

Maine Chapter, APTA Call for Nominations

Candidate Name: Heather-Pearl Eastty

Nomination Position: Chief Delegate

Degrees Earned & Certifications:

BS 2012, Ithaca College

DPT 2014, Ithaca College

Board Certified Clinical Specialist in Neurologic Physical Therapy, 2019-Present

EXPERIENCE:

Clinical/Research/Teaching:

Clinical:

Jefferson Moss-Magee Rehabilitation - Center City (f.k.a. Magee Rehabilitation Hospital)

January 2015 - August 2023

Starting as a new DPT graduate, I spent more than eight years working in Magee's acute inpatient rehabilitation setting treating patients suffering from the full spectrum of neurologic diagnoses including but not limited to spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, and stroke. Working at Magee helped to foster my passion for neurologic physical therapy and during my time there I was promoted multiple times, completed my Neurologic Clinical Specialist Board Certification and departed as a leader on the CVA Unit.

Teaching:

Jefferson Moss-Magee Rehabilitation - Center City (f.k.a. Magee Rehabilitation Hospital)

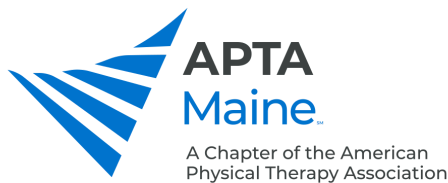
January 2015 - August 2023

Served as a clinical instructor for six students, 12-week clinical placements.

Widener University, Lecturer

"Rehabilitation for Individuals with High Tetraplegia C5-C7" March 2017, 2018, 2019

In 2017, I had my first opportunity as a classroom educator and developed a multimedia presentation used to teach a class of 60 second-year Physical Therapy students rehabilitation techniques for all aspects of functional mobility with individuals with C5-C7 tetraplegia. This experience gave me a taste for educating and mentorship and it remains a goal of mine to seek out more of those experiences in order to further develop those skills.



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Drexel University, Lab Instructor
“Neurologic Evaluation and Treatment” Spring 2022, Summer 2022

15th Annual Dr. Guy Fried Educational Webinar Series by the Tuttleman Family Foundation, Lecturer
“Rehabilitation of Clients with COVID-19: An Interdisciplinary Approach” (CEU Course) April 2021
During the COVID-19 pandemic, I volunteered to be one of the physical therapists to assist with building a unit at Magee focused on treating individuals recovering from COVID-19 infection and various sequelae. With limited access to a gym environment, I was able to expand my creativity and problem solving skills to achieve positive outcomes. After individuals post-COVID-19 were integrated into our other units, I continued to serve as a mentor to other therapists serving this population. This included helping to create a webinar with other members of the interdisciplinary team that we presented as a CEU course at a local webinar series for others in the greater Philadelphia area.

Current Employment:

MaineHealth Maine Medical Center Portland, Staff Physical Therapist
September 2023 - Present

Professional Contributions:

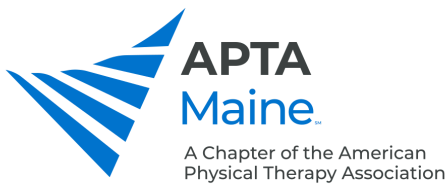
Specialization Academy of Content Experts - Neurologic Physical Therapy, 2023-Present
Co-Chair of Communications, Magee Rehabilitation Hospital Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council,
September 2021 - August 2023

APTA Service History:

Vice-Chair Neurologic Special Interest Group, Maine APTA, 2024 - Present
Nominating Committee Member, Maine APTA, 2024 - Present
APTA Member, 2011 - Present
Academy of Neurologic Physical Therapy Member, 2018 - Present
APTA Acute Care Section Member, 2023 - Present
APTA Academy of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Physical Therapy Section Member, 2023 - Present

Please explain how your experience and expertise could be utilized in the nomination position applied for to further the objectives of the Chapter:

I have been a member of the APTA for over 10 years, and during that time I have experienced the benefits and opportunities of membership as my involvement within the organization has evolved. Through many years attending CSM, membership in multiple Academies, writing items for the Neurologic Clinical Specialist exam as a member of the Specialization Academy of Context Experts and coming from a large Chapter in Pennsylvania, I have been involved in myriad developments over the years. In the last year I have served as Vice Chair of the Maine Neurologic Special Interest Group and a member of the state Nominating Committee. In these positions I have been learning about the needs and opportunities in physical therapist practice in Maine. It is my desire to take these recent experiences, combined with my passion for physical therapy, and strengthen physical therapist education and clinical practice at the state and national level for the clinicians, students, and people of Maine.



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Explain your perceptions regarding the direction the Chapter should take in the future and how your goals for the nominated position will affect this change:

This is an exciting time for the Maine Chapter of the APTA. While I am newer to Maine, in the past year I have served on the Nominating Committee and have been able to see the changing landscape of the chapter. As the chapter continues to evolve, it is essential that Maine continues to have a robust presence for the members of the state at the national level of the APTA.

The Chief Delegate and Delegate play an integral part in representing the needs of the chapter membership at the national level and driving national policy that best aligns with those needs. I hope to expand the ability of the Delegate team to know what those needs are by reinstating Town Halls and surveys to best reach all corners of our state and understand their needs in order to represent them best. If elected Chief Delegate, I will continue to build on the foundation set by those before me in order to establish Maine as a policy leader at the national level and continue to serve as a passionate advocate for clinicians and clients across the state of Maine.

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