

CHIEF DELEGATE

Name: James Cumming

Credentials: PT, board certified clinical specialist in orthopedics

Education: MPT, UW-Madison, 2004

Employer and Position: UW Health – Advanced Clinician (outpatient)

1. List an example of your past leadership involvement and how you would implement those skills into role of chief delegate.

I have been a APTA Wisconsin delegate for the last 8 years. During that time, I have had the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of APTA house of delegates, collaborate with APTA WI delegates on development and modification of motion language as well as candidate interview questions, and perform the role of assistant chief delegate. I have become more intimately familiar with the role of chief delegate and feel ready and confident to perform this role going forward.

2. Describe your leadership role related to an issue facing our profession.

I have been a proponent as well as an example of a PT who practices at the full extent of their license. I was on the APTA Wisconsin board of directors at the

time of adoption of x-ray ordering privileges written into the Wisconsin PT practice act. I was also present and spoke to motions at the House of Delegates related to expanding practice and ensuring therapists operate at the full extent of their license. As a clinician, I routinely order x-rays when they are indicated, as well as see patients who are in PT via direct access. I have had the privilege of being both a proponent as well as a beneficiary of these developments, and I would continue to work towards goals which expand and protect PT practice as a chief delegate.

3. Describe your most gratifying experience being a delegate.

At the 2022 House of Delegates, there was a motion which involved a significant amount of modification of motion language. This eventually resulted in a meeting with the House of Delegates Reference committee and several key individuals to help come to a consensus. During this meeting, based on listening to various language suggestions, I suggested succinct motion language which was eventually passed. This was exhilarating as it was the first time that I contributed directly to the language in a motion. This showed me firsthand the deep trust that APTA Wisconsin members put in our delegation but empowered me to become an even more involved and engaged delegate.