



Candidates for the Delaware Physical Therapy Association Board of Directors

Candidate for President

Stacie Larkin, PT, DPT, MEd, RYT

Candidate for Secretary

David Wilderman, PT, DPT, MSPT

Delegate

Chas Barker, PT, DPT, OCS

Nominating Committee Member

Dana Matthews, PT, DPT

Shawn Schlegel, PT, DPT, COMPT

Position Descriptions

Position: President

Term: 2 years (elected in even numbered years)

May not serve more than 2 consecutive terms

Board vote: Yes

Responsibilities

- The president shall serve as official spokesperson of the chapter.
- Preside over all meetings of the chapter and executive committee.
- Serves an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating and ethics committees.
- Attends CSM, APTA NEXT Conference, and the regional caucus.
- The President or designee shall attend all APTA meetings in which the president's presence is required to represent the chapter.
- Serve as the alternate delegate to the APTA House of Delegates.
- Compile and provide president's agenda items for chapter meetings, submit to executive officer prior to board meeting.
- Coordinate business meeting agenda.
- Compose an annual calendar, including chapter deadlines and events, and distribute at annual meeting.

Position: Secretary

Term: 2 years (elected in even numbered years)

May not serve more than 2 consecutive terms

Board vote: Yes

Responsibilities

- Keep minutes of the proceedings of all executive committee and chapter membership meetings.
- Distribute minutes of executive committee and chapter business meetings to the executive committee, and APTA Board liaison, within 30 days of said meeting.
- Maintain records of official actions of the chapter and executive committee.
- Receive pertinent materials from all special committees and task forces that have been laid down.
- Develop a mechanism for maintaining permanent chapter files and historical data.
- Send all strategic planning programs and reports to the president by deadlines specified in chapter calendar.
- Maintain an updated list of officers, committee chairs, liaisons, including addresses and phone numbers.
- Orient the incoming secretary.

Position: Delegate

Term: 2 years (elected in even numbered years)

May not serve more than 2 consecutive terms

Board vote: No

Responsibilities

- The delegate is responsible for representing the chapter on such matters as are ordered by the executive committee and/or the members of the chapter.
- The delegate is required to attend the APTA House of Delegates, participate in the election of APTA officers, and attend special sessions/meetings/caucuses as appropriate.
- Vote at the APTA House of Delegates in accordance with the policies of the chapter.
- Present information from the APTA House of Delegates to the executive committee and members of the chapter for their information, consideration, discussion, and/or opinion.
- Inform members of motions to be voted on at the APTA House of Delegates. This can be accomplished through e-mail, an update in the Spring DPTA Newsletter, and when feasible a special meeting one month preceding the APTA House of Delegates.
- Orient the new delegate.

Position: Nominating Committee

Term: 3 years (last year serves as chair)

No committee members serves more than two consecutive terms

Elected each year

Board vote: No

Responsibilities

- Seek candidates for vacant offices (through email blasts, website postings, and other marketing strategies) and ascertain their eligibility and qualifications.
- Draft a slate of candidates and present to the Board for their approval.
- Present the official slate of candidates to the membership.
- Report the election results at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter.
- Review voting processes and procedures annually and recommend any necessary changes or updates needed to the Board.
- Orient new nomination committee members.

Candidate for President:**Stacie Larkin, PT, DPT, MEd**

Stacie has been a member of APTA and DPTA since 1988. She received her PT degree from Boston University, her MEd from the University of Delaware and her t-DPT from Widener University. She was the Director of Clinical Education for the University of Delaware's physical therapy program from 1993-2012, and now works as a faculty developer at the University of Delaware's Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning.

Candidate Statement:

It would be an honor to serve as President of the Delaware Physical Therapy Association. Over the past 20 years I have served many roles in the DPTA: secretary, treasurer, vice president, and chief delegate. In addition, I have participated on multiple committees including the events committee, awards committee and nomination committee. Through this involvement I have learned a great deal about all aspects of DPTA and feel that this knowledge will serve me well as president.

As president, I would like to focus on improving our visibility, both within DPTA and outside of DPTA. Within DPTA, I think this is happening by increasing our communications to members through e-newsletters, social media, more frequent updates to the website, and exploring ways to use technology to improve access to chapter meetings and board meetings when time or distance limits members' ability to attend a meeting in person. Regular updates from committees and the executive board can also provide members insight to the work that is being done and potentially inspire others to join a committee or run for an elected position.

Students are another critical group we cannot neglect. Efforts need to persist in reaching out to student PTs/PTAs and communicating what DPTA and APTA is doing for our profession, for them, and for patients. My goal is for students to appreciate the value of membership and invest in their profession by staying members beyond graduation.

I envision increasing our visibility outside of DPTA by getting content published in local newspapers, attending local events, and, when appropriate, open-up our events to non-PTs/PTAs. We did this at our recent Summer Lecture Series and it was a big success.

Candidate for Secretary:

David Wilderman, PT, DPT, MSPT

David has been a member of the APTA since 1984. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware in 1984, MSPT from Beaver College (now Arcadia University) in 1986, and DPT from Boston University in 2006. He spent 15 years in Baltimore, MD, then another 12 years in Shrewsbury, PA where he had a private practice from 2000 to 2011. After relocating back to his home state of DE in 2012, he became a Multi-Site Manager for Physiotherapy Associates, overseeing two clinics in Newark and one in Bear, before re-launching his private practice in Delaware in 2015. David has been active in the MD, PA, and DE PT Associations, and currently serves on the Events Committee for the DPTA.

Candidate Statement:

“I believe that we have much collaborative work to educate the public on our value. We must also bring reimbursement systems into alignment with the vision projected by our profession. I will continue to advocate for the DPTA and help advance our practice in regards to member needs and interests by helping to provide resources that add value to DPTA membership.”

Candidate for Delegate:

Chas Barker, PT, DPT, OCS

Chas is currently a full-time physical therapist at American Therapy and Rehabilitation in Dover, DE. He is also contracted as a PRN therapist for Bayhealth’s Kent Campus. Chas is a board-certified orthopaedic clinical specialist and a certified clinical instructor through the APTA. Last spring, he enjoyed working as a lab instructor for UDPT’s Electrotherapy course. He is a member of the APTA’s Orthopaedic, Neurology and Private Practice sections. On the state level, he recently began serving as the DPTA’s newsletter editor. “In my experience, physical therapists and physical therapy assistants tend to be very altruistic members of the healthcare community. This serves us well in the clinic with our patients; however, this does not get us very far in the advancement of our profession. At this critical time, we need to exhibit the tenacity and moral conviction that is necessary to bring about meaningful change in the healthcare system. We are uniquely trained and thus qualified to assess the likely impact of movement impairments as they relate to a person’s functional mobility, quality of life, participation in the community, success in the workplace, etc. Furthermore, our body of knowledge allows us to provide evidence-based, cost-effective rehabilitation and wellness services.

Candidate Statement:

If we are not proactive in promoting the profession, and I dare say, “marketing our product,” then we will be doing ourselves, our patients and ultimately society at large a huge disservice. Theodore Roosevelt reportedly said, “In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.” With that said, I do not want to be guilty of doing nothing. That is why I am pleased to be running for this position with the DPTA so that I can assist our excellent state leadership with doing the right things that will advance physical therapy in Delaware.”

Candidate for Nominating Committee: Shawn Schlegel, PT, DPT, COMPT

Shawn is originally from Wilmot, a very small community in the heart of Amish country, in Ohio. He pursued his Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy from The Medical College of Ohio/Bowling Green State University in 2001. He continued to pursue specialization through Maitland-Australian Physiotherapy Seminars and in 2007 Shawn became a Certified Orthopedic Manual Therapist (COMT). Primary skills lie in hands on techniques such as joint mobilization and manipulations. Shawn initiated his Transitional Doctorate of Physical Therapy through the University of St. Augustine, and completed the degree through Evidence In Motion in 2010. He has recently acquired his Certified Myofascial Trigger Point Therapist (CMTPT) in Dry Needling from Myopain Seminars February, 2018.

Shawn has provided physical therapy in Florida, Ohio, Delaware, and North Carolina. Through his travels he has been adjunct lecturer at Indian River Community College in FL, Walsh University in Ohio, and Delaware State University in Delaware. His primary focus of care has been in orthopedics, spinal care, sports rehab, and chronic pain. Shawn is knowledgeable of occupational health and rehab through WorkSteps.

When Shawn isn't working, he enjoys spending time outside, particularly, motorcycle riding, fishing, canoeing, hiking, archery and cookouts with his wife, daughters and family dog.

Candidate Statement:

I am looking to provide a positive experience and give back to our physical therapy community and members of the DPTA.

Candidate for Nominating Committee: Dana Matthews, PT, DPT

I am originally from northern New Jersey and lived briefly in Virginia, but now reside in Newark, DE. I received my Doctorate in Physical Therapy in 2016 from the University of Delaware (UD), and am now working on my Doctorate of Philosophy at UD, which I hope to complete in 2020.

Candidate Statement:

As a PhD student and graduate researcher in the Biomechanics and Movement Sciences Program, I am heavily involved in clinical and translational research. My research focuses on how physical activity affects disease and symptom progression in persons with (or at risk for) knee osteoarthritis. In addition to performing research, I also work as a per diem physical therapist at the Delaware Physical Therapy Clinic and as a teaching assistant in several PT classes.

Over the past few years, I have been afforded several opportunities to advance the PT profession as an APTA mentor, APTA-certified clinical instructor, and ad hoc peer reviewer for Arthritis Care & Research. Therefore, I am incredibly excited at the opportunity to increase my involvement in the DPTA, and hope to be elected as a member of the DPTA's nominating committee. This is an outstanding opportunity for us identify emerging leaders that will, in turn, continue the advancement of our profession.