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Anthony DiFilippo, PT, DPT, MEd, OCS, CSCS

Moving Forward

Recently, I was asked what I thought about physical therapists starting a private practice in the current environment. Being in private practice for many years, I started to think of the pros and cons. Easily, the biggest benefit is the autonomy clinically. I enjoy educating the public regarding “Get PT 1st” and direct access laws. It allows me the flexibility in my schedule to contribute to our association and profession.

The largest con would be all of the administrative burden placed on providers by third party payers. This has steadily risen since the Affordable Care Act was instituted and external utilization management companies were used to shift the expenses and reporting criteria. Co-payments and deductibles have also been on the increase.

The APTA and OPTA are very active working behind the scenes to assist with the pros regarding promotion of direct access to the public and continued efforts to strengthen our position in regards to scope of practice. This includes working with third party payers as well as our lawmakers. They are also working to combat and limit the cons. Even though I am speaking of private practice, the issues that are dealt with are spread across all practice settings. The amount of issues that the association guards against and advocates is impressive. In short, the association keeps the profession “Moving Forward!”

For more information, contact Anthony at: anthonydif@gmail.com

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The People You Meet

Life is all about the people you meet along the way. I just recently returned from an extended trip after APTA’s CSM and was reflecting about the wonderful individual that sat next to me on the plane. My new friend “Alan from Florida” and I talked for more than two hours about exercise, physical therapy, life choices and the healthcare system in this country. It’s truly amazing what you can learn from other folks in the course of a conversation and how that can expand your thoughts and views going forward.

That’s truly what OPTA is—The People You Meet. When you attend OPTA’s Annual Conference, you not only get great CE, you get to know great people. Networking is such an overused and ambiguous term, but what it really means is the connection you have with your colleagues, the common bond you have with other professionals and the shared passion for your profession.

One of the finest individuals I’ve met along the way was former OPTA Executive Director Shane Yates. Most people don’t know that Shane and I were friends prior to my joining OPTA, and we remained close friends until his passing in February 2016. Shane had one of those personalities that was larger than life and had the ability to just make you glad you knew him. Gone far too soon, he will be remembered for his contributions to the association community and his absolute, unbridled passion for life.

Take a moment to reflect about the people you’ve met along the way, and the people who are in your OPTA future. Make the opportunity count.

For more information, contact Victoria at: vgresh@ohiopt.org

Stand Apart From Your Peers

You’ve finished PT school. Now what?

APTA will keep you plugged in and ready to practice. Check out some of the resources we’ve put together for New Professionals:

✓ Career Starter Dues—Enjoy significantly reduced dues when you renew your membership after graduation.

✓ Perspectives Magazine—Focuses on your interests, challenges, and practice.

✓ “Build Your Career”—activities that connect you with experienced professionals across APTA’s 18 special-interest sections.

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Scott Euyye, PT, DPT, MHS, OCS
Ruthann Finch, PT
Susan Foster, PT
Jean Howard, PT
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Claudia Miller, PT, OCS
Cathy Bieber Parrott, PT, MS
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Kari Dunning, PT, PhD
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John Joseph Jeziorski, PT
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Juliana Robine, PT, MPH
Jean Shannon, PT, DPT
Kurt Swanson, PT
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Madeline Versteeg, PT, GCS

**20 Years**
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Lynn Budeker, PT, DPT
Sharon Chambers, PTA
Heidi Clarke, PT
Elizabeth Collins, PT, MHS
Renee Coughlin, PT
Stacey DiGiulio, PT
Matthew Dwenger, PT
Amy Edwards, PT
Deborah Greeney, PT
Rita Guthrie, PT, DPT
Patricia Hamilton, PT
Jonathan Hartstein, PT
Angela Heaton, PT
Dolly Hritz, PT
Katherine Kingseed, PT
Mark Lundblad, PT, DPT, MPH, OCS
John Myers, PT, DPT, MBA
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Caroline Proch, PT
Tori Marie VanBelle, PT, NCS
Michelle Smith, PTA
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Robin Boyle, PT
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Anthony Lombardi, PT
Stephen Minning, PT, MSPT, SCS
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Andrea Rowland, PT
Alice Rozic, PT
Robert Runkel, PT
Michael Schoonover, PT
Kathie Shimloenos, PT, CWS, CLT
Donna Stein, PT
Michael Stewart, PT
Abbie Tackett, PTA
Karen Tice, PTA
Vanessa Toto, PT
Susan Trotter-Jones, PT
Mark Voegele, PT
Molly Weigand, PT, MPT, OCS
Robin Wilson, PT
Matthew Winters, PT, DPT, SCS
David Wright, PT, PhD

10 Years

Karen Tice, PTA
Vanessa Toto, PT
Susan Trotter-Jones, PT
Mark Voegele, PT
Molly Weigand, PT, MPT, OCS
Robin Wilson, PT
Matthew Winters, PT, DPT, SCS
David Wright, PT, PhD

10 Years

Hunny Adams, PT,DPT,PMA-CPT,CKTP
Lindsay Alfano, PT, DPT, PCS
Jaclyn Anthony, PT
Karen Arn, PT, DPT, GCS
Joshua Baker, PT, PhD
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Jessica Bendele, PT
Juel Boes, PT
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Susan Breitenbach, PTA
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Matthew Lieb, PT
Matthew Linsenmayer, PT
Katherine Long, PT, DPT, OCS
Anita MacGregor, PT, DPT
Kristin Marks, PT, DPT, JD
Amanda Mihalik, PT
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Nicholas Napolitan, PT
Robert Scott Phillips, PT, DPT, PhD
Joshua Pintar, PT, SCS
Alison Pollack, PT
Casey Pontones, PT, DPT
Alyson Popiolkowski, PT

*Information is provided by APTA. If your name was omitted or printed in error, please contact the APTA to update your membership record.
Have You Asked Your Rep to Support HB 169?

The OPTA is working diligently with legislative leaders to promote the passage of House Bill 169. There have been four hearings before the House Commerce and Labor Committee and we have been working with physician opponents of the bill to educate them on our intent. Unfortunately, the Ohio State Medical Association remains opposed to the legislation.

This is why it is so important for you to get involved! We need to continue to educate the members of the House about the importance of this bill.

HB 169 doesn’t just offer improvements to your practice—it will also improve care delivery for your patients and all Ohioans who choose to gain the benefits of PT!

The legislation does two important things:

- Clarifies that “physical therapy” includes determining a diagnosis in order to treat a person’s physical impairments, functional limitations, and physical disabilities; determining a prognosis; and determining a plan of therapeutic intervention, and
- Adds that physical therapy includes ordering tests such as diagnostic imaging and studies that are performed and interpreted by other licensed health care professionals.

Have you contacted your State Representative to let them know why HB 169 is important to you and your patients? Please consider doing so now. Additionally, if you have a patient who would have benefited from you having the ability to order imaging, we want to hear those stories! On the OPTA Advocacy webpage, you can find resources including a sample letter that should be sent from your patients who would benefit from the changes proposed in HB 169 and talking points that you can use to write a letter to your State Representative.

If you do not know who your State Representative is, they can be found using your zip code at https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/. It is critical that state legislators hear from their constituents about the importance of HB 169. Please join us in advocating for the practice of physical therapists!

Medicaid School Program Reimbursement

The Ohio Department of Medicaid recently released a bulletin that the Medicaid School Program will no longer be reimbursing for therapy services if the service was not ordered by a physician (or a practitioner of the healing arts).
In 2016 there have been few changes for PQRS. Part B providers must report nine measures but since fewer are applicable for claims based reporting, you must report all applicable measures. Refer to APTA’s website for additional information. For registry-based reporting, there are several additional measures available.

Providers who were unsuccessful in reporting PQRS measures correctly in 2014 are now seeing a reduction in Medicare payments of 2%. Reporting correctly in 2015 will eliminate the reduction in 2017 payments.

There is no change in the functional reporting for therapy services. Continue to report on the evaluation, by every tenth visit and on discharge. This is a requirement.

OrthoNet is now the claims administrator for Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield. There are authorization requirements that must be met so follow their policy if you will be participating with them. If you experience problems with authorizations or other matters, please contact the association with details. APTA has been monitoring this authorization process as this is not an Ohio issue; it is a national change.

For more information, contact the OPTA office at: opt@ohiopt.org

Understandably, many associations are concerned by this policy, including the OPTA. We are working with other affected provider groups (occupational therapists and speech therapists) and are also reaching out to school districts and others affected by the change. We will work towards finding a solution that does not disrupt the IEP process for students.

Copies of legislation – Go to www.legislature.state.oh.us

How to Contact Your Lobbyists
Amanda Sines & Mikayla Pollitt
Government Advantage Group
33 North Third Street, Suite 320
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 221-7157

For more information, contact Amanda or Mikayla at: amanda@gov-advantage.com and mikayla@gov-advantage.com

According to the release:
The change requires that all services submitted for reimbursement under the Medicaid School Program must be ordered, prescribed or referred by a physician or licensed practitioner of the healing arts. Additionally, the individual prescribing or referring the service (i.e., a physician or licensed practitioner of the healing arts) must be an official Medicaid billing provider with a National Provider Identification number.

Beginning August 1, 2016, all Medicaid claims must contain the name and National Provider Identifier of the practitioner who ordered the service. Services provided pursuant to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) without an express prescription or referral from a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts will no longer be reimbursable by Medicaid.

This change to the Medicaid reimbursement does not impact a school district’s obligation to provide the service to students with an IEP, only the district’s ability to access reimbursement for the services provided to Medicaid eligible students.

Payment Policy Report
Robert Swinehart – Payment Policy Specialist

In 2016 there have been few changes for PQRS. Part B providers must report nine measures but since fewer are applicable for claims based reporting, you must report all applicable measures. Refer to APTA’s website for additional information. For registry-based reporting, there are several additional measures available.

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For more information, contact the OPTA office at: opt@ohiopt.org
Elections will be held online from April 23 - May 22, 2016, following Annual Conference. Full candidate bios can be found on the Elections page of the OPTA website and all members will receive an email with login and voting instructions from our partners at AssociationVoting.com.

Candidates for President Elect
(1 to be elected)

Tonya Apke, PT, DPT, OCS
OPTA District: Central
Date of Chapter Membership: 1991

I am honored and humbled to be nominated for president elect for the OPTA. I am so passionate about our profession and what we do on a daily basis to transform lives. We have many opportunities as well as challenges in our future. As professionals, we can decide to wait and see what happens or be an active participant in guiding and influencing the path of our future. I choose the latter! It will take all of us with our collective voice to advocate for our patients, our profession and our position in the healthcare market. I truly believe that together we are strong and have the capability to improve the lives of our members, our patients and society. To do that, we must mentor our new professionals and embrace their ideas, enthusiasm and commitment to excellence. We must respect the pathways of our seasoned therapists to learn from their wisdom and build on their successes. Developing relationships with our fellow healthcare team members, our legislators, our academic programs, our researchers and our leaders are priorities to helping us establish and accomplish our goals. Each of us has strengths and together we can grow the association and build on our progress. As a colleague of mine once said, “If not you, then who?” Let’s all utilize our unique talents and together we can continue moving forward in physical therapy. I would appreciate your vote and your continued dedication to our profession and the 2015 Outstanding Chapter, the OPTA. Thank you!

Kathy Szirony, PT, DPT
OPTA District: Northeast
Date of Chapter Membership: 1978

I am humbled to be nominated for president elect of the Ohio Physical Therapy Association. I have had the opportunity to serve our membership at the district, state and national level, most recently as Ohio delegate to the APTA House of Delegates and vice president of OPTA. In these roles, I have had the opportunity to learn about and impact various levels of the organization ranging from strategic planning, advocacy, legislation with the introduction of House Bill 169 and an online PT campaign targeted toward educating consumers about physical therapy and direct access.

Healthcare reform has brought many changes but with change comes opportunity! Physical therapy is uniquely positioned to actively participate in solutions that reduce expense while improving efficiency and the overall patient experience as healthcare moves toward delivering value-based care.

Transformation occurs with people committed to making a difference. People are critical to our work in order to keep things moving forward. We need to continue to develop and implement value-based membership retention and recruitment strategies, student engagement strategies, advocacy strategies to move HB 169 into law, consumer-targeted PR initiatives and multiple continuing education services while maintaining sound financial management practices. I have strong communication and listening skills, am open to collaboration and other people’s ideas to demonstrate a value based profession and organization as we move forward with our bold vision to transform society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience. I respectfully request your vote for president elect of our organization. Thank you for your consideration.

Candidates for Director I
(1 to be elected)

Rob Dunham, PT, DPT
OPTA District: Southwest
Date of Chapter Membership: 2004

I am both honored and humbled to be nominated for director. I have always had a passion and excitement to serve our profession, and serving in current and past roles has continued to fuel this fire. I have had the great opportunity to see and participate in the tireless work of so many others that has helped to protect our profession and move it forward.

The opportunity to continue to give back to the professional organization and continue the great work that many have started and will continue is why I am particularly excited to be nominated for director.

As a clinician, educator and manager of an interdisciplinary team in a dynamic business environment, I have gained great insight into understanding the state of healthcare as it relates to our profession, as well as, our clients. It is also through these roles and serving at the local and state level of the OPTA that I have gained a great network of connections.

Having served in various roles in the OPTA and professionally I have had considerable exposure to our
profession, our professional network and the opportunities that exist. Having an understanding of the issues and a vast professional network will enable me to be successful in the director role. If elected I will continue to serve the OPTA with integrity, passion and enthusiasm and I would be honored to receive your vote.

Scott Euype, PT, DPT, MHS, OCS
OPTA District: Northeast
Date of Chapter Membership: 1985

I am both excited and humbled to be nominated to serve another term as director for the OPTA. I have enjoyed my role as director over the past three years, and I am thankful for having had the opportunity to serve the OPTA in this capacity. While serving as a director, I worked closely with the district chairs, establishing an improved line of communication between the districts and OPTA. There is much more our association can do to continue in improving communication with members and to foster the value of being a member to our association. I believe that I can use my involvement at the national level to facilitate new and innovative ways for our chapter to highlight the value of being a member. My strengths as a listener, as well as my ability to see issues from various perspectives, can benefit board meeting discussions and will result in getting tasks completed. I am honored to have been nominated and look forward to continuing to serve our members as director on the OPTA Board.

Candidate for Nominating Chair
(1 to be elected)

James Lee, PT, DPT, NCS
OPTA District: East Central
Date of Chapter Membership: 1985

I truly am honored to be slated for the office of nominating chair. My most recent years have been spent as a member of the Physical Therapy Section of the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Athletic Trainers Board and spending time with my three (relatively new) children. Now that my children are a little older, I can devote more of my time to our professional association. My goal, as it is for all nominating chairs, is to provide our membership with qualified candidates run for state office, and to identify candidates for national office. I believe that our association’s leadership should not only be grounded with experienced therapists but make a point of developing our future leaders. I plan to work with district leadership to help identify those therapists that may have the potential for leadership while keeping the current leadership engaged. Thank you for this opportunity to serve our association in this capacity.

Candidate for PTA Caucus Rep
(1 to be elected)

Sanaz Holcomb, PTA
OPTA District: Northeast
Date of Chapter Membership: 1991

I am honored to have been nominated for the PTA caucus rep position. I have had the pleasure of serving as the PTA caucus representative for the last two years following my service as the alternate three years prior. During my term I have learned and continue the intricacies of the House of Delegates. I continue to network yearly with delegates and caucus reps from various chapters which are crucial to strategizing with them. I have become familiar with the political aspects that play an important role in how delegates are chosen for APTA office and how various laws are voted on. As the PTA caucus rep, I have had the honor of being involved in some very important discussions with the delegates of Ohio amongst others, regarding the importance of PTA involvement in the practice setting and on a chapter level. In 2015 the Ohio chapter cosponsored the bylaw change that allows all APTA members to vote on the full vote for the PTA on the chapter level. On a chapter level, my continued involvement at the district level allows me to communicate with my peers regarding important aspects which I forward to our delegates. I hope to continue my services as the PTA caucus rep in continuing efforts to promote the growth and involvement of the PTA to transform society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience.

OPTA’s Lunch & Learn

Online webinar series. 60 minutes. Quick 1-hour CEUs. Tuesdays.

May 10 - Bridging the Gap Between Geriatrics & Fitness
Learn more at http://bit.ly/OPTALunchLearn2
Candidates for Delegate
(4 to be elected)

Matt Briggs, PT, PhD, DPT, SCS, AT
OPTA District: Central
Date of Chapter Membership: 2005

My previous experiences serving as a delegate have given me the opportunity to help shape APTA policy directly affecting Ohio physical therapists. I feel that my involvement with clinical care, entry-level education, post-professional education, clinical research and government advocacy gives me front-line experience in the “cutting-edge” advancements and challenges facing physical therapists in Ohio. It is my continued goal to take this perspective to the House of Delegates and advocate for policies supporting and enhancing physical therapy practice in Ohio. Serving again as a delegate will allow me to be a part of this process of further shaping national policy towards this purpose by means of the exchange of ideas and visions of those I would represent. Thus, with great honor, enthusiasm, dedication and vision I wish to continue to campaign for our profession by continuing to serve as delegate for Ohio. Thank you for your support.

Lynn Czup, PT, DPT
OPTA District: East Central
Date of Chapter Membership: 1986

I am honored to be slated as a candidate for delegate. It is with great appreciation and dedication that I have served as Ohio chapter delegate and chief delegate in the past giving me the experience to effectively accomplish the obligations and duties involved with this position. I know the history, have national contacts and understand the process of the APTA House of Delegates to successfully represent the Ohio chapter members, promote our profession and affect positive change. I would be grateful for your consideration and your vote!

Amy Hassen, PT, DPT, MTC, OCS
OPTA District: East Central
Date of Chapter Membership: 1997-2002, 2013-present

I was recently elected as an alternate delegate and had the privilege to serve as an Ohio delegate in the 2015 House of Delegates. I am eager to continue to serve now that I have learned the process. I have had experience working in a large health system, smaller cooperation, smaller hospitals, government (Air Force) and academia. I am well suited to serve as an Ohio delegate having had exposure to many settings as well as my tendency to stay current with changes and growth opportunities in our profession. Through my involvement in clinical education at Walsh University, I have the opportunity to talk with students and clinicians to learn how APTA policies have or may affect their daily clinical operations. I feel this perspective will allow me to represent the voices of Ohio physical therapists in the APTA House of Delegates.

Jessica Iams, PT, DPT
OPTA District: Southwest
Date of Chapter Membership: 1999

I am honored to be slated for delegate. Having been a member of OPTA for over 15 years, I have served on several committees and have held numerous district positions. I also have lived in three of Ohio’s districts. This gives me unique perspective and affords me the opportunity to represent Ohio well in the APTA House of Delegates. If elected, I will represent you when voting on the issues most important to you, which in the past have included those such as Vision 2020, APTA’s recommendation for an annual PT visit and PTA full vote. I believe my job in this position will be to assist our state in bringing forth issues, understanding the issues being considered, and seeking input from you, the member, before discerning my vote. I am organized, dedicated to and passionate about our profession, and will put in the time and effort to serve Ohio.

Jane Keehan, PT, PhD, OCS
OPTA District: Northeast
Date of Chapter Membership: 1987

I am excited and hopeful for the opportunity to serve the OPTA as a delegate. I have been so fortunate to represent Ohio in the House of Delegates previously. Ohio has an amazing group of PT and PTA professionals. I believe that I can offer my past experience as well as keep an open mind about possibilities for the future. I am a good listener and collaborator. I can use these skills to represent Ohio. I would like to be able to find innovative ways to increase the communication within our state about contemporary issues that affect our profession, and be able to use this communication to have our voices heard at a national level. Thank you for the opportunity to run for delegate!
Pamela Ritzline, PT, EdD
OPTA District: East Central
Date of Chapter Membership: July 2015 (previously TN Chapter)

I am delighted to be slated and potentially serve the Ohio Physical Therapy Association as a chapter delegate. Recently I relocated to Northeast Ohio from Tennessee and seek to become actively involved in the OPTA. I have been active in the APTA at the district, state and national levels most of my career serving the Texas, Indiana and Tennessee chapters. I have extensive experience as a delegate including serving as chief delegate for Tennessee the last three years, so I am familiar with the issues and future direction of the profession and association. I am passionate about physical therapy and would appreciate the opportunity to guide our profession into the future. I enjoy mentoring new members, yet I recognize I will need to learn the way OPTA operates. I look forward to getting knowOPTA members and I ask for your vote. Thank you for considering me.

Lynzie Schulte, PT, DPT
OPTA District: Northeast
Date of Chapter Membership: 2005

In my two terms as a delegate I have been able to make decisions on physical therapy issues that have far reaching implications within the profession as well as vote for who will represent the profession on the APTA Board of Directors. I am so lucky to have been slated for another term and appreciate the nomination. As a delegate I enjoy representing the members of the OPTA and seeking out thoughts and opinions on the path of the profession and the APTA. Working in acute care at several facilities allows me to gain insight from many therapists on various concerns and topics including roles of PTs and PTAs, productivity numbers and the mission and vision of the APTA. As the OPTA Northeast District Chair, I am also able to reach out to therapists who work with patients across the lifespan and learn what matters to them and their patients. I would like to continue representing therapists here in Ohio and advancing the profession into the next 20, 30 and 40 years. I appreciate your dedication to the profession which is demonstrated as you read these candidate statements and vote for your leaders.

Derek Steele, PT, DPT
OPTA District: East Central
Date of Chapter Membership: 2010

As a fairly new graduate, I am still evolving to become a clinical expert. However, I do have the vision and passion needed to be a member of the House of Delegates with the goal to further the development of our association and profession. The power of direct access, autonomy and being a preferred provider fuels me to get involved and to strive for more. I believe that I can have a positive and newer perspective on the evolution of physical therapy in Ohio. Along with being up to date on the ever-changing healthcare system, I have innovative ideas and unique past experiences needed to continue to serve the OPTA for years to come. If selected, I will use the opportunity to continue the path that our leaders have set and fulfill the mission to advance physical therapy practice.
Call for Presentation Proposals on “Gait: Stepping Across the Continuum”

APTA’s Vision is “Transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience.” Guiding principles to achieve the vision include identification of movement as a key to optimal living and quality of life. Gait is an important part of human movement. Physical therapists are uniquely qualified to evaluate and provide evidence-based interventions to improve gait and subsequently optimize movement to improve the human experience.

OPTA’s 2016 Scientific Symposium will focus on all research and clinical aspects of gait—including, but not limited to, assessment, analysis, assistive devices, orthotics, prosthetics, interventions, and training—across the continuum (including all portions of the lifespan and in all practice areas).

Research Shorts on gait will showcase speakers who will educate our audience in short snippets of well-developed information. Speakers will be challenged to hone their presentation to include important material and inspire the audience in 15-18 minutes. Scientific Symposium will be held October 14, 2016 in Columbus, Ohio.

For submission details and requirements, go to OhioPT.org > Scientific Symposium.

Deadline for Submission: May 21, 2016
At ManorCare, you’ll find the kind of support that can really get your career growing. See how your career will blossom when you join the team dedicated to helping ensure their patients achieve their highest level of function and highest quality of life!

**Physical Therapists**

Full-Time opportunities available at the following locations:

- Heartland of Eaton
- Heartland of Madeira
- Heartland of Willoughby
- Wednesday – Sunday schedule
- Heartland of Woodridge, Fairfield
- Heartland Rehab – Arrowhead, Maumee (Outpatient Clinic)
- ManorCare – Belden Village, Canton
- ManorCare – Parma
- Cleveland, Akron, Canton (mobile position)

Part-Time weekend and PRN opportunities available at select locations!

Don’t miss this opportunity to get your career really growing!

Apply online at: jobs.hcr-manorcare.com

EOE AA M/F/Vet/Disability

OPTA’s 2016 Scientific Symposium

We want to learn about your research and showcase it at the 2016 Scientific Symposium on October 14, 2016 in Columbus, Ohio.

Share your clinical or basic science investigation, special interest paper or case study with your PT colleagues in a poster or platform presentation at Symposium.

Abstracts should be submitted electronically on the OhioPT.org > Scientific Symposium page by June 11, 2016.

**Submit a Research Abstract**

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EOE AA M/F/Vet/Disability
# Schedule of Events

## 2016 OPTA Annual Conference

### Friday, April 22, 2016

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 - 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast &amp; Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 - 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Exhibitor Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Exhibitor Product Demo Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 - 2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 - 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Exhibitor Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 - 4 p.m.</td>
<td>General Session - Keynote</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Annual Student Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Student SIG Meeting (students-only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>PACcy Hour</td>
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### Saturday, April 23, 2016

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 - 7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>OPTIONAL Group Fitness Run or Yoga Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Buzz - Coffee Bar &amp; Networking</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 - 11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Membership Recognition Meeting &amp; Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 - 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45 - 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Conference Concludes</td>
</tr>
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OPTA's Advocacy Day

*FREE* event is a great addition to Annual Conference

A comprehensive overview of all course sessions, times and presenters can be found on OhioPT.org on the Annual Conference page.

You are invited to attend Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse on Thursday, April 21.
SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Lower Extremity Movement Adaptations in the Presence of Pain and Clinically Useful Tools to Assess and Correct Movement

J.J. Kuczynski, PT, DPT

Enhance your knowledge of clinical motion analysis and learn to identify and correct common movement pattern changes in the lower extremity. As part of the movement system, lower extremity mechanics have received considerable attention from researchers and clinicians alike for several decades. It is common for the human body to make changes in movement patterns and muscle sequencing in the presence of pain. This is readily observed in common physical activities, such as walking, running, jumping, and squatting. Although this is already a well-accepted idea, the process of analyzing and correcting movement with clinically-efficient tools is ever-developing.

The Use of Interactive Arts Technology to Integrate Creativity into Movement Therapy and Promote Activity in the Neurologically Impaired Population for Home- and Community-Based Therapy

Lise Worthen-Chaudhari, MFA, MS
Rachel Botkin, PT, MPT, NCS

Incorporate technology into therapy and learn the applicability of a movement arts-based software program to maximize activity and functional outcomes. The course will expand the clinician’s knowledge of various learning techniques and motor learning theories to plan and implement physical therapy sessions in home and community settings with a focus on technology. The integrative arts software will be demonstrated and applied to the neurologically impaired population. Research will be presented including a feasibility study and case examples.

Stand Taller, Move Smarter: Pilates-Based Interventions for the Clinic & Beyond

Ashli Gauthier, PT, DPT

Pilates-based rehabilitation is a tool that therapists can use to optimize movement and make long-lasting changes to a patient’s posture and movement patterns. Benefits supported in current research include improved vitality, balance and motor performance, as well as decreased pain and disability. This session will discuss contemporary theory and application of Pilates-based rehabilitation and opportunities for post-rehabilitation fitness programs. A portion of the session will be dedicated to a Pilates mat class consisting of exercises and teaching techniques that can be directly applied to patients in the clinic.

Successful Mobility of the Geriatric Patient Undergoing Lower Extremity Total Joint Replacement

Erin Hofmeyer, PT, DPT

Do you treat geriatric patients and want a better understanding of current recommendations for mobility prior to and post undergoing a total joint replacement? Develop effective rationales for progression of mobility interventions, construct sound and evidence-based interventions and review current evidence in this session, which will include case-scenarios and discussion within small groups.

But I Don’t Do Peds!

Joyce Lammers, PT, MHS, PCS
Lindsay Elchert, PT, PhD

“But I Don’t Do Peds!” is ideal for the therapist who generally does not see pediatric patients or adults with developmental disorders in their usual practice. This course will help those therapists understand the lifelong needs of persons with developmental disabilities. Using relevant evidence, the course will provide information to assist non-pediatric physical therapists in developing a plan of care for a person with a developmental disability. This presentation aims to inform therapists of key impairments, key activity limitations and participation restrictions and key safety considerations for adult persons with developmental disabilities.
FRIDAY, APRIL 22 (continued)

Global Pelvis/Hip Introduction and Differential Diagnosis
Dave Kohlrieser, PT, DPT, SCS, OCS, CSCS
Andrew Sweeny, PT, DPT, SCS
Gain a better understanding of examination and differential diagnosis of intra- and extra-articular conditions producing pain or dysfunction at the hip and pelvis in the orthopedic or sports populations. Evidence-supported treatment progressions as well as return to sport considerations will be discussed. Mechanism of injury and potential risk factors for various conditions such as sports hernia and femoracetabular impingement will be reviewed.

Implementation of the General Movements Assessment to Optimize Neonatal Outcomes
Madalynn Wendland, PT, DPT, ATP, PCS
Megan Iammarino, SPT
Despite advances in perinatal care and survival rates of up to 85%, half of very preterm infants will still experience neurobehavioral impairments that can affect the development of normal movements. The implementation of the General Movements Assessment (GMA) provides an evidenced-based approach for assessing the neurological integrity and potential for movement dysfunction in neonates less than five months of age. This session will cover how use of the GMA can drive interventions to optimize developmental outcomes in the high-risk neonate.

Clinical, Practical and Evidence-Based Strategies to Manage the Runner Across the Lifespan
Edie Benner, PT, PhD, OCS
Juli Robine, PTA, MPH, CHES
This energetic and interactive presentation will include video analysis, instruction and participation in drills and interventions that can be used in the clinic or on the track! Participants will be able to enhance their physical therapy practice with a running program, running clinics and working with local running teams or groups. Learn to work with everyone from the couch potato and beginner runner to the advanced and higher level collegiate or elite athlete. Please dress comfortably for participation in this active and engaging session.

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
The Funny Thing About Stress
KAY FRANCES, MBA
The Funny Thing About Stress is ideal for hard-working physical therapy professionals who want to be reminded to manage their stress, take care of themselves and remember to laugh! Feeling stressed? Worried about change? It’s Kay Frances, “America’s Funniest Stressbuster” to the STRESS-cue! In this motivational and hilarious presentation, Kay’s humor combined with her expertise in stress management will not only offer useful information, but will show you a rollicking good time in the process. With Kay’s energetic, upbeat presentation, you’ll laugh while you learn without straining your brain. In our frenzied world, we need to be reminded of the importance of managing our stress, keeping our sense of humor and taking care of our health. Kay does this in a way that is second to none! Kay learned the hard way by engaging in every unhealthy habit known to man before making her way back to good health and sanity. It’s humor-with-a-message at its funniest!

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Can Long-Distance Running Prevent or Cause Osteoarthritis?
Scott Euype, PT, DPT, MHS, OCS
Osteoarthritis is the leading cause of musculoskeletal pain in adults in the United States and is often a debilitating condition to the active individual. Running is a very popular recreational activity, with some reports indicating that there are over 65 million recreational runners in the United States. There is much speculation that the physical loading and impact caused by long-distance running on the musculoskeletal system from running can be a causative factor for joint osteoarthritis. This course will provide a review of the literature on long-distance running, and its effects on the human body, in regards to having a causative or preventative effect on osteoarthritis.

Utilizing Technology to Identify and Treat Movement Impairments Related to Sports Injury
Malinda Bragg-Coldsnow, PT, MS, CAFS, CPI, CKTP
Amy Krahe, PT, MPT, OCS
Lori Ross, PT, MPT, CPI, CAF
Learn about the practical application of 3-D motion analysis and slow motion video in a sports medicine physical therapy clinic treating adolescent athletes. Compare video capturing both proper and improper movement patterns of at least three different athletic activities. For each of these examples, therapeutic interventions specific to that activity will be introduced and observable change in movement patterns following eight weeks of training will be illustrated.
Exercise-Induced Neuroplasticity May Modify the Progression of Parkinson’s Disease and Other Neurodegenerative Diseases

Jackie Russell, RN, BSN, CNOR
David Zid, BA, ACE, APG

Incorporate disease-specific exercise and therapy agendas into your practice for the neurologic patient with Parkinson’s disease or Alzheimer’s and observe the neuroplastic effects of targeted rigorous exercise. Neuroplasticity is the brain’s ability to reorganize itself by forming new nerve connections. This is a life-long process that occurs continually as one learns new behaviors, memorizes new data, and as the brain develops. It is a way for the brain to fine-tune itself for efficiency by modifying existing nerve pathways in the brain. Research is showing that exercise enhances this process of neuroplasticity.

Movement During a Later Portion of the Lifespan as Achieved through Community-Based Programs

Sarah Kidd, SPT and Mentor

In the later portion of the lifespan, it is important for the older adult to remain physically and cognitively active to optimize their health and quality of life. This course is a narrative of the evidence behind the effects of exercise programs in this population on physical, cognitive and preventative health, in addition to reduced falls risk. The final portion of this presentation will include an abbreviated “Dance and Movement Exercise” class taught similar to a class taught at a local nursing home. At this time, participants will first-hand experience and learn strategies used to design and implement a fitness curriculum.

Movement and Golf: An Overview to Minimize Dysfunction and Maximize Performance

Michael Martin, PT, MPT, OCS, CGFI-2
Anthony Ganim, PT, MPT, OCS, CGFI
Erik Hemenway, PTA, AT, CGFI-2
Kyle Steinbauer, PT, DPT, OCS, CSCS, CGFI

Do you treat active individuals and golfers of all levels (professional level to novice or recreational)? This course will provide a general overview of the basic postures and movement patterns involved in an efficient, effective golf swing, dysfunctional movement patterns, deficits in postural stability, and potential swing patterns or characteristics that may lead to increased pain or injury as well as poor golf performance. Additionally, general differences in golfers across the lifespan and effective strategies to evaluate and treat these common deficits and tendencies will be discussed. Lastly, the presentation will briefly highlight recommendations for developing a comprehensive golf medicine and performance program to meet the needs of this demographic.
Your dedication to #PTadvocacy is appreciated—we couldn’t do it without you!

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Upcoming Classes:

Additional dates and locations at Upledger.com

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY 1 (CS1)
- Columbus, OH: May 19 - 22, 2016
- Indianapolis, IN: Aug 4 - 7, 2016
- Cincinnati, OH: Sep 8 - 11, 2016
- Ann Arbor, MI: Oct 6 - 9, 2016

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY 2 (CS2)
- Indianapolis, IN: May 12 - 15, 2016
- Cincinnati, OH: Sep 8 - 11, 2016

SOMATOEMOTIONAL RELEASE 1 (SER1)
- Columbus, OH: May 19 - 22, 2016
- Detroit, MI: Sep 22 - 25, 2016

UNWINDING MERIDIANS 1: Applying Acupuncture Principles to CST (UMAC1)
- Indianapolis, IN: Aug 4 - 7, 2016

ADV CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY 1 (ADV1)
- Selma, IN: Nov 8 - 12, 2016

DEVELOPING & DEEPENING CRANIOSACRAL PRESENCE (DDCSP)
- Detroit, MI: Sep 22 - 25, 2016

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Northeast District Report

Lynzie Schulte, PT, DPT – Chair

The Northeast District has a busy 2016 planned. Stay up-to-date on Facebook at Northeast District OPTA, on Twitter by following @NE_Ohio_PT or the OPTA website!

Get excited for:

- **Continuing Education Events**: Three two-hour CEUs and our Fourth Annual Marilyn Mount Case Report Night in early December 2016. CEU events are always free for members to attend and are typically $20 per CEU for non-members!

- **Social Events**: PT Pub Nights throughout the year, Fourth Annual Cleveland Indians Night, Free Clinic Walk, PT Day of Service.

- **Potential Fundraisers**: Wine tasting, ice cream social, bowling, corn hole tournament. Don’t forget, the money raised throughout the year is given back to the district in the form of student scholarships for deserving students who show great promise in the profession!

Thank you to those who finished out their terms with the Northeast District in 2015, Sanaz Holcomb, Deb Riczo and Mary Kay Zane—your service is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to those who have been re-elected or re-appointed to their positions, including Michael Bogden, Brittany Krajewski, Liz Narducci and Mike Russo.

Welcome to the newly elected and appointed members, including Greg Kline, Deb Riczo, Anson Rosenfeldt and Alysha Walter.

Are you interested in getting more involved? Know someone who would make a great leader in the district? District elections and appointments are held in November. Open positions for 2017 will include the following positions: vice-chair, treasurer, director A, education coordinator, PAC coordinator and public relations coordinator. Not ready to commit? Just come to a meeting or an event to learn more about us!

Start planning for Marilyn Mount Case Report Night. Each year, this district event gets bigger and bigger since its creation in 2013. We will be seeking platform and poster submissions of research or case reports done by therapists and students in the area.

Student scholarships are given out at the end of the year with nominations due in October. To qualify you must be an APTA/OPTA member, attend a Northeast District meeting and demonstrate exemplary qualities to become leaders in the profession. We gave out eight scholarships in 2015…will you get one this year?

Thank you so much to all of our sponsors in 2015. Without sponsors, we could not hold our events, provide CEUs or award student scholarships. Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland State University, Genesis Rehab, Leimkuhler Inc., Patterson Medical and South University…we appreciate your dedication to local therapists and students.

For more information, contact Lynzie at: lynziept@gmail.com

Southwest District Report

Kelly Moore, PT, DPT – Chair

The new year brings some announcements and changes for the Southwest District. Bethany Dugan announced she is stepping down from her role as Southwest District chair. I’d like to thank Bethany for serving as our district chair since 2012. We are most appreciative of her time, hard work and dedication! We wish her well as she moves on to pursue other personal and professional endeavors and look forward to having her join us again!

The Southwest District board met for the first time in February to determine a calendar of events for the year. A survey regarding district feedback was sent via email to all Southwest District members—if you have not yet, please complete it by going to http://bit.ly/SouthwestSurvey. We welcome and appreciate your feedback so we can use this information to better serve our district members. We would love to (and need to) hear from you!

Having served OPTA on the district and state level in the past, I am excited and honored to serve as the new Southwest District chair. I look forward to working with all of you and greatly appreciate your support as I assume this new role.

For more information, contact Kelly at: kelly.j.moore@gmail.com
Central District Report
Kyle Schumm, PT – Chair

We have been planning an exciting 2016, and hope you are ready to join us! We are making a few changes to our meeting format to encourage increased attendance and participation from you, the member. We continue to collaborate with our great partners like OhioHealth and National Church Residences to offer you continuing education that matters to you. This summer, look for our second annual Central District Sand Volleyball Tournament to help raise money for the PAC in a crucial election year!

As stated above, our first change is to our bimonthly meeting format. We’ve decided to join them with our bimonthly PT Pub Nights, beginning an hour prior to Pub Night to allow you to provide input or just listen, as we continue to plan out how to best serve you through our events and services. We encourage all of you to try to make it out to a meeting this year, and then hang out with us afterwards. Check the OPTA events calendar online to see when we are coming to a neighborhood pub near you!

Keep your eye out as well to our CE offerings. These are typically free to our members, and are kept at a very low cost to your coworkers and colleagues that have not yet recognized the value of being an OPTA member.

Last year, we had a great sand volleyball tournament that was a great fundraiser for our PAC. In this election year, we hope all of you take this fun opportunity to assist our fundraising efforts. This is a chance to get your family, friends and coworkers out for a few hours of fun in the sun, while supporting your profession.

Sometimes people feel that it is difficult to get involved. Please consider this a personal invite to join the team, as we are always looking for new people to bring ideas, energy and connections to improve the Central District of the OPTA.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

For more information, contact Kyle at: kschumm@brookdale.com

West Central District Report
Sabrina Kaminski, PT – Chair

The West Central District would like to thank everyone who participated in our 2015 events, and we look forward to seeing you in 2016. We would like to recognize those who have attended at least two business meetings/CEU events in 2015.

Jim Cropper Lisa Kohler
Harold Merriman Michael Miller
Susan Nickels Alicia Rose
Keith Rose Greta Shull
Jacquelyn Sluga Heather Stoner
Victoria Strickland Scott Yuppa
Stephanie Vannatta Christopher Wilson

We hope to add to this list and look forward to seeing everyone in 2016.

For more information, contact Sabrina at: sj33@evansville.edu

East Central District Report
Jeff Hohl, PT, DPT – Chair

The East Central District is looking forward to an eventful year in 2016!

In January, the East Central District board met to discuss and plan the upcoming year of events. We have numerous social events in the works, including a wine tasting district meeting at Lil Paws Winery in March and a couple of PT Pub Nights throughout the year. Additionally, we are planning to offer three CEU events this year! Please check the calendar online for more details.

Mark your calendar for August 13, 2016 to join the East Central District at an Ohio Political Action Committee (OPT-PAC) Golf Outing at Deer Creek Golf Course in Hubbard, Ohio. We invite everyone from around Ohio to join us to promote the physical therapy profession. Groups of four will compete in a shotgun start, with food, prizes and $500 to the first hole-in-one! The East Central District would also like to challenge the Northeast District! Bring it on Cleveland! All proceeds will go directly to the OPT-PAC and registration will open online this summer.

For more information, contact Jeff at: jmhohl@gmail.com

Check us out online www.OhioPT.org
Committee and SIG Reports

Practice Chair Report

Alan J. Frame PT, DPT, OCS – Chair

I hope that your year is off to a great start! Being newly assigned to the Practice Chair position, I have been in touch with the APTA Practice Chair component leaders and engaging in new happenings.

Below are a few updates from a recent meeting:

- The APTA continues to update their website with information pertaining to PQRS and new 2016 resources are available.
- APTA’s Board of Directors has provided information to better articulate the definition of "human movement system" as mentioned in the newly adopted APTA Vision Statement. Essentially the definition states that "the human movement system comprises the anatomic structures and physiologic functions that interact to move the body or its component parts." More information is available on the APTA website at http://www.apta.org/MovementSystem/
- Some changes have been made to the evaluation codes under the Physical Therapy Classification and Payment System (PTCPS). The new evaluation codes split the currently-used evaluation code into levels based on severity of the patient’s condition and the intensity/complexity of the services provided. There will be one reevaluation code. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will release the proposed values for the evaluation codes in the proposed Physician Fee Schedule in July 2016. More information is available at the APTA website http://www.apta.org/PTCPS/
- APTA is aware that more and more private payers are looking to cut costs and reduce utilization via third-party administrators. This is referred to as "utilization management" and "utilization review." The APTA is developing a database to track these activities and information should be out in the first half of 2016. Concerns include billing for treatment on the same day as an evaluation and authorization for visits requested. The OPTA and APTA have contacted providers requesting additional information and will continue to work towards finding the most efficient method for authorization.
- As expected, the APTA received many questions related to ICD-10. The most popular questions were related to the use of a seventh character and the code matching that of the referral source. A seventh character does not always have to be used and the codes do not have to match that of the referral source. The APTA has multiple resources related to ICD-10 at http://www.apta.org/icd10/
- Finally, remember that there is a PT/PTA team toolkit e-publication that is available via the APTA website. The publication is a good review that covers a variety of topics including the structure of the team approach and the payment for services from a variety of payers. I encourage those working in this type of venue to take a look, especially newer graduates. It is free for all APTA members.

I look forward to seeing everyone at 2016 Annual Conference!

For more information, contact Alan at: alanjframe@gmail.com

Conference Committee Report

Michelle Losurdo, PT, DPT – Chair

It’s a great time to know OPTA. With this year’s 2016 Annual Conference lineup, enjoy fantastic educational programming, strengthen professional relationships, make new connections, advocate for our profession and interact with businesses that support physical therapy all in one weekend.

2016 Annual Conference will be held April 22-23, 2016 at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel in Columbus, Ohio.

This year, educational sessions offered will be evidence-based programming on “Movement Across the Lifespan.” Enjoy content that ranges from interactive arts technology and exercise-induced neuroplasticity to running, Pilates and even golf!

We are pleased to welcome our keynote speaker, Kay Frances, MBA for “The Funny Thing About Stress” on April 22, 2016 from 3 - 4 p.m. Relax and enjoy this do-not-miss presentation from motivational humorist, Kay Frances. With Kay’s energetic, upbeat presentation, you’ll laugh while you learn. What could be better than that to kick off your Annual Conference Friday evening?

Following the keynote, stick around for Annual Student Challenge from 5 - 6 p.m. It’s a fun, Jeopardy-style game hosted by the OPTA Student Special Interest Group (SSIG) that showcases the knowledge and learning of 12 student teams from across Ohio!

Enjoy fun, food, live music and an open bar at OPTA’s PACcy Hour fundraiser from 6 - 8 p.m. later Friday evening. There’s plenty of time afterward to meet up with friends in downtown Columbus!

New this year in the spirit of “Movement Across the Lifespan”—join your colleagues for morning group fitness programming, strengthen professional relationships, make new connections, advocate for our profession and interact with businesses that support physical therapy all in one weekend.

Annual Conference is our largest gathering of Ohio PT professionals and students. There’s no better time or place to connect with your colleagues from all over this great state. Reserve your spot by registering online by April 14, 2016, and then stay connected on Facebook and Twitter @Ohio_PT using #AC2016.
Committee and SIG Reports

Research Committee Report

Dawn Westfall, PT, MPT & Cathy Bieber Parrott, PT, MS – Co-Chairs

The mission of the Research Committee is to foster evidence-based practice, and the strategic plan initially developed in 2003 set forth four long-term goals that have guided committee activities. These goals focused on promoting research evidence by acknowledging and rewarding investigators, facilitating new research and communicating evidence to Ohio clinicians. The committee has established ongoing activities to fulfill these goals.

Investigators are acknowledged each year at Annual Conference during the Annual Membership Meeting and all projects and investigators are listed in ACCESS and on the OPTA website. The “best” poster and platform projects, based on a blinded peer-review scoring system, are recognized during Scientific Symposium. The committee has awarded up to $10,000 in grants each of the past three years and plans to continue facilitating new research via the grant program.

Evidence pertinent to clinicians was communicated in our newsletter articles and research findings of our grant-funded Ohio investigators have been shared at OPTA's Scientific Symposium and at APTA's Combined Section Meetings by the investigators. With these activities firmly in place, members of the Research Committee feel it is time to reexamine our mission and establish new goals for our next decade of service to our OPTA members. Please contact either co-chair if you have ideas you would like the members to consider. We plan to meet during 2016 Annual Conference to work on our strategic plan revision, so join us if you can. Check the conference website for meeting information.

The Research Committee’s annual call for applications to fund small research projects proposed by Ohio researchers is featured on page 25. For more details regarding the application and submission process, please see the Research page on the OPTA website to download the grant application and guidance documents. Our small grant program typically funds smaller budget projects or partially funds larger projects. The range of requested funds in recent years has been $500 - $2800 with the highest ‘scored’ projects receiving the amount of funding requested until the available money is all awarded. Both PT and PTA clinicians as well as academic researchers are encouraged to submit applications. To continue our goal of increasing research opportunities for clinician investigators, we have a special focus this year for projects designed with a significant clinician and academic investigator collaboration. The deadline to submit is August 12, 2016.

Have you seen the APTA Orthopaedic Section’s request for our input on the developing ICF-Based Clinical Practice Guideline titled, “Pelvic Girdle Pain in the Antepartum Population”? The authors are asking that we read the current draft of the clinical guideline and then use the online survey to provide feedback to improve the guideline. As a reminder, the Orthopaedic Section now has 10 published practice guidelines that provide evidence for our clinical decision making about differential diagnosis, choosing outcome measures and for choosing exam and treatment techniques for our patients. A guideline is now available for patients with neck and low back pain, arthritic and non-arthritic hip conditions, knee ligament, meniscus and cartilage problems and ankle sprain. The heel pain/plantar fasciitis guideline originally developed in 2008 has been updated to incorporate more current evidence.

See you at Annual Conference!

For more information, contact Dawn or Cathy at: westfada@hotmail.com or cbieberparrott@ysu.edu

OPTA RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
Call for Applications

The OPTA Research Committee is pleased to announce the annual call for applications for OPTA’s small grant programs. Projects with substantial collaboration among clinical and academic researchers will receive priority consideration during the 2016 review process. Application forms are available on the OPTA website.

2016 Grant Application Deadline: August 12, 2016

To continue our goal of increasing research opportunities for clinician investigators, we have a special focus this year for projects designed with a significant clinician and academic investigator collaboration. The deadline to submit is August 12, 2016.

Special thanks to the Conference Committee and OPTA staff for the exceptional work they have done to prepare for this year’s Annual Conference.

Get ready for 2016 Scientific Symposium where we will bring back the very popular Research Short for "Gait: Stepping Across the Continuum." Presentation proposals are due by May 21, 2016. You can view the Call for Presentations on the OPTA website and proposals can be submitted online at OhioPT.org > Scientific Symposium. Scientific Symposium will be held October 14, 2016, at the Quest Business Center in Columbus, Ohio.

For more information, contact Michelle at: thelosurdos@yahoo.com
Committee and SIG Reports

Continuing Education Committee Report

Rebecca Leugers, PT – Chair

The Continuing Education Committee has performed twice yearly audits of the continuing education (CE) courses that are approved for continuing education units. We have been very fortunate to have great reviewers who have served us for many years. This year, Carolyn Kisner, PT, MS retired from her position as a CE Reviewer with the OPTA, and the CE Committee wishes her well and thanks her sincerely for her excellent service. Our committee will continue to work closely with Vicky Humphrey, PT and welcomes Kristen Blatt, PT who will serve as a reviewer as we move forward.

The CE Committee has added to its ranks with additional members. Maryann Simon, PT and Vicky Nash, PT join John Borstad, PT, PhD, Barb Hornbeek, PT, David Kujawa, PT, MBA, OCS, Sharon Walsh, PT, DSc, MA, PSC and Dexter Witt, PT, DPT, DHS, OCS, as members of the CE Committee. In addition, the CE Committee is starting an innovative pilot program to include DPT students who may have an interest in developing leadership skills. Students, serving in a non-voting capacity, will have the opportunity to be mentored in the activities related to the CE Committee and upon graduation can transition into full membership on the committee. We are seeking highly-motivated students who are interested in continuing their professional growth through service to the OPTA CE Committee. Please contact me if you are interested.

For more information, contact Rebecca Leugers at: leugerrc@ucmail.uc.edu

Nominating Committee Report

Edie Benner, PT, PhD, MA, OCS – Chair

Read! Read! Read! And Don’t Forget to VOTE!

The Nominating Committee has prepared a slate of extremely knowledgeable therapists that will bring high levels of energy, experience and expertise to your OPTA Board and Ohio delegation.

It is unfortunate that all of the therapists that were slated cannot be elected. The therapists in this state are an amazing group of talented and passionate clinicians and academicians. The Nominating Committee wants to express their sincere appreciation to all therapists that submitted their name to be considered for a position and those who were slated.

I challenge each one of you to read this entire issue of ACCESS to learn more about each candidate. You will be truly amazed at the quality of the candidates running for positions as officers, chairs or delegates. Then, pass this issue around and encourage all of your colleagues and friends to attend the OPTA Annual Membership Meeting at Annual Conference to meet the candidates. At the beginning of the 30-day election period, which begins on Saturday, April 23 after the Annual Membership Meeting, all professional OPTA members will receive an email with login and voting instructions from our partner AssociationVoting.com.

Thank you to Deb Riczo, the former Northeast District Nominating Coordinator, for all you have done as a member! Good luck in your next endeavors. We also want to welcome Alysha Walter, the new Northeast District Nominating Coordinator!

For more information, contact Edie at: ebenner@roadrunner.com

Student/Faculty Affairs Committee Report

Marka Gehrig Salsberry, PT, DPT – Chair

As we round the corner to 2016 Annual Conference, the Student Special Interest Group (SSIG) is in full recruitment mode. This past year, students have shown overwhelming participation in OPTA events including the Leadership Development Conference and OPTA Annual Conference. We hope to continue the steady increase of participation, as this motivated group of students makes impactful strides in raising student awareness.

Among these endeavors is the Student Volunteer Challenge. This mission is designed to bring students together to meet the needs of the underserved. Students compete in teams within their school to provide a variety of community services. The school that logs the most hours wins $250 to donate to their charity of choice. The winner will be announced during the Student Challenge at OPTA Annual Conference. Log your hours before April 1, 2016 to join the cause!

Speaking of Student Challenge, mark your calendars for Friday, April 22, 2016. Student Challenge will take place after conference programing. Show your support as schools across Ohio put their PT knowledge to use by competing to take home bragging rights and the ever-so-coveted “Student Challenge Trophy.”

PT and PTA schools across Ohio—it’s time to sign up for the 2016-2017 School of the Month. We want to feature your school! Students have done an outstanding job presenting their unique program as the School of the Month, in addition to leading our monthly journal club. This is a great way to network with students throughout the state and share what’s happening in your program.

Don’t forget to catch all SSIG, OPTA and APTA student happenings in the “Student Scoop.” The monthly newsletter is a quick synopsis of student events and opportunities that you won’t want to miss.
Also, check out our newly improved website under the “Student” tab on the OPTA website. Here you’ll find details on the School of the Month, Student Challenge, Student Volunteer Challenge, Annual Conference events and other pertinent SSIG occurrences.

Thank you to the student SIG board and the student representatives/SSIG members for your hard work and leadership. If you have any questions or suggestions for the SSIG, please contact myself or members of the student board. Feedback and ideas are always welcome!

For more information, contact Marka at: marka.gehrig@osumc.edu

Ethics Committee Report

Lisa Kohler, PT – Chair

Last issue, I shared the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Athletic Trainers (OTPTAT) Board’s list of disciplinary actions. Several of these would be considered top compliance issues in physical therapy as noted by Ellen Strunk, PT, MS, GCS, CEEAA, in the webinar titled, “Navigating the Regulatory Environment: Ensuring Compliance While Providing Professional Integrity.” Here are the issues and an example of each:

1. Services not medically necessary/care below accepted standards – ex. whirlpool for wounds
2. Services not provided or documented – ex. billing prior to documentation completed
3. Unbundling or upcoding – ex. performing both therapeutic activity and therapeutic exercise in the same 15-minute time frame and billing for both
4. Time documented inconsistent with services billed – ex. documented 40 minutes spent in exercise and billed four units of therapeutic exercise
5. Inappropriate personnel – ex. aide providing service that should only be provided by skilled personnel
6. Provider ID numbers misused – ex. allowing a new clinician to use your number until he/she receives his/her own number
7. Waiving of copays and deductibles

If you are interested in ethics, we are seeking members to serve on the Ethics Committee. You would be involved in meetings and conference calls related to member ethical reviews as needed.

For more information, contact Lisa at: lkohler@cinci.rr.com

PTA Caucus Report

Sanaz Holcomb, PTA – PTA Caucus Representative

We have had an exciting start to 2016 with great events coming up in the OPTA. I hope that 2016 tops the accomplishments of 2015.

First, we have Advocacy Day on April 21, 2016 where you can meet with your legislators and get the training you need to be an effective advocate for the physical therapy profession. Remember that Advocacy Day is free for members! #PTAdvocacy

If you are unable to attend this exciting experience I encourage you to write your legislators using APTA’s Action App or the Legislative Action Center about OPTA’s House Bill 169. Send a prewritten email in 60 seconds by going to www.APTA.org/TakeAction, and then challenge three people to do the same in support of HB 169.

Directly related to PTAs, the OPTA ballot will include a vote on the PTA full vote issue at the state level. All professional OPTA members can cast their vote on this issue online from April 23 - May 22, 2016. I encourage you to use the privilege of being an APTA member to vote on this very important subject matter that will enhance not only PTA voting privileges but also encourage continued PTA involvement and professional growth in the association.

The amendment reads as follows:

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS, Section 4: Quorum and Voting, C. At chapter or section meetings by members of the chapter or section: Each Physical Therapist, Retired Physical Therapist, and Life Physical Therapist, 1 vote; Physical Therapist Assistant, Retired Physical Therapist Assistant, and Life Physical Therapist Assistant member is entitled to one, one-half (1/2) vote; except when chapter or section bylaws provide for a representative body.

I want to see you at OPTA’s two exciting days of Annual Conference in April that will include high-caliber programming, continued education, networking, a fun PAC fundraiser and the Annual Membership Recognition Meeting & Luncheon. Every year I am surprised by the continued learning opportunities and networking that I am able engage myself in during this event. I hope to continue meeting new colleagues and reunite with ones I don’t see often. #AC2016

For more information, contact Sanaz at: sanazarmand@yahoo.com
Committee and SIG Reports

State Affairs Committee Report
Rob Dunham, PT, DPT – Co-Chair

I once heard the president of our organization, Dr. Anthony DiFilippo, comment, “The more involved I get in the organization, the more and more I’m amazed at the amount of work that our organization does for our members.” This article is dedicated to giving you a peek into the activity that the State Affairs Committee does for the profession and OPTA members. I would be remiss not to mention that all of this hard work benefits our members and our prospective members.

Our committee is a passionate and dedicated group of individuals who are committed to moving our organization forward. This group meets monthly by conference call to ensure we are up-to-date on the work that is being carried out in Columbus. We debate the issues and work to form a consensus for our members and lobbyists to present to the state legislators to improve the state of the profession in Ohio. Between our conference calls, we regularly provide opinions and proactively examine the best position for OPTA to take on the many bills that are introduced in the Ohio House and Senate. Many non-committee OPTA members have stepped up to testify in Columbus on our behalf.

The OPTA worked to include the Ohio issues on the APTA Action App allowing you to access information on pertinent federal and state issues from your smartphone. Learn about the issues and take action right from your phone by sending your legislators a pre-written letter or sharing on Facebook or Twitter.

We work closely with OPTA’s Payment Policy Specialist Bob Swinehart on payment and policy issues to continue to fight for fair reimbursement for our services and insurance policies that decrease the administrative burden on our constituents.

We have been working diligently on OPTA’s Advocacy Day, to be held April 21, 2016. This free-for-members legislative event will educate you on OPTA legislation, guide you through scheduled meetings with legislators or their staff and will conclude with a “Libations & Legislation” reception. If you have not signed up, please register online so we can plan to host you at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel and Ohio Statehouse.

We have had several meetings and hearings with the House Commerce and Labor Committee as well as those that have an interest in House Bill 169. We have worked hard to preserve the language in our bill and have met with the interested parties. We believe we are very close to moving this bill forward.

You may be asking yourself, what can I do to help with House Bill 169? Educate yourself, your patients, your friends and your family members on the benefits of House Bill 169, and then take action by writing your legislators. As a member you can use the APTA Action App or OPTA Advocacy webpage, which houses HB 169 talking points, videos and other helpful information.

We could not stay up-to-date and have a voice in Columbus without the amazing work of our lobbyists Amanda and Mikayla and the OPTA office staff! This year is off to a great start and we hope to continue to amaze our president and our constituents with the work that we do and will continue to do to better the physical therapy profession.

For more information, contact Rob at: rdunham66@gmail.com

Be a part of #PTadvocacy
JOIN THE OPTA FOR 2016 ADVOCACY DAY
April 21, 2016 | Columbus, Ohio
Register for this FREE event online
Download the APTA Action App in your Apple or Google Play app store today.

- Legislative Action Center -- Log in to send pre-written letters to legislators
- Chapter PAC -- Donate to the Political Action Committee (PAC)
- Talking Points -- Read about OPTA’s House Bill 169 + view the HB 169 video
- Contact Info -- Email OPTA state affairs leaders
- State Legislator Directory -- Search by your address for your state legislators
- Feedback -- Send OPTA feedback on your legislative activities or questions!

WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS ABOUT HOUSE BILL 169...

THEN CHALLENGE 3 PEOPLE TO DO THE SAME.

#PTadvocacy
## OPTA LEADERSHIP & COMMITTEES

### OPTA Board

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Anthony DiFilippo, PT, DPT, MEd, OCS, CSCS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:anthonydif@gmail.com">anthonydif@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Director I</td>
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### District Chairpersons

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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central District</td>
<td>Kyle Schumm, PT, MS</td>
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<td>East Central District</td>
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<td>Northeast District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest District</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Central District</td>
<td>Sabrina Kaminski, PT</td>
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### OPTA Leadership

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<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief Delegate</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>PAC Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards Committee Chair</td>
<td>Scott Euype, PT, DPT, MHS, OCS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaws/Policies &amp; Procedures Chair</td>
<td>Selena Eskinazi-Budge, PT, DPT, CSCS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:budge2425@gmail.com">budge2425@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE Committee Chair</td>
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