

**Physical Therapist Assistant Educators
Special Interest Group of the Education Section of the APTA**

Meeting, February 5, 2004

Nashville, TN (during the APTA's Combined Sections Meeting)

1. The president, Tom Hester, opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m. and the SIG officers were introduced.
2. Report from the SIG president, Tom Hester:
 - a. The APTA's Department of Education is in the process of reviewing and renovating the Clinical Performance Instrument.
 - b. Revisions to the Normative Model for PT Education are under review, and the process for reviewing the Normative Model for PTA Education is expected to start this year.
 - c. Question by Toby Sternmeyer on the licensure exam pass rates as announced by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, as announced in the AASIG meeting earlier, and these were discussed briefly.
3. Report from the vice-president, Barbara Bradford:
 - a. Reviewed programs offered at this conference.
 - b. Requested that program requests for next year be submitted to bbradford@bishop.edu
 - c. Reminded members that an open forum will be held Saturday night.
 - d. The AASIG and National Clinical Educators conferences will be held concurrently, Oct. 1 – 4, 2004. Members reported interest in increasing course offerings to PTA educators and reducing offerings of interest to PTA educators that run concurrently.
 - i. Barbara will participate in the programming and scheduling, and Peggy Noonan will assist her.
4. Report from the secretary, Jim Smith
 - a. The PTA Educators SIG's web site http://www.aptaeducation.org/pta_educator_sig.htm is available as a link off of the Education Section's web site <http://www.aptaeducation.org/>
 - b. The Education Section's listserv is a recommended resource to all members.
 - i. Notice of updates or changes to the Educators SIG's web site will be posted on the listserv.
5. Report from the nominating committee: Tom Glumac
 - a. Accepting nominations for vice president of the SIG. Nominees:
 - i. Barbara Bradford, Peggy Noonan, Karen Ryan
 - b. Accepting nominations for nominating committee. Nominees:
 - i. Becky McKnight, Janet Moffet
6. Discussion on continuing education / professional development topics of interest to the SIG.
 - a. Recommendation that presenters be reminded that when the topic applies across physical therapy the presenter be reminded to be inclusive of PTA education and issues.
 - b. Encouragement that the members of the SIG are the best resources for presenting at these courses and conferences.
 - c. The Education Section will be offering to new(er) faculty a course on professional development. This will be offered in July, 2004.
7. Troy Thomas is investigating the effect of reading comprehension on student learning and retention. He is requesting collaborators from other institutions to achieve a larger pool for investigation.
8. Karen Ryan reported that the National Assembly of PTA's has developed an instructional program on the role of the PTA. This is in the process of being reviewed by the APTA.

9. Tom Hester initiated discussion on strategic planning for the SIG. He proposed the following planning domains:
 - a. Development of SIG leaders
 - i. Foster development of candidates for offices in the SIG and the APTA
 - ii. Foster development and participation of SIG members presenting at conferences and related activities
 1. Develop a “speakers list”
 - iii. Foster mentoring relationships among the SIG
 - b. Develop forums for networking among PTA educators, such as:
 - i. Continue the open forum at CSM and investigate regional meetings
 - ii. E-mail blast list
 - iii. Develop the web site
 - iv. Develop a listing or resources (texts, instructional tools, etc.)
 - v. Collect data about PTA education
 - vi. Develop a member roster / contact information
 - vii. WWW-based discussion board
 - viii. Utilize the expertise of the SIG: consultants, teaching content areas, program development/administration, etc.
 - c. Provide leadership- be the experts in PTA education who share and foster the development of colleagues:
 - i. Be a resource to other sections and components of the APTA
 - ii. Strengthen communication with CAPTE and the FSBPT
 - d. Promotion and advocacy:
 - i. Advocacy for PTA education and PTAs
 - ii. Advance the SIG’s reputation as the “go to” resource
 - e. Jim Smith will develop a listserv for the development and implementation of the strategic plan. 20 members volunteered to participate, and additional participants will be solicited.
10. Reminder that submission of nominees for the APTA’s awards and honors is in the fall. Therefore the criteria (http://www.apta.org/membership/honors_awards/honors_awards_program) should be reviewed and nominations developed over the summer. Recommendation that this is an appropriate forum for us to recognize our colleagues and clinical instructors.
11. Education Section president Laurita Hack visited. She reviewed the FSBPTE’s report on the licensure exam and that she anticipated that the Section would address taking action at its business meeting tomorrow night.
12. Meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.

Recorder: Jim Smith

These minutes were reviewed and edited by Wendy Bircher and Marlene Medin before posting. The PTA Educators SIG has not approved these minutes.