

I am excited to be running for a Virginia delegate position for 2022. My career has been shaped by my participation in our APTA and VPTA organizations. Serving in our professional organization has and continues to enrich my career. I graduated from East Carolina University in 1983 with a BS in physical therapy and in 2007 I completed my transitional DPT from Simmons College in Boston.

My employment began as a staff therapist for Sheltering Arms Rehab Hospital. I had the opportunity to work as a PT in a variety of venues during my tenure there including acute care, outpatient and inpatient rehab. I served as a Clinical Educator, Manager of the inpatient rehab team for OT, PT, Speech and later became the Manager of a skilled nursing facility. I completed the last 26 years of my career as the Director of Rehab Services for St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond, Virginia.

My VPTA involvement began as a new graduate. I have served in the following areas for our organization: Central District Legislative Committee, (1984-1986), State Chair for Student Relations Committee (1989-1994), VPTA Secretary (1999-2003), Nominating Committee for Central District (1999), Auction Committee member for Central District (2002-2007). I was elected as an Alternate Delegate in 1998, Delegate from 1999-2018 and 2021, and as Chief Delegate for Virginia for two terms ( 2008-2011).

***From your perspective, what is the biggest challenge of the profession?*** The biggest challenge of our profession is the lack of public understanding of our profession and what we have to offer. Our profession continues to evolve and yet we are often under utilized. This is also reflected in the lack of proper insurance reimbursement for the expertise that we as physical therapists provide in the healing process.

***Why do you want to serve in the capacity in which you are running for office?*** Having served as a Virginia delegate in the past, I feel that I have the knowledge and experience to represent our state membership well in the House of Delegates. I enjoy the year round processes of the House and working with other states on current issues affecting our profession. This experience gives me the opportunity to be a mentor to newer delegates regarding the processes of the House and to provide a historical perspective on the various issues.

***What experiences have you had with APTA, the chapter, or other organizations that might help you in your elected position?*** By serving as a delegate and chief delegate in the past, my understanding of the House of Delegates processes and the function and operation of the APTA have prepared me well to serve in this capacity. I have served in various positions in the VPTA, which have also provided insight into issues affecting our profession throughout my career. I believe that my contributions to these processes combined with my clinical and managerial experiences have positioned me to be an effective member of the Virginia delegation. Thank you for your consideration of voting for me as one of your delegates for 2022.