

APTA Wisconsin Candidate Questions

Name and Credentials:

Jonathon Weiss, PT, DPT, EdD

Education:

MPT University of North Dakota 1994

DPT Regis University 2011

EdD A.T. Still University 2024

Employer and Position:

Assistant Professor and Assistant Program Director Bellin College DPT Program

DIRECTOR

1. Please describe the leadership skills and experiences that qualify you to serve as APTA Wisconsin Director.
2. What do you believe are the most pressing concerns currently facing APTA Wisconsin and describe potential strategies to take on these challenges.

1. I have been a licensed physical therapist for 30 years, initially graduating with my Master of Physical Therapy degree in 1994. I returned to school, received my Doctorate in Physical Therapy in 2011, and recently graduated with a Doctor of Education degree. I currently serve as the Assistant Program Director for the DPT program at Bellin College in Green Bay. Through this position, I work closely with a vast network of clinicians who serve our students as faculty, clinical instructors, and program advisors. I served the APTA-Wisconsin Northeast District first as secretary and then as Chair for five years. During that time, I also served on the APTA-Wisconsin Board of Directors, including the finance committee. Since then, I have served as the co-lead for two APTA Wisconsin conferences.
2. The physical therapy profession must continue to be a leader in healthcare reform. This includes supporting the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Quintuple Aim of supporting optimal care experiences, controlling costs, managing populations with an emphasis on prevention, focusing on the well-being of the healthcare workforce, and advancing health equity. For this to occur, physical therapists must become experts in measurement and the promotion of data-driven initiatives. We need to challenge all physical therapists to use psychometrically sound outcome studies and consider them from an individual and population perspective. We need to combine outcome data with cost information to show that physical therapy is often the superior method of mitigating neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction. This

data can be used in our advocacy efforts with third-party payors and administrators, the public, in addition to our legislative representatives.

We need to continue to strive to remove the unwarranted administrative burden that drives up the cost of care and adds no value to the patient's experience or outcome. Efforts to improve efficiency without sacrificing quality also support the physical therapy workforce. Physical therapists need to be allowed to make decisions to manage the right patients at the right time and at the right place with the right interventions. Efforts need to continue to allow access to physical therapy for all, regardless of who would benefit, and continue to promote the value of APTA-Wisconsin membership to all physical therapists and physical therapist assistants and students. The question should be why wouldn't you join and support an organization that tirelessly fight for your right to do what you were trained to do. Finally, academic institutions need to continue to address the cost of an education in addition to engaging in efforts to recruit a physical therapy workforce that is reflective of our society. Thank you for considering me for the position of Director.