

Martha Macht Sliwinski PT PhD

Candidate for Vice President



What is our future as a profession in the state of NJ? We have a new practice act with positive advancements for our profession. Our current healthcare situation in the United States is in a vulnerable position and our state of New Jersey as well. In a time when the opioid epidemic is a national crisis, obesity spreading through our nation manifesting with increasing numbers of secondary health conditions our leadership in our state must continue to be effective in creating changes.

I have had the privileged to serve as a delegate to the House of Delegates (HOD) since 2010, attending my first session in June 2011. Serving in the capacity of a delegate has given me an opportunity to learn the direction the House moves our profession forward to achieve our vision. More importantly the House brings forth collaborative motions to address the needs of society where we can be instrumental in enhancing the health of our society. Each attendance to the HOD has added to my desire to continue to serve New Jersey as a delegate.

My professional experience as a physical therapist for 39 years, and a member of the APTA can offer the state of New Jersey a background that fits the role of Vice President in an effective manner. I have been fortunate to have a perspective of both a clinician and academician. During my clinical years from 1979 to 1993 at Kessler Institute I served as the Center Coordinator of Clinical Education for many years. Educating our future peers to be entry level holds a significant responsibility for clinical instructors not only for advancing students' clinical skills but also for professional standards. Clinical Education has been a significant part of my career in the clinic, academically and I have served actively at the state, regional and national level. I held the position of Director of Clinical Education at Hunter College from 1993 to 2004 and at Columbia University from 2004 to 2008. I also was elected to the position of Chairperson of the NYNJ Clinical Education Consortia, my mission was to initiate clinical education research and publish our work. My mission was accomplished and the group continues to conduct research. Additionally, I was a Clinical Instructor Trainer for the Clinical Instructor Credentialing Program since its initiation in 1997 until 2017. My years of training and leadership would support the skills needed in the role of Vice President.

My full-time academic role since 2008 has provided me with many professional opportunities not only in expanding my classroom skills with technology innovations but initiating and expanding the service component of our curriculum. I coordinate our student involvement in volunteer experiences. Two examples include Physical Therapy services at a local pro bono clinic for uninsured individuals living in Washington Heights and my yearly service learning elective in Guatemala.

I believe that diversity in a board is crucial for effective leadership. Our ideas and accomplishments can be broad with a strong and collaborative group. I am asking for your vote as Vice President to be a part of that group.