



Martha Macht Sliwinski PT PhD

Candidate for Vice President

I have had the privilege to serve as Vice President since April 2018. Being a member of the Council of Directors for APTANJ has helped me to understand the need for strong leadership for us to meet our societal and professional goals. The Council requires individuals willing to dedicate their time to understand what is required to move our profession in a direction that progresses our autonomy and services our patients and communities with the best possible quality. Our current healthcare situation in the United States is in a vulnerable position and our State of New Jersey as well. We have achieved greater recognition towards collaborating with other providers to assist in reducing the opioid epidemic. We continue to fight for reasonable reimbursement for our services and pushing for dry needling to be an opportunity for physical therapists who are trained to deliver that service. I am willing to put in the time to continue on the positive path our profession is moving.

I have also had the privilege 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 allows me to connect the national front to our NJ home. 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.

My professional experience as a physical therapist for over 40 years, and a member of the APTA can offer the State of New Jersey a background that can support the role of Vice President with history and insight for our future. I have been fortunate to have perspectives of both a clinician and academician. My clinical background in various settings has allowed me to view our professional services from many vantage points. I have served as faculty at Hunter College in the role of Director of Clinical Education and I continued in that role when I began teaching at Columbia University in 2004. Currently, I am full-time faculty and serve as the Associate Director of Student Services for the Physical Therapy Program. Additionally, I oversee the service component of our

program. Two examples include Physical Therapy services at a local pro bono clinic for uninsured individuals living in Washington Heights and our yearly service learning electives in Guatemala. My role as an educator, both classroom and with clinical education adds a broad perspective to where we have been and need to go for our new professionals.

I believe our Council of Directors requires member diversity for effective leadership. Our ideas and accomplishments require a strong and collaborative group. I am asking for your vote for Vice President to be a part of that group.