



WELCOME TO THE SSIG NEWSLETTER!

Student Special Interest Group
Connecticut Physical Therapy Association



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Congratulations to our officers who have been slated as candidates of APTA Student Assembly!



TOM DENNINGER CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT

“Only passions, great passions, can elevate the soul to great things.” (Denis Diderot) I choose to run for Vice President because I share the passion of the Student Assembly and believe that this passion for physical therapy, along with our shared respect for the profession, can elevate it to great things. As physical therapists innovate the practice with direct access and function as experts in movement disorders, we must present a unified voice with PTAs for the promotion of our profession.

The Student Assembly serves to enhance the experiences of students and bridge the gap to practitioner by connecting them in their common interest for the betterment of the PT community. We are becoming therapists and assistants with a strong vested interest in our practice; a goal of the Student Assembly should be to ensure that we do not lose these values.

I currently serve as President of Sacred Heart University’s Student Physical Therapy Association and as liaison to the Connecticut Student Special-Interest Group and the Student Assembly. These roles, along with the experience of playing collegiate football, have taught me that goals are reachable when pursued with the belief that they can be achieved. I believe the great goals of the Student Assembly are achievable and the best days of physical therapy are ahead of us. Thank you.



JENNIFER ZALESKIE CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR

It is an honor to be slated as candidate for director for the 2007-2008 term by the Student Assembly Nominating Committee. I would like to contribute to the Student Assembly Board’s continued success in achieving its goals and objectives along with developing and implementing new ones. The Student Assembly represents the voice of PT and PTA students. As Director, I would encourage your ideas and input. The SA Pulse, “for the students, by the students,” provides SPT and SPTA’s with a means of communication on a national level as well as vital information on the most current happenings in the PT profession.

As editor and publisher of the Connecticut SSIG’s quarterly newsletter, I have gained the experience necessary to produce an effective means of facilitating communication and exchange of information among students and other physical therapy professionals. In addition to my responsibilities as a DPT student at Quinnipiac University, I have served as President and Vice President of the Connecticut Chapter SSIG, Treasurer of Quinnipiac’s PT Club, Quinnipiac’s student coordinator for the Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge, student liaison to the APTA, and on the Election Committee at the APTA House of Delegates. I was also the recipient of the APTA Student Assembly’s Outstanding Student Liaison Award.

Thank you for this opportunity to be an active part of the Student Assembly, continue my enthusiasm for the profession, and represent you as Director.

1st Annual SSIG Softball Tournament!

Sean O'Reilly, SPT, Sacred Heart University



We're approaching the month of October which is known for Major League Baseball (MLB) and its finalization of pennant races. Along with the Yankees and Red Sox rivalry heating up while heading into the post season. But what about April? Where the real teams compete in support for a great organization and cause. Most important school bragging rights. While MLB was in the pre-season and just picking their bats up off the ground, the first annual SSIG softball tournament was in full swing.

There was a an impressive turnout of 5 teams from Quinnipiac University (QU) including "The Need to Know's", "The

Manipulators", "Evil Cerebrals", "Hydrocollators", and "The Hot Pack", one team from Sacred Heart University (SHU) known as "The Mobilizers", and one team made up of Alumni called the "PT Geeks and Friends". The "The Need to Know's" lead by their all star catcher, Professor Ed Tantorski, a QU neuroanatomy professor, took away the crown with an impressive win in the finals over the "PT Geeks and Friends". "The Mobilizers" rounded out the top teams coming in third.

All around it was a fun day with exciting coed softball action and a great barbeque provided by the SSIG for all participants. The SSIG would like to thank Melissa Corriveau, SSIG Advisor, for all her help in coordinating the tournament and for her barbequing expertise, and all the participants who came in support. We hope to expand with more teams and support for this upcoming year.

CPTA FALL CONFERENCE

What a better way to bring in the Fall than the 2007 CPTA Fall Conference?
Come join other students and clinicians in Connecticut in a two-day event!
October 12th and 13th at the Holiday Inn in Waterbury, CT.

NEW THIS YEAR

Saturday morning roundtables with hot topics such as tDPT/DPT, Direct Access and Medicare requirements in Homecare. Scott Ward, APTA President, will facilitate one of the roundtables and give the Keynote Address during the Saturday Luncheon. 6 CEHs awarded each day.

Don't Forget About The Annual CPTA Luau! Friday Night, October 12th in the CT Grand Ballroom.

PRESENTATIONS

Improving Clinical Decision Making with Evaluation and Treatment of the Cervical Spine / [Introduction to Utilizing a New 24 Adult Foot Type Classification System](#) / Getting a Leg up on Compliance / [Promoting Direct Access in Your Communities](#) / The use of a Classification System for the Treatment of Adults with Acute/Sub acute Low Back Pain / [Prosthetic Rehabilitation for Older Adults: A Case based Update](#) / Fall Risk Assessment, Prevention and Multifactorial Treatment Interventions for Elderly Nursing Home Residents / [Development, Testing, Application, and Examples of Clinical Prediction Rules](#) / Documentation and Reimbursement for Aquatic Physical Therapy / [Pharmacology for Physical Therapy: Cardiac Medications](#) / Platform Presentations

MOCK HOUSE OF DELEGATES . . .

Jennifer Virga, SPT & Jennifer Zaleskie, SPT, Quinnipiac University

On April 20th, 2007, Quinnipiac University's MPT class of '07 and DPT class of '08 participated in a mock House of Delegates (HOD). The mock HOD followed the same parliamentary order as APTA's HOD. Barney Poole, PT, MEd, ATC, who was Vice Speaker of the House for the APTA at the time, served as Quinnipiac's Speaker of the House; Cindy Lacouturee, PT, MA, Chief Delegate – CT, served as the Vice Speaker; and Quinnipiac professor Katherine Harris, PT, MS, Delegate – CT, served as the Recorder/Secretary.

The 47 students were grouped representing eight different states to include Alaska, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, and Texas (dressed according to state). Each state created a new motion or made an amendment to an existing APTA articles. Seconding by another state was required before any motion could be heard on the floor.

Among the eight motions on the agenda for the mock HOD, the motion that created the most discussion was QU 05-07 Consideration of Minimal Clinical Education Standards for Program Accreditation. There was much debate over how a fair standard would be passed to accommodate a variety of established programs. Debate lasted longer than that of any other motion of the day. Discussion on this matter ended when the motion was deferred to the Board of Directors.

The following motions were passed at the QU mock House of Delegates: QU 02-07 Amendment Student Provision of Services (Hawaii), 03-07 Licensure Renewal: Continuing Education Minimal Requirements (New York), QU 06-07 Adoption of Mandatory Accreditation Program For All Clinical Instructors (Nevada), QU 07-07 Investigation of the Concept of Transitional/ Provisional/ Restricted Licensure in Development of Clinical Education Models (Georgia), and QU 08-07 Physical Therapy for School Children (Alaska). Failed motions included QU 01-07 Amendment of Article IV. Membership, Section 1 (North Carolina) and 04-07 Guidelines for Clinical Education Sites (Colorado).

QU 01-07 essentially wanted to create an umbrella membership for colleges and universities so that all students at that school would have access to the benefits of the APTA without being an individual member. (Failed)

QU 04-07 proposed that Guidelines: Clinical Education Sites (HOD G06-93-27-52) be amended by substitution: 8.0 Selected support services are available to student and must include a stipend to support transportation funds for students if they live 20 miles or further from the clinical education site. (Failed)

QU 02-07 concluded that the degree of supervision that is necessary for each student physical therapist should be determined on an individual basis by the clinical instructor or supervising physical therapist. (Passed)

QU 06-07 proposed that by 2015, all clinical instructors must be accredited by the APTA Clinical Instructor Education and Credentialing Program. Nevada also proposed that to remain a clinical instructor, recertification must be completed every five years. (Passed)

QU 03-07 Licensure Renewal: Continuing Education Minimal Requirements proposed a set of minimal clinical education requirements for licensed practitioners to amend the current APTA standard.

QU 07-07 In Georgia's proposal, Investigation of the Concept of Transitional/ Provisional/ Restricted Licensure in Development of Clinical Education Models, they suggested that the APTA consider a "feasibility study" with pre-set timelines to change the physical therapy clinical education model to a residency model to include a comprehensive pre-board examination and temporary/restricted licensure.

QU 08-07 Alaska proposed that physical therapy programs be placed in schools at all levels to increase awareness of physical therapy-related issues. Parameters were suggested to include but not be limited to scoliosis/postural screenings and health/wellness/fitness programs. The intent of the proposal being to help physical therapy services to become more accessible to school-age children in a variety of different areas.

Overall, the day brought a valuable experience to the students of QU's PT program. With the professional guidance brought by Barney Poole, Cindy Lacouturee, and Kathy Harris along with Quinnipiac professors Linda Bedard, Ed Tantorski, and Donald Kowalsky who at on the board of directors and provided valuable input, students were able to engage in debate regarding a series of currently relevant issues.

The SSIG wants to hear from you! Submit articles to appear in the next SSIG newsletter to ct.ssig@gmail.com

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Board of Directors:

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 Secretary - Dina Paschalidis - paschalidisk@sacredheart.edu
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 UConn - Colleen McCullough
 U of Hartford - Elizabeth Fisk - efisk@hartford.edu
 U of Hartford - (open)

ONLINE RESOURCES

Connecticut
 Physical Therapy Association
www.ctpt.org

American
 Physical Therapy Association
www.apta.org



Call for Liaisons!

The board is currently seeking students interested in becoming a liaison. There are positions available at NVCC and UHart. This is your opportunity to take an active role in the SSIG, enhance your resume, make essential contacts, and open the door for success.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact any of the officers.

CALANDER OF EVENTS

September 12, 2007 - CPTA Golf Tournament - Oxford, CT

September 25, 2007- SSIG Meeting 7:30 pm University of Hartford

October 12-13, 2007 - CPTA Annual Conference, Holiday Inn, Waterbury, CT

October 26-28, 2007 - National Student Conclave- Valley Forge, PA

November 6, 2007- SSIG Meeting 7:30pm UCONN

November 16-18, 2007- APTA's Preview 2020- Phoenix, AZ

December 4, 2007 - SSIG Elections/Holiday Party 7:00pm QU