

President's Message

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PASIG VISION STATEMENT

Advancing knowledge and optimizing movement and health of the performing arts community through orthopaedic physical therapist practice through the following guiding principles:

- Identity
- Quality
- Collaboration

Greetings PASIG members!

I am writing this letter in August 2020, and the COVID-19 Pandemic is still ever-present in our daily lives. Although businesses have started to open this summer, performing artists need audiences, and packed audiences would still pose too great a risk to the health of our communities. Performers who continue to train during this extended “off-season” are doing so in their homes or masked in smaller cohorts. It will be important for performing arts physical therapists to be mindful of new injury risks and limited access to care given these new circumstances. We will also want to be on the lookout for post-viral syndrome,¹ including signs of fatigue and difficulty concentrating. Our PASIG Artist Screening Chair, Mandy Blackmon, notes that despite a great need, many schools and companies will not be conducting large screening events this year due to social distancing precautions. She plans on prioritizing the cardiovascular and aerobic capacity components of her screens for dancers in Atlanta. Our Columbia Dance Research team is planning a virtual adolescent dancer screen, including standardized self-report measures such as the Eating Attitudes Test© (EAT-26)² and the Dance Functional Outcome Survey (DFOS).³ We will also expand our weekly electronic injury surveillance, using a modified Oslo Sports Trauma Research Centre questionnaire on health problems for dancers.⁴

As a PASIG, we have been taking advantage of the Zoom movement and connecting more frequently in virtual spaces. On June 14th, we had a great turnout for our virtual PASIG Membership Meeting, including breakout sessions for Research, Public Relations, and Education. We welcome Sarah Edery-Altas and Katrina Lee, our new Independent Study Course (ISC) Task-Force Co-Chairs. They will lead our efforts to create a new ISC and create educational content with the Education Committee, led by Rosie Canizares. The first topic on the docket is “Aerial Performing Arts.”

“Injuries in circus arts” was also the topic of our July citation blast by Emily Scherb, PT, DPT. If there is a topic of interest that you would like to read more about, or if you would like to contribute a PASIG blast or article, please contact our Research Chair, Mark Romanick.

On August 2nd, we hosted an informal Q&A for new grads that are seeking resources and advice for careers working with performing artists. A big thank you to Janice Ying, Dawn Muci, Mandy Blackmon, Andrea Lasner, Anna Saunders, and Rosie Canizares for sharing your wisdom with our PASIG new grads, and thank you to Ryann Lewis for moderating the event.

Tiffany Marulli is still easing into her new role as Fellowship

Advisory Panel Chair. She will be facilitating the joint needs of our 4 performing arts fellowship programs. One of the most frequent questions that I received when I was in that role was from current DPT students wanting to know how a fellowship is different from a residency program. I offer this excerpt from the ABPTRFE credentialing handbook:

“[A clinical fellowship is a...] post-professional planned learning experience in a focused advanced area of clinical practice. Similar to the medical model, a clinical fellowship is a structured educational experience (both didactic and clinical) for physical therapists which combines opportunities for ongoing clinical mentoring with a theoretical basis for advanced practice and scientific inquiry in a defined area of sub-specialization beyond that of a defined specialty area of clinical practice. A fellowship candidate has either completed a residency program in a related specialty area or is a board-certified specialist in the related area of specialty. Fellowship training is not appropriate for new physical therapy graduates.”

— *The Credentialing Handbook, 2012*

If you are planning a career path that includes a performing arts fellowship, your first step is to obtain board certification (OCS or SCS) or complete a residency. More information about the performing arts fellowship options can be found at: <https://accreditation.abptrfe.org/#/directory?f-accredited=true&f-candidate=false&f-developing=false&f-fellowship=true&f-residency=false>



The PASIG leadership team is committed to recruiting and engaging a diverse membership, so this summer we had a PASIG logo contest to reflect the diversity of artists that we treat. Thank you to Victoria Lu, SPT, for creating the winning submission.

Thank you to our membership chair, Jessica Waters, for leading this effort and for researching PASIG swag options for our members. We know that many of you are eager to show off your PASIG pride.

This past spring and summer, Dawn Muci and her Public Relations Committee have been ramping up the Public Relations for Performing Arts abstract submissions to CSM 2021. This year the PASIG is prepared to offer two student scholarships, one for entry-

level DPT students and one for performing arts fellows. Our website has been updated to make it easier to apply online once your abstract has been accepted [<https://www.orthopt.org/scholarship-application-pasig.php>]. The deadline to apply is November 30th. Applications will be reviewed by the scholarship committee, led by Anna Saunders. Recipients will be notified in December.

On August 7th, APTA announced that CSM will be held virtually. We are disappointed to not be able to see our PASIG members in person in Orlando for CSM but know that this plan will help to keep us all healthy and safe. We look forward to hearing more details about the virtual format from APTA and hope that more PASIG members will be able to participate in this new format.

REFERENCES

1. Healthline. Fauci warns about 'Post-Viral' Syndrome after COVID-19. <https://www.healthline.com/health-news/fauci-warns-about-post-viral-syndrome-after-covid-19>. Accessed August 8, 2020.
2. Eating Attitudes Test – 26 item. <https://www.psychology-tools.com/test/eat-26>. Accessed August 17, 2020.
3. Bronner S, Urbano IR. Dance Functional Outcome Survey: Development and Preliminary Analyses. *Sports Med Int Open*. 2018;2(6):E191-E199. doi: 10.1055/a-0729-3000. eCollection 2018 Nov.
4. Kenny SJ, Palacios-Derflingher L, Whittaker JL, Emery CA. The influence of injury definition on injury burden in preprofessional ballet and contemporary dancers. *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther*. 2018;48(3):185-193. doi: 10.2519/jospt.2018.7542. Epub 2017 Dec 13.

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IMPORTANT

Specialist Certification Application Deadlines Extended

The American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties has extended the specialist certification application deadlines for the 2021 certification exam cycle by three months, and has added an option for an initial partial payment of the application fee (excluding reapplicants). The application extension and/or partial payment option is automatically extended to all applicants.

The application deadlines are Oct. 1 for Cardiovascular & Pulmonary, Clinical Electrophysiology, Oncology, and Women's Health, and Oct. 31 for Geriatrics, Neurology, Orthopaedics, Pediatrics, and Sports. [Access the online application and candidate materials.](#) For more information, contact the Specialist Certification Program at 800-999-2782, ext. 8520, or spec-cert@apta.org.