

Academy of Hand & Upper Extremity Physical Therapy, APTA, Inc Elections 2018

Candidate Statements

Secretary

Scott Stevenson, PT, DPT, CHT; skstevenson@twc.com

BIO: Scott Stevenson, PT, DPT, CHT, has been a certified hand therapist since 2005. He is currently the Nominating Committee Chair for the Academy of Hand and Upper Extremity Physical Therapy. He attended the University of Kentucky where he earned his MS in physical therapy in 2000. He received his Doctor of Physical Therapy from the University of Montana in 2017. A resident of Madisonville, KY, Scott is a senior physical therapist at Baptist Health Madisonville Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation. He is the organization's upper extremity specialist in addition to a diverse orthopedic patient population.

STATEMENT: The Secretary is an integral part of the Academy's Executive Committee. As the Nominating Committee Chair, I have developed a working relationship with the other members of the Executive Committee. I have an understanding of the current and future opportunities ahead of us. As Secretary and Practice Chair, I will continue to support the growth and success of our Academy and its members.

Professional Relations Chair

Emily Altman, PT, DPT, CHT, OCS, CLT, WCC; ehpt@aol.com

BIO: Emily Altman, PT, DPT, CHT, OCS, CLT, WCC, is a senior therapist at Hospital for Special Surgery's Hand Therapy Center where she has worked for 21 years. Emily's passion for working with patients has kept her in a full-time clinical role since joining HSS. She is on the faculty of HSS's APTA-accredited Hand Therapy Fellowship, a role in which her love of patient care and clinical reasoning is passed on to students through mentorship. Emily spends most of her free time travelling across the country attending courses and conferences, listening to experts in the field of hand therapy and surgery. You might also find her running loops of her beloved Central Park in New York City. Areas of particular interest for Emily include rehabilitation of the elbow (influenced by Dr. Robert N. Hotchkiss), rehabilitation following traumatic nerve injury (influenced by Dr. Scott W. Wolfe), custom orthosis fabrication (influenced by Judy Colditz, OT/L, CHT, FAOTA), lymphedema treatment (influenced by Guenter Klose. MLD/CDT CI, CLT-LANA), manual therapy (influenced by Ann Porretto-Loehrke, PT, DPT, CHT, COMT, CMTPT) and wound care (influenced by Nancy Morgan, RN, BSN, MBA, WOC, WCC, CWCMS, OMS). Emily also enjoys writing and synthesizing information for learning.

STATEMENT: I have been a member of the APTA since my first semester of PT school, Fall of 1994, and I joined the Academy of Hand and Upper Extremity Physical Therapy many, many years ago. In the past I served as Membership Chair for a number of years. Some of you might remember my signature thank

you postcards encouraging you to continue your membership! In 2010 and again in 2015 I served terms as newsletter editor. At the Hand Academy, we are in a moment of rapid and challenging change in how we deliver information (clinical, administrative, and regulatory). Long gone are the days of the printed newsletter (I still miss it!) and newly gone are the days of the PDF newsletter. As a group, the Board is creating a new electronic delivery format. I would like to have the opportunity to stay on as Professional Relations Director to help with this transition. I firmly believe that presence of physical therapists in the world of hand rehabilitation is crucial. Our training and skills are well-suited to this population. I thank you for your support!

Nominating Committee

Danielle Watts, PT, DPT, CHT; dwattsdpcht@gmail.com

BIO: My love for Hand Therapy started when I worked as a rehab aide at The Ohio State University where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Hearing Science in 2004. I earned my Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Drexel University in 2008 where I was fortunate enough to be able to grow that passion. In 2015, I completed the Hand Therapy Fellowship at the Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) and later that same year I became a Certified Hand Therapist (CHT). Prior to completing the fellowship, I worked in acute care in Washington, DC, and in a private practice setting outside of Philadelphia. I spent almost 2 years working in a pro-bono physical therapy clinic in Washington, DC, treating patients with primarily upper quarter injuries from war torn countries.

Currently, I am working as a physical therapist at New York-Presbyterian Hospital where I split my time working in both the acute care and outpatient hand therapy departments. I also assist teaching in the CHT Prep group helping other staff members prepare for the exam and working in the hand therapy department. I have been a member of the Practice Division Committee of the American Society of Hand Therapists since 2016 helping provide members with a glossary of common terms related to building a business and general hand therapy practice. In addition, I taught third year entry-level DPT students clinical examination of the wrist at Sacred Heart University July 2017.

STATEMENT: I feel the role of the Nominating Committee and its members is to attract physical therapists from different practice areas who currently have their CHT, want to expand their expertise, or their role as advocates for hand therapy throughout the APTA. My background in acute care, private practice, and hospital-based outpatient therapy settings provides me with a unique perspective on the practices and concerns of therapists in a variety of settings. This will allow me to be an effective contributing member of the Nominating Committee.

Positions up for election in 2018 (to take office at CSM 2019):

- *Nominating Committee member*

If you'd be interested in serving in any of these positions, please contact 2018 Nominating Committee Chair Saj Thomas, PT, MSPT, OCS, CHT, at sajthomas@yahoo.com or hand@apta.org.