

SSIG Spring Newsletter



Connecticut
Physical Therapy
Association

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Student Special Interest Group Connecticut Physical Therapy Association

Meet the New Officers!

Jennifer Hirsch, *President* Quinnipiac University

Jennifer Hirsch is a third year DPT student at Quinnipiac University. She is currently the President of the Student Special Interest Group (SSIG) for the Connecticut Physical Therapy Association (CPTA). Jennifer is also Connecticut's Core Ambassador to the new APTA student communication network called The Loop. In addition, she is also the Graduate Assistant for the Fitness Center at Quinnipiac. She attended the National Student Conclave (NSC) in October of 2009 and was slated for the position of Director for the Student Assembly and just recently went to the Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in February. Jennifer is originally from Schwenksville, Pennsylvania and is an APTA student member.



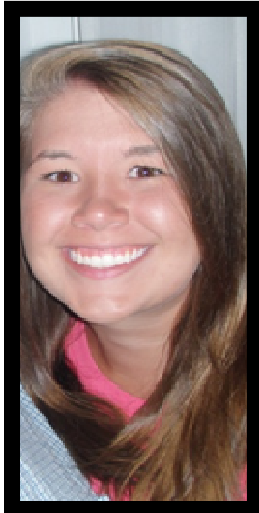
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Patrick Buckley, *Vice President* Sacred Heart University

Patrick Buckley is a second year DPT student at Sacred Heart University. He is currently the Vice President of the SSIG for the CPTA. He is currently the graduate assistant for the RISE (Reaching Independence Through Supported Education) program through the Continuing Educational Services of Trumbull CT. In addition, he is also a licensed and certified Athletic Trainer who has worked for the Bridgeport Bluefish and is still actively involved in secondary school per-diem work in the surrounding Bridgeport area. On his free time, he enjoys volunteering at St. Theresa's Parish in Trumbull CT as one of their two Youth Ministers. Patrick is originally from Weymouth, Massachusetts and is currently active APTA and NATA member.



Cortney Hansen, *Secretary*
University of Hartford

Cortney Hansen is a first year DPT student at the University of Hartford. She is currently the Secretary of the Student Special Interest Group (SSIG) for the Connecticut Physical Therapy Association and is also the President of University of Hartford's Physical Therapy Student Association. She attended the National Student Conclave in October of 2009 and is a current APTA student member. Cortney is originally from Woodstock Valley, Connecticut.

Ellen Wagner, *Director*
Sacred Heart University

Ellen Wagner is a second year PT student and is currently serving as the External Affairs Liaison for the SHU Student Physical Therapy Association. Ellen grew up in Chicago, IL and graduated from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 2007 with a BA in Biology. At UNC, Ellen was a member of Alpha Phi Omega, national co-ed service fraternity, and a participant in Relay for Life and the Orange County Special Olympics. After graduating, Ellen spent a semester at UNC continuing PT related coursework and working on a research project that involved aquatic therapy for individuals with cerebral palsy. Ellen is currently a member of the APTA and looks forward to becoming more involved in the association as well as the CPTA.



Cozette Hanegan, *Treasurer*
Sacred Heart University

Cozette Hanegan is a third year DPT student at Sacred Heart University who moved all the way from Waco, TX. She currently holds the positions Secretary of the Student Special Interest Group (SSIG) for the Connecticut Physical Therapy Association (CPTA), and Vice President of Sacred Heart's Council of Graduate Students (COGS). In addition, she is also the Administrative/Education Graduate Assistant for the Sacred Heart Physical Therapy Department. In her spare time she enjoys relaxing and having fun with her husband and PT family.

"Learn to pause...or nothing worthwhile will catch up to you." –Doug King

American Physical Therapy Association

www.apta.org



Connecticut Physical Therapy Association

www.ctpt.org



**Connecticut
Physical Therapy
Association**

Are You in The Loop?

The Student Assembly Board of Directors and Nominating Committee (the APTA student governing body) have been hard at work. My name is Mark Shepherd and I am the Vice President of the Student Assembly as well as a third year DPT student at Sacred Heart University.

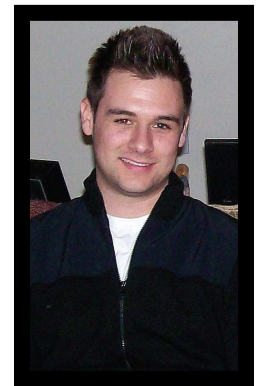
If you do not already know, the Student Assembly is restructuring the communication network to APTA student members. The new communication network/involvement vehicle is called The Loop. The Loop will provide higher levels of involvement and communication between the Student Assembly Board, the APTA, chapters, sec-

tions, and PT/PTA students. Below is an illustration explaining how the communication of The Loop will work. The Student Assembly Board of Directors (SABoD) is the center of The Loop, the Core Ambassadors are the SABoD's go to liaisons when information needs to be passed down or retrieved, and the Reps are the link between the Core Ambassadors and the student body. A Core Ambassador will be responsible for passing along important information to the Reps within each state. A Rep serves as the liaison between the Core Ambassadors and students at each respective program. The SABoD would like to have one Core Ambassador per state and

one Rep established per PT/PTA accredited programs.

The Student Assembly is very excited about this new way to get involved in the student assembly. Read the Pulse or contact me or Jennifer Hirsh for more information on ways YOU can get involved in The Loop.

- Mark Shepherd,
SHU



2010 CPTA Education Fund Scholarship Winners

John O'Donnell PT Scholarship

Beata Hryniewicz, a PT student at the University of Connecticut, has been selected as the 2010 John O'Donnell PT Scholarship Award Winner. Beata has demonstrated academic excellence as well as leadership at UCONN and in the community. Beata plans to graduate in May 2012. Beata is a firm believer in evidence based practice and has demonstrated this through starting Journal Clubs in the community around her. Congratulations on all your achievements Beata!

Minority PT Scholarship

Patrick Buckley has been chosen as the 2010 Minority PT Scholarship award winner. Patrick is currently a PT student at Sacred Heart University anticipating graduation in 2011. Patrick demonstrates academic and leadership excellence. Patrick hopes to become a "life-long" learner and promote active learning in the clinic environment. Best of luck in your future endeavors Patrick!

PTA Scholarship

Marlene Scerrato, a PTA student at Naugatuck Valley Community College, has been chosen as the 2010 PTA Scholarship Award Winner. Marlene plans to graduate in December of 2010. Marlene seeks to focus her abilities on injury prevention and wellness and represent one of the APTA priorities for therapists to be "providers of fitness, health promotion, wellness and risk reduction". Marlene has developed herself as a leader at Naugatuck Valley Community College and in her community. Congratulations Marlene on all your accomplishments!

Combined Sections Meeting 2010: San Diego

Attending the APTA Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in San Diego this past February as a student was a privileged experience. I was surrounded by about 8,000 people who were all there for one common reason; to become more knowledgeable as a PT professional, helping aid in advancing the profession to achieve Vision 2020. While at CSM, students and professionals are able to attend sessions throughout the day from the 18 Sections. You do not have to be a member of a particular Section to attend one of the lectures. As students, this is a great opportunity to gather information and become more informed about current research and interventions. If you find a particular Section that is of interest to you, it is advantageous to join this Section(s) as a student. When you become a member of one or more of these Sections, you are provided resources to stay current in your area of interest/expertise and connect with others sharing these same specific interests. There is also an exhibit hall with vendors and poster presentations. In addition, there are opportunities to meet your current Student Assembly Board of Directors through meet-and-greet events and visiting the booth in the exhibit hall. If you are able to attend this conference as a student I would highly recommend doing so. The individuals you meet at these APTA events/conferences will only help you transition from a PT/PTA student into a successful professional.

American Physical Therapy Association | Combined Sections Meeting



Jennifer Hirsch
 President, SSIG
 CT Core Ambassador, The Loop
 Quinnipiac University

**Plan Ahead! APTA's Combined Sections Meeting 2011
 in New Orleans!**



Calendar of Events: Join Us!

April 18, 2010 - Annual Softball Tournament - Quinnipiac University, starts at 9AM

June 16-19, 2010 - APTA Annual Conference - Boston, MA

September 29, 2010 - SSIG Meeting - University of Hartford

October 1-2, 2010 - CPTA Annual Fall Conference - Waterbury, CT

October 29-31, 2010 - APTA National Student Conclave - Cherry Hill, NJ

November 2, 2010 - SSIG Meeting - UCONN

December 2, 2010 - SSIG Meeting (Elections/Holiday Reception) - SHU

January 25, 2011– SSIG Meeting - Norwalk Community College

February 23, 2010 - SSIG Meeting - Naugatuck Valley Community College

April 2, 2011 - CT Student Conclave - Quinnipiac University

April 2011 - Annual Softball Tournament - Location TBD

Contact Information and Resources

Board of Directors

President - Jennifer Hirsch - jennifer.hirsch@quinnipiac.edu

Vice President - Patrick Buckley - buckleyp@sacredheart.edu

Director - Ellen Wagner - wagnere2678@sacredheart.edu

Secretary - Cortney Hansen - chanson@hartford.edu

Treasurer - Cozette Hanegan - haneganc@sacredheart.edu

Advisors

Melissa Corriveau - missarose@aol.com

Alan Balavander - alan.balavander@PTSMC.com

Liaisons

University of Hartford: Alyssa Itzkowitz

Sacred Heart University: Katie Lopes

University of Connecticut: Cedric Haddad, Katy Van Deveire

Quinnipiac University: Jenna Stuebe, Dana Rose

Norwalk: John Britz, Ravi Kaufman, Carolina Steffli

NVCC: Julie Charron

A Special Thanks

Special thanks to the following physical therapy professionals who assisted in the scholarship selection process:

Karin Labanca, PT,
DPT

Meghan Pogodzienski,
PT, MS, ATC, OCS

Robert Clark, PT, DPT

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