

**President's Message**

*Rick Wickstrom, PT, DPT, CPE, CME*

We are facing new challenges and uncertainties in the wake of COVID-19. After record-setting “in-person” attendance at CSM 2020, our new normal will be a “virtual” CSM experience in 2021. On the same day that APTA made this announcement, a friend shared this healing message of comfort with me:

*Be aware of opportunities presenting in your life and trust that they are appearing for a good reason. Take up these opportunities with trust and faith that they are for your betterment and will help you to achieve long-term success.*

This prompted me to consider embracing these challenges as opportunities in our mission to empower members to excel in occupational health. We can accomplish more by working together with a common vision to optimize movement, musculoskeletal health, and work participation from hire to retire:

- Our Practice Committee led by Lorena Payne (Chair) has nearly completed our evidence-based Work Rehab Clinical Practice Guideline. There will soon be an opportunity for OHSIG members to provide peer review feedback of this foundational document. If this interests you, please connect with Lorena Payne (lpettet@aol.com) by email.
- Our Research Committee led by Marc Campo (Chair) is forging ahead with our strategic initiative to create an advanced educational credential to qualify and promote occupational health professionals with advanced competencies. This will be a COVID-friendly virtual learning experience that combines an independent

study course (ISC) with a peer review component for credentialing. There are opportunities for OHSIG members to serve on the steering subcommittee, as well as authors to create our educational modules. If this interests you, please email a description of your background to Rick Wickstrom (rwickstrom@orthopt.com) or Marc Campo (mcampo@mercy.edu).

- Our Membership Committee led by Caroline Furtak (Chair) is launching our strategic initiative to establish OHSIG members to serve as state key contacts for payment policy inquiries and make presentations related to occupational health practice. If this interests you, please send an email to our OHSIG Vice President, Steve Allison (sallisondpt@fcxpt.com) or Caroline Furtak (ckfurtak@gmail.com).
- Our Membership Committee led by Cory Blickenstaff (Chair) and Peter McMenamin (Vice Chair) is meeting on a regular basis to reshape our Current Concepts document on “The Role of the Physical Therapist in Occupational Health”. We look forward to publishing this work product in the next edition of *OPTP*.
- Our Nominating Committee members Katie McBee (Chair), Michelle Despres, and Jeff Paddock are doing a great job of inspiring new leaders as well as supporting the above initiatives.

We invite OHSIG members to participate in our initiatives as well as discussions on our Occupational Health SIG Facebook Page. Let us know your needs, or simply share your story about how your practice is taking the opportunity to innovate in response to COVID-19. We are better together!

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ELECTIONS**

Voting will take place in November for the following positions:

**Occupational Health SIG:**

- 1 Nominating Committee Member

**Foot & Ankle SIG:**

- 1 Nominating Committee Member

**Pain SIG:**

- 1 Vice President/Education Chair
- 1 Nominating Committee Member

**Performing Arts SIG:**

- 1 Nominating Committee Member

**Animal Physical Therapy SIG:**

- 1 Vice President/Education Chair
- 1 Nominating Committee Member

**Imaging SIG:**

- 1 Vice President/Education Chair
- 1 Nominating Committee Member

**Orthopaedic Residency/Fellowship SIG:**

- 1 Vice President/Education Chair
- 1 Nominating Committee Member



Watch for the e-blast announcements in early November and take the time to vote!