



Greetings Friends of the Arizona Physical Therapy Association:

Time marches on! The Arizona Physical Therapy Association's Fall Conference is fast approaching and will be a fully Virtual Conference. We are excited to announce two outstanding tracks featuring Dan Lorenz "*Performance Enhancement in the Terminal Phases of Rehabilitation*" and Kay Wing and Kim Gatewood "*Proprioceptive Neuromuscular Facilitation (PNF)-evidence based treatment for the next generation.*" In addition to these wonderful continuing education opportunities, we will be holding our Annual Business Meeting to provide you an update on Association Business and awarding the Pauline Wampler Service Award, PT/PTA of the Year, the Arizona Chapter's Emerging Leader Award, and PT/PTA Student Scholarships. I sincerely hope you will join us on **Saturday, October 3rd**.

Registration for the Business meeting will be separate from the CEU portion of the Conference and is **FREE. Please, Please, PLEASE . . .** I am pleading for you to attend the Business Meeting to help us pass some important Bylaw Changes. The proposed Bylaw amendments will enable the Executive Board to host a minimum of one regular meeting during the calendar year instead of two, participate in the APTA sponsored Early Career Discount Dues Program, and make important editorial and compliance amendments to our Bylaws. If you are an **Early Professional** within the first five years of graduation, please contact your friends and colleagues and ask them to help you save some money! Remember, all members **present and voting** will be entered into a raffle for **outstanding prizes!**

The Executive Board is also excited to announce the formation of a **Diversity Affairs Committee** demonstrating our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion issues in Arizona. Anyone interested in participating on this Committee should email Christa at christa@aptaaz.org. We look forward to seeing what we can accomplish working on behalf of all Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, and Student members.

APTA has publicly announced that the **2021 Combined Sections Meeting will be held in a Virtual Format** as well. The details surrounding the exact dates and format are still to be determined, but we look forward to another outstanding Virtual Meeting on the heels of a highly successful transition to a Virtual Format for the 2020 NEXT Conference and House of Delegates.

The Arizona Chapter will be aligning with the APTA National Rebrand and unveiling the new logo in October. Stay tuned for exciting changes to the website as we complete our transition towards the end of the year. We will also be adding more Physical Therapist Assistant specific content to promote greater inclusion of our PTA colleagues as recommended by our Members.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do on your behalf. I look forward to everything that 2021 has in store.

Brian Schmitz PT, DPT

President, Arizona Physical Therapy Association