

## DELEGATE

Name: Jeffrey Wilkens

Credentials: PT, DPT, OCS

Education:

Master of Physical Therapy (Marquette University 1999)

Doctor of Physical Therapy (Evidence in Motion 2014)

Employer and Position:

Marquette University - Clinical Assistant Professor and Clinic Director

1. What skills and experiences qualify you to serve as a Chapter Delegate?

I have been a practicing physical therapist in the state of WI for 24 years in a variety of practice settings including private practice, large health system clinics and a nationally ranked academic program. As such, I have a significant breadth of experience within the field of physical therapy and healthcare from which to draw upon as a Chapter Delegate. In that time, I have seen many changes within the profession, mostly very positive, particularly the progression towards and achievement of autonomous practice and direct access. In my current role, I'm particularly motivated by preparing physical therapy students of the future to further advance the profession forward. At Marquette, I'm preparing a leadership, business and management 9-credit specialization for physical therapy students to better prepare them for both formal and informal leadership roles in physical therapy and healthcare in general. This program is scheduled to launch its first cohort in January 2024. I am excited to bring together the opportunity to serve as a Chapter Delegate along with my role in the education of future students at Marquette.

2. How do you envision the role of an APTA Wisconsin Delegate?

I see the role as an APTA Wisconsin Delegate as a tremendous responsibility for servant leadership on behalf of the profession that provides all of us so much. I see the role of delegate as an opportunity to contribute towards continuing to protect and shape our profession for the future. If selected to serve, I would be humbled by the opportunity.

3. Are there particular issues facing the profession currently that will require leadership by APTA Wisconsin Delegates?

There are many, many issues that are currently facing the profession that will require strong leadership by our delegates. I would like to briefly highlight two in particular. First, as a profession I believe that we need to intentionally recruit greater diversity into the field of physical therapy so that its members are a better representation of our

communities. In short, greater diversity in the profession and APTA Wisconsin's membership will be important to create a stronger sense of belonging and better access for those in our communities that could potentially benefit from the services of a physical therapist. Second, as a profession we must continue to fight diligently towards overall higher reimbursement and general equity in reimbursement across settings. At the same time, as a profession we need to consistently demonstrate efficacy of care through patient outcomes and continued research. Continued declining reimbursement is a significant threat towards the ability of our profession to achieve maximal impact on the health and wellness of our communities.



Handwritten signature and date: 7/3/23