

Maggie O’Neil, PT, PhD, MPH

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Candidate Statement

- *How you meet the qualifications for this role*
 - I have been a member of APTA Pediatrics for my professional career (30 years) and have served on multiple committees and tasks forces with most of my service as a member of the Research Committee. I have my PhD in pediatric PT and conducted research with families with toddlers in the community. Also I have conducted research in lab and clinic-based settings. I have mentored DPT, DSc and PhD students in their clinical and academic research projects and in clinical practice. I feel I have the knowledge and skills to successfully represent the Academy as Director of Research.
- *How you will carry out specific responsibilities in the role*
 - I will complete the tasks that are assigned to me. I will participate in the monthly meetings. I will advocate for APTA Pediatrics Research Activities for the highly funded academic researchers and the novice researchers and clinical researchers. I think it is critical to continue to grow a ‘scaffolding’ approach to research so we have a ‘deep bench’ of discovery and application researchers and so we support and promote both creation and consumption of research for even more evidence-based clinicians and researchers.
- *Your vision for the future of APTA Pediatrics*
 - My primary vision for APTA Pediatrics is to continue to cultivate a collaborative culture to mentor, support and grow the research and clinical skills across our constituents/membership to ensure optimal evidence for best practice.
 - To achieve this vision, it is important to develop strong mentorship and educational programs within APTA Pediatric committees and SIGs. .
 - I would like to see more outreach to welcome young professionals to create “intergenerational” approaches and share the wisdom of our elders with the innovations of our young members.
 - Of course, I think we do all these things, but I would like to be part of an effort to grow and expand these activities.

Service to the APTA Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy

- As a committee or Special Interest Group chair:
 - Research Committee – chair (2009-2012)
- As a task force or work group chair:
 - Task Force Chair – RSII
 - Task force on PT Roles for Health Promotion
- As a member of a committee, task force, or work group:
 - Research Committee – member (2002-2009); member again (2018-present)
 - Research Summit Task Forces RSI, RSII, RSIII, RS6 (2021-2023)
 - APTA Peds Task Force on Childhood Obesity (2014)
 - APTA Peds Task Force on Research Agenda (2005, 2011, 2022)
 - Practice Committee (2003-2005)
- Any other positions in APTA Pediatrics:
 - Faculty for Advanced Clinical Practice – fitness for children with disability (2014-present)
 - Presenter for Innovations in School Based PT – physical activity and fitness (5 times)

Service to the American Physical Therapy Association

- APTA Task Force on Policy for Health Promotion and Wellness (2004)
- APTA co-chair – CPG for CP (2021-present)

Service to Your Community

- AACPDM – awards committee (2016-2018)
- Boys & Girls Club – mentor (now)
- Fresh Youth Initiative – consultant NYC (2020-2022)
- Greater Lowell Maternal and Child Health Alliance – member (2023-present)