeritus of Physical Therapy; A.T. Still University; 2018 to present
Adjunct Professor of Physical Therapy; Midwestern University; 2018 to present
Professor of Physical Therapy; A.T. Still University; 1996 to 2018
Roush Physical Therapy; Home Health; 1990 to 2000
Mesa Lutheran Hospital; 1989 to 1990

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

President of the APTA – Arizona chapter (2002 to 2004)
Member of APTA House of Delegates (2000 to 2004); (2004 to present)
Chief Delegate for Arizona to APTA House of Delegates (2018 to 2021)
Member of the State Governmental Affairs Committee and Continuing Education Com.; Past members of Website Committee and Research Committee; participated in Federal Affairs Committee. Past member of the APTA-Az Board.
American Physical Therapy Association P.A.C., Regular contributor at the Eagle level
American Physical Therapy Association, Lucy Blair Service Award, 2016

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

- 1) Item Writer for the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy – 2004, 2007, 2015
- 2) Continued Competence (Procert) for the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
- 3) Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, Outstanding Service Award, 2017
- 4) Member of National Athletic Trainers Association (1976 to present)
- 5) Member of American Sports Medicine Association (1983 to present)

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

I think my most significant quality is I continue to bring a passion for progressing an agenda that physical therapy is absolutely essential as partners at the health care table. This requires qualities of advocacy and lobbying. However, I think one of the most important qualities I bring to our Delegation at this time is mentoring. To truly contribute to the House of Delegates takes a minimum of about 6 years. For a novice, there is a two to three year period of learning how the House works and really know the issues. Then there is another two to three year period of getting comfortable with the issues and responsibilities of membership in the House of Delegates, which includes developing one's own network with other members of the House from across the United States. At year 6, we would expect a member of our Delegation to be able to make a substantial contribution to the business of the House in whatever form it might take. Right now, we still have a number of individuals from our Delegation in that novice stage. We need to continue supporting and encouraging these individuals as they develop as leaders in the House of Delegates. This is true especially during times of frustration with the processes of the decision making when developing positions or making policy that affects physical therapy, both regionally, nationally, and to some extent internationally. It is the teaching of patience with the process for our younger members of the House; yet, when the time comes, one must voice their opinion. We do not elect individuals to the House to be wallflowers.

Continued – CANDIDATE Jim Roush

I bring the qualities of integrity, courage, and perseverance to the table when working with others. I try to live by a code that includes honesty, fairness, and trustworthiness. At the same time, I also try to bring a level of candor in addressing issues that face our profession. I would hope if others were to describe me, this is what they would say. We have some serious problems confronting our state association, our national

Association, and our profession as a whole. More than anytime, we need our leaders to have these qualities to help us navigate through our problems.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

I have been involved in Physical Therapy leadership since 1999. I have served in many capacities, from committee member to chair, up to the president. My passion is physical therapy, and I truly believe in the American Physical Therapy Association. It is the only group that speaks for physical therapy nationally and regionally. One of the hallmarks of my education and experiences was that I was always encouraged to participate in professional advocacy societies to improve a lot of my fellow brothers and sisters. I was always guided by this quote: "So long as the people do not care to exercise their freedom, those who wish to tyrannize will do so." (Voltaire)

Understanding the many challenges facing physical therapy from a foundational level and helping to make thoughtful decisions on how to address them has been and will continue to be my main challenge. I have developed a strong network of contacts over the years with physical therapists who are leaders across the United States as we try to address these issues as best we can. I regularly communicate with these leaders on different topics. At the same time, I am communicating with members of the physical therapy community in Arizona to make sure our issues are at the forefront of discussions. We have had our successes, and we have had our failures. You always work to make things better and not to make things worse. We shall continue to fight for our cause. This is a critical time for our profession, and actually we all need to get in the fray.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

Workforce: Last year, Arizona and Pennsylvania sponsored a motion in the House of Delegates charging the board to investigate the workforce. As a result, a report was published in December 2020 that stated there might be a potential surplus of over 25,000 physical therapists by 2030. This still requires constant monitoring. How is the profession going to respond to this report? Other questions persist. Are our graduates qualified to practice? What is entry-level? What about the clinical educations experiences; are they adequate? Do we need residencies and fellowships? Are we diverse as a profession? Who is retiring? (25% of the present workforce will be eligible to retire within 10 years; are they going to do that?). Is there balance in our profession between our newer professionals, our experts, and those we count on to bring wisdom and guidance in our decision-making? What other opportunities are available for clinical practice by physical therapists? Within 10 years, there may be no more physical therapists assistants. How can we abate that?

Reimbursement: If we are not able to adequately address the problems of reimbursement for physical therapy practices, then we will not be able to keep our doors open. Therefore, all other issues would become irrelevant. Plain and simple!



PTA CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE
Joshua Davis

EDUCATION:

Associates of Applied Science, Physical Therapist Assistant
San Juan Collage 2016

EMPLOYMENT:

A.T.I. Physical Therapy - Staff Clinician (P.T.A.) - 2016-2021
Contact Physical Therapy - Staff Clinician (P.T.A.) – 2021-present

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

Member 2015-2021

Continued – CANDIDATE Joshua Davis

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Non profit community service work in
Northern Mexico (Nuevo Leon/Coahuila)
2010-2012

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

Experienced Clinical Instructor for 2 P.T.A. students and new clinician mentor at A.T.I. Physical therapy.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

Career P.T.A. with exposure to a spectrum of patients and clinicians in the central Phoenix area, including a high volume of chronic pain patients overcoming an opioid dependence.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

- A. P.T.A. reimbursement changes/challenges: Medicare and other organizations are making efforts to reduce reimbursement for P.T.A. services. This can lead to justifying a slippery slope of decreased P.T.A. reimbursement across all payers (without research backed justification). Helping payers and other organizations to see P.T.A.s as viable clinicians with productive outcomes can help keep pay appropriate.
- B. Current and ongoing research shows that therEx and other active rehab has the best outcomes (vs more passive Intervention and modalities) for helping patients' post-op recoveries and to address even chronic conditions. Education on and advocacy for effective, engaged pain science education as paramount in treatment will help patients and clinicians have better and longer-lasting positive outcomes from therapy.



PTA CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE

Kacey Kline

EDUCATION:

M.Ed. Higher Education – Capella University Sept. 2021
B.S. Health Science – Northern Arizona University 2016
A.A.S. Physical Therapist Assistant – Gateway Community College 2014

EMPLOYMENT:

Midwestern University Physical Therapy Institute 2017 – Current
Gateway Community College P.T.A. Program Adjunct Fall 2020
Brookline College P.T.A. Program Adjunct 2018-2019
VitalCare Rehab 2014-2017

Continued – CANDIDATE Joshua Davis

APTA Arizona & APTA

ENGAGEMENT:

(ongoing)

PTA Caucus Alternate Representative Arizona 2019 – Current

APTA Centennial Scholar (Arizona) – Capstone Project of P.T.A. Engagement and Membership IN the APTA

Physical Therapist Assistant Outlook – APTA and P.T.A. Caucus Webinar

Continued – CANDIDATE Kacey Kline

Physical Therapist Assistant Outlook on Covid-19 – PTPintcast Podcast Interview
PTA SIG – Board of Directors
Collaboration and Use of a P.T.A. in Clinic – Guest Lecturer at Midwestern University
How to Use a P.T.A. – Arizona District 1 Webinar

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Consulted with Department of Public Safety to create a health and wellness program for law enforcement officers

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

As the APTA Centennial Scholar for Arizona, I have spent the last year learning various leadership qualities from APTA National to prepare for this role. I have also been the Alternate Representative for the last 2 years and have become well versed in the needs of the Association, and specifically working towards further engagements with P.T.A.'s in the state. It is my goal to encourage active participation and engagement within our community of P.T.A.s to allow for better representation in APTA National and to the patient's we serve.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

I have been actively involved in the Arizona Physical Therapy Association as well as the American Physical Therapy Association and P.T.A. Caucus to align with the overall goals of the organization which includes P.T.A. engagement and the goals of becoming P.T.A. inclusive through leadership opportunities and allowing P.T.A.'s to vote within the House of Delegates – a motion slated for the 2021 House. I believe my experience as the current Alternate Representative and the Centennial Scholar put me in the perfect position to continue the work and representation that has already been set in motion.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

The main challenge facing the profession that impacts P.T.s and P.T.A.s, is the proposed Medicare budget cuts and reimbursement for rehab issues. This will significantly impact employment opportunities and patient care, and it must be fought against with alternative solutions proposed through APTA and partnering with other rehab associations such as Occupational and Speech Therapies. It is my goal to continue to work with the PATA Federal Advocacy and lobby Senators and Congress for change.

Another challenge is the P.T.A. representation in APTA national and the Arizona Physical Therapy Association. I am currently working on gathering data to determine the low member rate and work to find alternative methods for P.T.A.s to become members, feel valued in the Association, and work on increasing the P.T.A. role within the Association.



PTA CAUCUS ALTERNATE

CANDIDATE

Lynette Lauterbach

EDUCATION:

Associates from GateWay Community College

EMPLOYMENT:

Swan Rehab and Advanced Neurologic Rehabilitation

APTA Arizona & APTA ENGAGEMENT:

Chairperson for APTA Arizona PTA SIG for 1 year

COMMUNITY/CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS: none

Please answer the following questions specific to the position you are slated for:

1. Describe your leadership qualities relative to the current needs of APTA Arizona.

I'm very passionate about promoting the importance of the physical therapist assistant in our community. I hope to be an active listener and understand what P.T.A.s are needing to help them become stronger and successful in their field. I pride myself on being accountable and honest in making all decisions to better the physical therapy profession.

2. Based on the specific position you are running for, what experiences would you bring to this position that makes you a strong candidate?

I'm always willing to learn and step out of my comfort zone to improve myself. As a P.T.A. Caucus Alternate, I hope to learn how to make a positive impact in the profession and especially for P.T.A.s. I've been serving as the chairperson for the APTA Arizona PTA SIG for the past year, which I have learned a great deal, and I strive to provide all P.T.A.s with ways to improve themselves in their job and the physical therapy community.

3. Discuss two significant challenges facing the profession and/or the state association and how you would contribute to a positive agenda for progress in these areas.

- A big issue is the Medicare cuts to physical therapy services and the upcoming cut regarding P.T.A.s. I want to continue to show the importance that P.T.A.s provide to the profession and how we provide skilled services the same as a physical therapist would. I want to continue to show that the skills provided by physical therapists and physical therapist assistants is vital in the recovery of patients.
- Another challenge I would like to help improve is the involvement of P.T.s and P.T.A.s in the APTA in both national and state levels. I want to continue to show the value of the APTA and help encourage therapists to become involved to help continue to provide resources and provided leadership opportunities, so we can advocate for our profession.



PTA CAUCUS ALTERNATE

CANDIDATE

Silke Mildenberger

EDUCATION:

2010-2012 Pima Medical Institute, Tucson, P.T.A. Program
1995-1998 Physical Therapy School in Germany
1986-1989 School of Commerce, Zurich, Switzerland

EMPLOYMENT:

2016 - TODAY PTA with focus on H.H. / Geriatrics, BAYADA Home Health
2015 - 2016 Travel Contracts (ETHIKA INC.)
2012 - 2015 Outpatient P.T. clinic, Tucson, AZ
2006 – 2008 Lifestyle Advisor, Canyon Ranch, Tucson, AZ
2004 – 2008 National Sales Manager for Import Company from Thailand (ETU, Santa Fe, NM)
2001 – 2020 Self-employed as Fine Art and event photographer (Silke Mildenberger Photography)
1998 – 1999 Physical Therapy office in Prum, Germany; focus on pediatrics and O.P. Orthopedics

APTA ENGAGEMENT:

Recipient of scholarship in 2011

Currently enrolled in P.T.A. Proficiency Program in Geriatrics with the APTA

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

Volunteer ranger in Southern Arizona Wilderness Area to enhance safety awareness of the public and educating on wilderness protocols (2018 – 2021).

Assisting and consulting in remodel of homes of older adults in need for the local construction company.

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES:

Multifaceted background in the medical and corporate field, allowing me to deliver creative and innovative responses.

Experience in the creation of educational, physical therapy content and presenting to large audiences, including public speaking.

SPECIFIC POSITION – EXPERIENCES:

Over the last 9 years I have worked in outpatient and H.H. settings in long-term employments as well as a traveling P.T.A. I was able to immerse myself in different team dynamics and settings, client demographics, both in urban and rural settings. As a result, I saw the varying needs of different populations and the potential our profession has to impact these groups.

I am experienced in public speaking and interested at looking at our profession, not only skill based, but also the potential we have to reach and influence whole communities.

I benefitted from the scholarship the APTA offered me while I went to school and would like to support this organization while being able to be involved in the future of our profession.

Continued – CANDIDATE Silke Mildenerger

CHALLENGES OF OUR PROFESSION:

PERCEIVED VALUE: The public's perception of the value and gamut of Physical Therapy remains limited. There is a lot of potential to increase the level of evidence-based procedures and to increase the awareness of both the consumer and fellow medical provider as to make Physical Therapy the number 1 choice for Musculo skeletal and physical diagnosis.

COMMUNITY IMPACT / OUTREACH: Physical Therapy has much to offer, increasingly also in terms of pain management, pelvic health, vertigo, and other new fields, as well as affecting movement awareness and healthy lifestyle in a community. Implementing new research in treatment approaches for better outcomes across our industry is essential to demonstrate the value of our service. Physical Therapy teams are perfectly situated to address the overall health of the public and not just treat individuals, but lead communities to a higher level of health and wellness in the long term.