

*Board-Certified Geriatric Clinical Specialist*

I have been a proud member of the APTA since I became a physical therapy student in 2013. Since then, my involvement in my professional affiliations has grown. I felt called to pursue my specialization in geriatrics early – the second semester of graduate school. As a result, while still a student I flourished as an Albert Schweitzer Fellow as I taught dance-infused exercise to retirees in an assisted living and long-term care facility, sought and won election to Board Membership on the Ohio Physical Therapy Association (OPTA) Student SIG, and was a solo presenter as a third-year student at the OPTA Annual Conference. I also supported the APTA Organization as a student by being a CSM Student Volunteer. From 2016-2017, I was a Geriatric Physical Therapy Resident at The Ohio State University, and have earned my GCS credentials. The last time I attended CSM in-person (2019), I enjoyed being an APTA Geriatric Academy booth volunteer also. My most recent professional endeavor has been working as the Wellness Director at a local retirement community (which is also open to the 55+ y.o. public). From this position, I collaborate with personal trainers, clergy, massage therapists, physicians, nutritionists, social workers, out-patient rehabilitation, and others to holistically serve our local older population. This position has given me the pleasure of educating all my collaborators on the services and benefits of physical therapy. If I am elected as the APTA Geriatrics Board of Directors Secretary, I will have the opportunity to serve the Geriatric Academy with my skills in attentive listening, organization, goal-driven mindset, and detail-oriented thought processes. As I interviewed for this role, nothing but joy, excitement, and vigation was ignited in me. I look forward to partnering with the Board, our members, and greater society in this era of geriatric physical therapy.