

*Bio:*

My name is Megan McIntyre. I am a pediatric physical therapist and own Milestone Pediatric Therapy in Winchester, VA. I also work PRN for Body Elite Physical Therapy doing outpatient orthopedics. I graduated ~ 6 years ago from Shenandoah University and have been a member of the APTA VA since becoming a student in 2012. I also assist teaching in the cadaver lab for PT and PA students for Shenandoah University as well as teach Neuroscience for Physician Assistants.

*From your perspective, what is the biggest challenge of the profession?*

I feel like the biggest challenge to our profession in this time is continuing to work on being the provider of choice in the eyes of the public. Without a change in public opinion/outlook, we will fail to meet other goals we have like payment reform and continued autonomy of our practice. The more as a profession we can continue to change our own language about ourselves then work to change public and other health professional language about us as well as knowledge about us, the more we will be able to confidently progress toward being the doctoring profession we ARE and be recognized as such providers in the public and health care communities.

*Why do you want to serve in the capacity in which you are running for office?*

Running for delegate and serving as a delegate has really opened my eyes to how the organization works as a whole. Now that I have more of an understanding of how policies, procedures, and broad changes to the profession take place, I know that being a delegate is the best way that I can help voice APTA VA opinion toward making physical therapy the best profession it can be. Being a delegate continues to allow me to promote and advance our profession for the better!

*What experiences have you had with APTA, the chapter, or other organizations that might help you in your elected position?*

I have served as a delegate for 2 years now. I also am currently the co-chair of the Student Relations Committee – serving as a liaison between the students and the Student SIG and the APTA VA organization. I held the position of APTA VA Blue Ridge director for 4 years and served on the VPTA Board for that time. I was also vice chair and chair of the Student SIG when I was attending PT school at Shenandoah University. I feel my time in these leadership positions has offered me insight into what the profession needs to grow and continue to advance in the medical profession. I hope to use this experience to help guide decisions and discussion if chosen to be a delegate again for APTA VA.