

APTA / Colorado Chapter Elects New Officers – Pictured above during installation of officers are Linda Csiza, PT, DSc, MS, Parker, Delegate at Large; Linda Hannen, PT, MHS, Greenwood Village, Nominating Committee; Ira Gorman, PT, MSPH, Evergreen, Chief Delegate-Elect; Kim Bozich, PT, MS, Highlands Ranch, Director at Large. Not pictured is Amy Stone, PT, DPT, CSCS, Boulder, who was re-elected as Treasurer. All will take office on July 1.

Consent to Serve Questionnaire Responses

DELEGATE AT LARGE (OR ALTERNATE) TO HOUSE OF DELEGATES / 2007

by Linda Csiza, PT, DSc, MS

**Clinical Instructor, Physical Therapy Program, University of Colorado at Denver
and Health Sciences Center, Denver**

1) Why do you feel qualified to serve in the above position?

I am happily applying for the Delegate at Large position in the Colorado Chapter of the APTA. I have been fully involved in the clinical aspect of our profession since my graduation from PT school. I have had many opportunities within the profession to experience multiple aspects of clinical care. I am also now involved in teaching in a DPT program which has allowed me to further my professional experience. I am now ready to become more involved in the professional organization of the APTA, both at the local chapter level and the national level. I feel that my eclectic clinical experience and now my teaching experience have provided me with much knowledge about the PT profession. With this level of knowledge, I will be able to work within the professional organization to continue to assist in the growth and development of the PT profession.

2) Why do you want to serve in the above position?

Our professional organization is involved in many different areas of the PT profession. I would like to actively contribute to the efforts of advancing our profession toward the doctoral level of practice. At this time, the APTA's Vision 2020 is driving the profession toward the next level. I would like to assist with this effort in order to continue to strengthen our profession.

3) List committees / projects that take up your time.

I am a member of the Research Committee at the state level. I am also currently on the committee for the Bob Doctor Memorial Golf Tournament and Fundraiser. Several of my colleagues and I will be presenting part of the educational content at the Colorado State Spring Conference. I am also involved in the reformation of the Balance and Falls SIG in the Neuro Section of the APTA.

4) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Colorado Chapter? Are there any improvements you would like to make?

The strengths of the Colorado Chapter include the dedication towards strong educational programs at both the Fall and Spring Conferences. The Colorado Chapter also has a strong presence in working with the legislature on promoting the passing of bills beneficial to the PT profession and those individuals who benefit from the PT profession. The Colorado Chapter is also active in encouraging student involvement from the local DPT programs.

The weakness of the Colorado Chapter (I am at fault for this) is the lack of diversity of involvement from the PT community and the University of Colorado. I think those of us at CU have fallen down on our duty to become wholly involved in our local professional organization. This is a guiding reason for my seeking a position within the state chapter of the APTA. Both Regis and CU have very influential individuals at the local and national level. It would benefit our state organization for both schools to have representation and interaction within the organization.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

by Linda Hannen, PT, MHS

Assistant Director of Clinical Education, Physical Therapy Program, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, Denver

1) Why do you feel qualified to serve in the above position?

I have been a member of the APTA since the mid 1970s and know many physical therapists in the region. I also have met many physical therapists in the state through my work with the University of Colorado

2) Why do you want to serve in the above position?

I have been an active APTA member for many years and have just recently begun to be involved with committee work again. About time, I think.

3) List committees / projects that take up your time.

- APTA Education/Professional Development Committee
- Clinical Educator's Forum
- UCDHSC PT Alumni Association

4) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Colorado Chapter? Are there any improvements you would like to make?

Strengths:

- Strong organization
- Excellent leadership
- Strong lobbying efforts

Weaknesses:

- Need increased effort to encourage student attendance at Spring and Fall Conferences (allow students to attend for cost of food)

CHIEF DELEGATE-ELECT

by Ira Gorman, PT, MSPH

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Physical Therapy, Regis University, Denver

1) Why do you feel qualified to serve in the above position?

My talents include my experience as a board member of other not-for-profit organizations and my administrative experience as a clinic owner for more than 15 years and a clinic director for a large for-profit corporation for six years. I have worked in hospitals, private practice, and a for-profit corporate and now in an academic setting and have been successful in each area. I have been a member of the Board of Trustees of the national APTA PT-PAC

since 2003 and now serve as the chair. These various experiences give me a perspective from the many situations that physical therapists practice in and would allow me to serve our members from each of their perspectives and work situations. I served as a delegate in 2005 and will be a delegate in 2006 and will use this experience to be a competent Chief Delegate for Colorado.

2) Why do you want to serve in the above position?

I have been a physical therapist for over 24 years and have been passionate about my profession from the beginning. I have maintained my membership in APTA since I initially joined as a student in 1977. I have always felt very strongly that in order for our profession to grow and function in the 21st century, we must have a committed, knowledgeable and sizable representative membership. I feel that a major priority of all the components is to increase membership, especially by retaining student members who become licensed physical therapists. I stress to my students the benefits of membership in APTA, and role model with my faculty colleagues the importance of being an involved member of our association. We incorporate APTA activities and resources into our students' education so that they are exposed to the necessity of being a member early on and therefore, the carryover will continue once they graduate. I also incorporate policy activities into coursework and encourage political action by our students through legislative advocacy projects and my work with PT-PAC. Events like the recent Capitol Hill rally can only inspire students and the success of our lobbying efforts will motivate students and practicing therapists to join and support APTA. I was able to encourage five students from our program and three students from the University of Colorado to attend the rally and join us on the legislative visits.

3) List committees / projects that take up your time.

The Federal Affairs Liaison position and the Chapter Government Affairs Committee take up a lot of my time in addition to my PhD work and academic responsibilities at Regis. My term as a trustee of PT-PAC expires this June so that will free me up a bit to perform this duty.

4) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Colorado Chapter? Are there any improvements you would like to make?

The strength of the Colorado Chapter is a long tradition of solid leadership and experience at the Board and Executive level. This experience enables us to mentor new members and have consistency over time. We have much experience in our state and even if some members are no longer as active as they once were, we must call on them as needed for guidance and counsel.

We must also recognize and embrace this time of change for our profession and move toward vision 2020. This includes all avenues of autonomous practice and the encouragement and support of our members to practice at the doctoral level and as a primary entry point for patients into the health care system. We must work hard to obtain legislative and consumer support for these goals and expect that this process will take many years but it should be a steady, strong and consistent effort.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

by Kim Bozich, PT, MS
Physical Therapist, Highlands Ranch

1) Why do you feel qualified to serve in the above position?

I am qualified to serve as Director at Large for the Colorado Chapter because I am enthusiastic about our profession and devoted to representing our members. I have been actively involved in the Governmental Affairs Committee since 2000 and the Political Action Committee since 2003. My involvement in the “politics” behind what we do as physical therapists and physical therapy assistants has deepened my devotion to our profession of Physical Therapy.

2) Why do you want to serve in the above position?

I believe the position of Director at Large provides a great opportunity to become involved in the improvements and developments of our Colorado Chapter. As a Transitional DPT student, I believe I can make a difference in the Colorado Chapter by embracing the APTA Vision of 2020.

3) List committees / projects that take up your time.

Governmental Affairs Committee
Colorado PT- PAC (Political Action Committee) –Chair
Transitional DPT student at Regis University

4) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Colorado Chapter? Are there any improvements you would like to make?

The strengths of the Colorado APTA chapter include but are not limited to: (a) promoting and implementing the Vision of 2020 in Colorado, (b) excellent motivating leaders, and (c) active participation of the members as volunteers and mentors. Unfortunately, the weaknesses continue to resonate year after year with low APTA membership, although I believe it has improved over the past few years. Also, I know the Chapter has been challenged with fundraising this past year, compared to years past. I hope to “raise the bar” in these efforts and continue to promote the benefits of APTA on a state and local level.

TREASURER

By Amy Stone, PT, DPT, CSCS
Physical Therapist, Boulder

1) Why do you feel qualified to serve in the above position?

I am uniquely qualified for the position of Treasurer after receiving a Bachelors degree in Business including a double major in Finance and Accounting. I spent several years working for Ernst & Young LLP as a Public Auditor in which I worked on financial reports relating to small businesses to Fortune 500 companies.

2) Why do you want to serve in the above position?

The position of Treasurer on the Colorado APTA Board of Directors attracts me not only because of my financial background and accounting experience, but also my continued interest to serve in my professional association. I have a deep sense of commitment to the mission of the APTA. My involvement stems from the belief that the participation of our members will create a strong and unified force for the profession of physical therapy.

3) List committees / projects that take up your time.

I am currently serving as Treasurer on the Executive Committee of the Colorado APTA Board of Directors. My volunteer interest in the APTA started in graduate school when I had

the opportunity to serve as Treasurer of the National Student Assembly Board of Directors. This experience enabled me to participate in many of the national conferences for several years such as Component Leadership Seminar, Government Affairs Forum, Annual Conferences, Combined Sections, and Student Conclaves. From these experiences I was able to assist with the initiation of the APTA Colorado Chapter's Student Special Interest Group where I served as Vice President. I currently am working full time in a PhD program that has emphasis in clinical research. I believe that clinical research is an important element for the future of physical therapy. In addition, I am an Affiliate Faculty at Regis University's Doctorate of Physical Therapy program in Denver, Colorado and practice as a contract physical therapist across the Denver metro area. In December 2003, I graduated from Regis University in the first transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy class in Colorado.

4) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Colorado Chapter? Are there any improvements you would like to make?

I would like to give Colorado APTA Chapter members more information and opportunities to get involved with their professional association. The organization is a wonderful vehicle for networking with peers. I believe this professional socialization must start from an early entry point into the profession. I recognize the importance of physical therapists networking within the profession as well as in the healthcare field. Another area where the Colorado APTA Chapter needs growth is in the involvement of the many discipline areas of physical therapy such as acute care, pediatrics, neurology, and rural/home health. The diversity of the professionals in Colorado makes this task difficult yet not unattainable. With a diverse member base, we can better represent the needs and interests of physical therapists in Colorado. As a profession we need to continue to advance our clinical and outcomes research. The Chapter's growth in supporting improved reimbursement and continued strong lobbying efforts at a state and national level will be assisted by high quality research initiatives that ultimately support the professional role of the physical therapist in our communities.