

APTA Wisconsin Candidate Questions

Name and Credentials:

Sheri Bunyan, PT, PhD

Education:

Marquette University, PhD (Exercise and Rehabilitation Science)

St Catherine University, MPT (Physical Therapy)

Northern Michigan University, BS (Human Physiology and Chemistry)

Employer:

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Associate Professor of Physical Therapy

DIRECTOR

1. Please describe the leadership skills and experiences that qualify you to serve as APTA Wisconsin Director.

I have served APTA Wisconsin as Delegate, Director, and Research Committee Chair. I am aware of issues at the state and national level that require efforts on behalf of the association. I excel at bringing new voices to the association and engaging members in leadership roles. For example, in my tenure as research committee chair, we grew from a committee of one person to a committee with a member from each Wisconsin PT program. When that was accomplished, I mentored a new chairperson and stepped aside to take on a new role within the association.

In addition, other experiences have provided me with the skills necessary to serve in a role such as this. I have been a faculty member for over a decade and, through the faculty governance process, have become accustomed to thinking beyond perceptions of immediate needs and understanding processes of how successful (and not-so-successful) organizations act on important issues. I am also a member of a nonprofit board of directors that has raised significant funds for our local school district, a position that requires communication, collaboration, and the ability to build positive relationships.

2. What do you believe are the most pressing concerns currently facing APTA Wisconsin and describe potential strategies to take on these challenges.

Membership and member engagement are the most pressing challenges we face. I think that APTA Wisconsin needs to develop a culture of embracing succession planning and bringing new voices to the table. I believe that the best way to do this is to thoughtfully create systems to engage and elevate new members in the work of our chapter.