

SSIG Quarterly NEWSLETTER

Looking Back and Moving Forward. . .

Jon Anderson, SPT, President

Amazing! That would be the best one word explanation I could give any of you for my experience as an officer for the TPTA SSIG. The opportunities that I have been given as Vice President and now President of the SSIG have been endless. Of course with every job or task there is the good the bad and unfortunately the ugly. However, I would say the good associated with being on the SSIG Board far outweighs the other two. Two years ago, a few of my classmates egged me on to run for office as a write in, and to be quite honest I didn't expect to win, and may not have if their

wouldn't have been a Texas Tech game on at the same time as the SSIG meeting. Nonetheless, I found myself an hour later the Vice President of an



organization I didn't really know much about. I quickly learned that it may have been a good idea to research the job description a bit more in detail

before running, as I was a little overwhelmed with what lied ahead. Over the past 2 years I have learned how to market a magazine that reaches every PT, OT, and speech pathology student in the state of Texas, organize a \$10,000 yearly budget, organize conference calls, facilitate meetings utilizing Roberts rule of order, attend the APTA House of Delegates meeting to observe how our profession raises the standards, network with students and PT's across the country, distribute a quarterly newsletter that reaches every PT and PTA student in the state of Texas, and most important be the student voice for the Texas Physical Therapy

Ethical & Legal Practices in Relation with PT's and PTA's

Bridgett Carroll, SPTA, Secretary

In our society, we have to follow laws. Being part of a profession not only does one need to follow laws but they also need to follow the ethical standards of their profession. It is important to hold a physical therapist/ physical therapist assistant to ethical and legal practices

since the public puts trust in them. A physical therapist/ physical therapist assistant deals with people when they are in a vulnerable state.

Being part of profession means that there are organizations that make sure the members of that profession are following ethical and legal practices. The body that sees that

physical therapist/ physical therapist assistants are following legal practices is the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, which is under the Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners. The body that promotes and guides ethical practices is the American Physical Therapy Association. Not

**Texas Physical
Therapy Association
SSIG**

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Bridgett Carroll

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Matt Wallace

PTA Delegate

Nicole Goldrup

Inside this issue:

PAGE 2
Memories

PAGE 3
Nearing the End

PAGE 4
*Life in the day
as the secretary
of SSIG*

Ethical & Legal Practices in Relation with PT's and PTA's ctd.

only are these organizations here to protect the public and the profession, but they are also here to protect the PT and PTA. As a therapist, one needs to stay up to date with the ethical and legal practices of the field to make sure that they are followed.

When one is a physical

therapist/ physical therapist assistant, it is important to realize that you have joined a profession that people respect and trust. People are putting their lives in the hands of PT's and PTA's. Not only should these legal and ethical practices be followed at work, but they should also

be followed on a day-to-day basis when a PT or PTA is carrying on their daily life. A physical therapist / physical therapist assistant needs to realize that when they walk out in public they are representing the profession.

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Fall 2007



81st Texas Legislative Session begins in Jan. 2009!

Memories

Nichole Goldrup, SPTA, Delegate

It is amazing how surreal your life can seem in retrospect when you can hardly place yourself into the same mindset you were in sometime in the past. I recall an overwhelming sense of wanting to be cooperative with my teachers and peers to help this wonderful profession flourish. I was of course scared because I always struggle to make myself better, but I really wanted to learn how I can make the profession more lucid to those in the field and to those we will treat. The Physical Therapy profession is a caring one whose ethics and practices have developed as the profession has become more useful and versatile. Upon attending my first student conference I was nervous because I wasn't familiar with very many

sections of the profession and I was certain to encounter professionals of the highest esteem because it was a National Student conclave. I already truly believed that therapy was for me, but after my first conference I felt like I was 'knocking on the door.' I left that conference feeling enlightened and motivated. You could say that my acceptance to the Austin Community College's PTA program was my 'getting directions and driving there.' At the 2006 NSC, I ran for the SPTA delegate position on the board for the TPTA's Student Special Interest Group (SSIG or TSPTA) and I got the position. So now I really wanted to be of service to the TPTA. I have had so much fun working on projects for the TPTA and with all fabulous people I have worked with in the

TPTA including the SSIG/TSPTA officers. I truly feel at home with the profession after encountering some of the most incredible people I've ever been honored to meet from all over the country when I was able to attend the APTA's House of Delegates meeting in May of 2007, in Washington, D.C. Upon attending my first meeting with the Texas Delegation as they prepared to go to Washington, D.C., I was so intimidated, but I wasn't in the room more than a few minutes before I was warmly greeted and welcomed by many delegates. That day was very inspiring as I listened to the things that these people cared about, fight for, and debate over. To me, Texas PT's and PTA's are a truly progressive and caring group with an eye on more efficient

"I truly feel at home with profession after encountering some of the most incredible people I've ever been honored to meet from all over the country."

—Nichole Goldrup, SPTA

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES
MAY 2008
SAN ANTONIO, TX
WWW.APTA.ORG**



WWW.TPTA.ORG

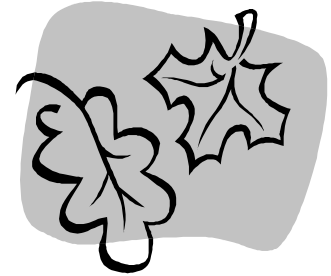
your official source for texas PT news

Memories ctd.

uses of resources to treat the whole patient, in reliable and safe ways. I am honored to think that I might work with and for some of the great people I met from all over Texas. In being active with the TPTA, I feel that I have learned ways and reasons to promote the practice of

physical therapy because I truly love and feel at home with the profession. I have been given a great opportunity and I am very grateful. I hope to one-day serve my peers in the professional sense because as a student delegate, I've seen how the field can flourish. Speaking with veteran profes-

sionals I've seen how much the field has grown and evolved. The practice of physical therapy has come to incorporate so much in just the last twenty years that I believe the possibilities are endless and I only hope that I can be useful.



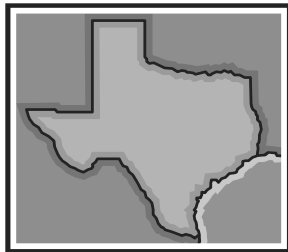
Nearing the end

Matt Wallace, SPT, Treasurer

It's been two years since I first began classes as a physical therapy student at Angelo State University. I can remember how far graduation seemed back then, with school being the only path I knew I had to take. Now, with less than four months until graduation, I am experiencing something I have never experienced before: making my own plans without any guidance.

Now, don't get me wrong, I know WHAT I need to do, but that in itself is vague. Of course, after I graduate I'll take the national board exam, and hopefully I'll pass it on the first try. After that, it is up to me, and only me, to decide where I should live, where I should work, and how to go about doing that. After high school, there was a general plan to go to college, so I went. During my undergrad years, I started to make plans to get into physical therapy school, so I applied and got in. After I graduate from

physical therapy school and pass my exam....well, I don't know. I know I need to work, but what type of setting should I go into? Do I want to try to enroll into a tDPT program as soon as possible, or should I wait awhile until I get some money under my belt, or forget the whole idea? Should I live close to family, or go off



somewhere I've never been before? Some of my classmates are going to get a temporary license so that they can work right after they graduate, and before they take their licensing exam. Some of my classmates have jobs waiting for them, some are looking, and then there is me. I have not tried too hard to find employment. I've

decided to move back home temporarily until I take the exam and pass it. Unlike my classmates, I don't have a wife or children to take care of, so there is no hurry. However, the lack of direction also bothers me.

What is going to be weird for me is moving away from San Angelo, the town that I have lived in for the last five years, and all of the friends that I have made there. Why not stay? Well, I think it's time that I try something new. I wouldn't mind settling down there, but right now I want to see what it's like to live somewhere else.

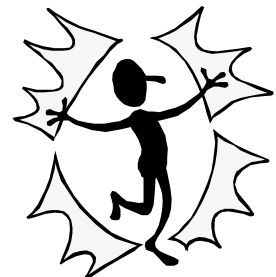
So far, no signs have come my way, so I have a general plan of moving close to the Dallas area to be near family, but nothing is certain. I guess I should be thankful that I will have the ability to choose where I want to live and what setting to go into. For somebody that likes to make plans, this situation is an ironic blessing.

"At the current time PT's are not listed under the charitable immunity and liability act, which protects healthcare workers when providing charitable service."

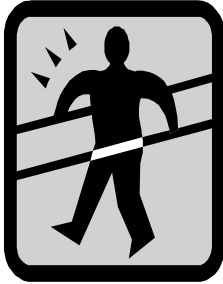
Breakthrough!

Coming May 2008!

The job magazine for new PT's, OT's and SLP's.



**Celebrate!
PT Month,
October 2007!**



**“Have you ever
wondered what it
would be like to
be on the
Executive
Committee for
the TPTA-SSIG?”**

Life in the day as Secretary for TPTA-SSIG

Bridgett Carroll, SPTA, Delegate

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be on the Executive Committee for the TPTA-SSIG?

Well, I am here to tell you what it is like to be secretary. As secretary, you help keep everyone organized. You type up the minutes for all the TPTA-SSIG business meetings and post them on the executive message board. All the officers are required to type articles for our newsletter that we send out. Articles I have written: Physical Therapist Students & Physical Therapist Assistant Students involved in their com-

munity during Physical Therapy Month, and Similarities and Differences between the PT and a PTA. I have helped work on the Breakthrough project, sent congratulatory cards to all the graduates from all the PT and PTA programs, and I have run the liaison program. At Student Conclave, we work the TPTA-SSIG t-shirt booth, and we help run different events along with the Student Assembly. This position has been enjoyable and rewarding. I enjoyed communicating with different schools all over Texas through the liaison program and through the stu-

dent message board. This position not only helped develop my communication skills, but it also helped develop my leadership skills. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be your TPTA-SSIG secretary.

If you are interested in running for a position on the executive committee, you can contact me at bkcarroll80@earthlink.net, or you can just show up at the TPTA 2007 Annual Conference & Student Conclave in Galveston. The election will be at the Student Assembly on Friday October 19th from 1:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

TUG OF WAR AT THE BEACH!

Galveston Island, TX

(Across the street from the Convention Center!)

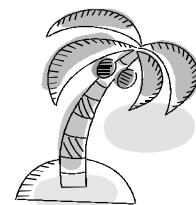
Friday October, 19, 2007 4-5:30 PM

Looking Back and Moving Forward Ctd.

Association. Participating in the above hasn't exactly been the easiest thing to do at times with a full load of school, but I have found in the end it has been well worth the time and effort. I look forward to the incredi-

ble things that lie ahead for the SSIG and future officers. If you want an AMAZING experience as part of your PT or PTA education I challenge you to run for an officer position at the TPTA Annual

Conference in Galveston Island, TX October 19-21, 2007. As for myself, it's



**Welcome!
Texas Student Conclave
Galveston Island
October 2007**