



Greetings Friends of the Arizona Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association:

Welcome to November and Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours! APTA Arizona has so much to be thankful for and I encourage you to reflect on our Centennial Anniversary with a sense of gratitude for all that we have accomplished and persevered over the past 100 years. Our profession has always thrived under difficult circumstances, from World War I to the Polio Pandemic to Covid-19, and we will continue to flourish in the face of adversity with the support of our members. We are better together and I thank you for your continued support.

Please allow me to personally thank all of our members for a wonderful Fall Conference at the Ocotillo Golf Club in Chandler, Arizona. A sincere thank you to Dr. Jim Roush for his presentation *Who are we NOW? The Arizona Physical Therapy Workforce: 2021* which provided an overview of the Physical Therapy workforce in Arizona based on renewal data from the last licensure renewal cycle. We would also like to thank Olympic Gold Medalist Kerri Strug for her presentation, *Achieving Your Personal Best*. Kerri illustrated the parallels between her success on the world stage in 1996 and what it takes to be successful personally and professionally today. Many thanks to all who participated in our golf tournament, it served as an excellent return to in-person events, and allowed for many networking opportunities. Thank you to our sponsors and especially to those who endured having to golf with me or behind me! Congratulations to the top finishing team of PTs and PTAs from Spooner Physical Therapy who finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, to Becky Meils and Andrew Roberts for their longest drive awards, and Nick Southards for the Longest Putt. The PTA SIG hosted a cornhole tournament which was won by Kadeen Mansor and Garret Wasson. Thank you to the all of the SIGs and Committees for their help in making this event a success!

Please allow me to thank all who ran for a position on the APTA Arizona Executive Board and Arizona Delegation and congratulate Lori Pearlmutter for being elected Chief Delegate, Kacey Kline as PTA Caucus Representative, Lynette Lauterbach as PTA Caucus Representative Alternate, Jennifer Zoucha as District IV Representative, Jamie Kuettel, Jim Roush, Seth Peterson, and Kayla Black as Delegates, and Suzanne O'Neal as Alternate Delegate. Welcome to APTA Arizona, I look forward to working with you all, and thank you for your service to our Profession.

We also had the privilege of publicly acknowledging our 2021 APTA Arizona Award Recipients and Student Scholarship winners. Please allow me to recognize John Heick PT, PhD, DPT as 2021 PT of the Year, Peggy Hunter PTA, CLT as 2021 PTA of the Year, and Jefferson Holm PT, DPT as 2021 APTA Arizona Emerging Leader Award. We are honored to call you colleagues and friends and thank you for your contributions to Physical Therapy practice in Arizona.

Each year, APTA Arizona awards three \$1000 scholarships to PT students in large part due to the generous contributions from the Arizona Physical Therapy Director's Group. The winners of these scholarships are Kelly Carroll, Karen Rovera-Yepiz, and Patricia Syndar. In addition, APTA Arizona awards two \$750 scholarships to PTA students The winners of these scholarships are Andrea Carroll and Latrece Redmond. Thank you to all of the students who applied and we hope that you will consider serving Arizona's Physical Therapy needs in the future!

Remember, APTA National is still participating in their 100 Days of Service initiative to close out our centennial year by making a coordinated impact on our communities. Visit the Serve page on the APTA centennial website to find resources and tips to help you plan and promote your events and recruit volunteers. We hope that you will choose to make a difference in these final 100 days of our Centennial year!

With Gratitude,

Brian Schmitz PT, DPT

President, Arizona Physical Therapy Association