

Stacy Pepitone, PT, DPT, practices in outpatient neurology and orthopedics in Northern Virginia. She is certified with PWR! Moves and LSVT BIG. Currently, she serves as the VPTA-Northern District Treasurer. As a member of the Northern District Executive Team, she had a key role in the development of a virtual meeting platform that attracted more than 700 participants within a year of launching. Stacy is a commissioned Captain in the Virginia Army National Guard. She received her DPT from Marymount University and BA from Clemson University.

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

The biggest challenge of the profession is the recruitment and retention of members throughout their career. While VPTA membership numbers have remained strong, I believe that membership can continue to grow and thrive within the state. A thriving membership base will provide the association the strength to tackle any challenge that may face the profession. VPTA has a critical role in delivering member value.

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

I want to serve as President-Elect to increase membership and the power of PT within Virginia. Increasing membership will enable the VPTA to meet state-specific practice needs such as expanding open access. I would like work with the Board to develop an initiative to retain and increase membership at the state-level through membership-engagement. The development of members-only continuing education courses, a leadership ladder, and support of the districts for hosting membership-engagement events are a few ideas for improving the membership experience in Virginia. Additionally, outreach to students is another key area to ensure the sustainability and success of VPTA.

~What experiences have you had in APTA, APTA Virginia, or other organizations that might help you in your elected position?

I understand the important role of associations to advance a profession. Prior to becoming a physical therapist, I worked for 12+ years for associations (similar to APTA) and am aware of the role of association leadership in guiding the association mission, vision and values to benefit members. As a physical therapist, I also understand the needs of PTs in Virginia. I hope that my blended background of association membership and an VPTA member will further advance PT practice in Virginia.