

Animal Physical Therapist Special Interest Group (Animal  
SIG)

I. Welcome

Introductions followed by business and officer /  
committee chair reports

Please fill out the attendance information

II. Introduction of 2002 Officers and Committee Chairs  
present

- Cheryl Riegger-Krugh, ScD, PT – President
- David Levine PhD, PT, OCS – Vice President
- Becky Newton, MSPT - Secretary and Public  
Relations Coordinator
- Nancy Murphy – PT – Treasurer – thank you to Nancy,  
who has done a  
great job managing the budget
- Kristinn Heinrichs PhD, PT-SCS, ATC, CSCS –  
Education Committee Chair
- Caroline Adamson MS, PT - Practice Committee Chair
- Arlene White, PT - Newsletter Coordinator until 2002  
and is still assisting the  
orientation of Becky Newton, MSPT, the new

Newsletter Coordinator

- Siri Hamilton PT, LVT - State Liaison Coordinator
- Deborah Gross Saunders MSPT, OCS - Nominations  
Committee Chair
- Angela D. Frye-Lewelling, LPTA - PTA Representative

III. Introduction of new 2003 officers and Committee Chairs  
Opportunity for each to give some background

- Deborah Gross Saunders MSPT, OCS – President - [SirSB@aol.com](mailto:SirSB@aol.com)
- Sandy Brown – MS PT – Treasurer – [sandyb@sunflower.com](mailto:sandyb@sunflower.com)
- Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach – MS, PT -Nominations Committee Chair  
[amiept@yahoo.com](mailto:amiept@yahoo.com)

IV. Introduction of Liaison/Advisor to the Orthopaedic Section Board of Director

V.

Joe Godges DPT, MA, OCS  
Opportunity for Dr. Godges to address the meeting or questions asked

VI. Review of Animal SIG status

A. SIG of the Orthopaedic Section of the APTA

B. To be a member, you must be a member of the Orthopaedic Section but membership is free if you are a member of the Section and once you indicate you wish to be a member

C. You can be an interested non-member as a PT, PTA, or other relevant professional

D. Resources:

1. Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice (OPTP), publication of the Orthopaedic Section – contains news and contact information
2. Resource Manual – Lin McGonagle  
[lin@envisage1.com](mailto:lin@envisage1.com); 315-497-0333
3. Continuing Education courses – listed in the OPTP
4. Home study courses in canine and equine anatomy and biomechanics – see Orthopaedic Section booth or contact the Section – 601 home study series sold to date

5. Second International Symposium in Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy in Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville, TN August 10-14, 2002., Knoxville, TN will be part of David Levine's report

E. 542 members presently (1,078 interested but not members – either non-PTs/PTAs or PTs/PTAs and non-APTA or non-Orthopaedic Section members)

F. Officer Reports

1. Cheryl Riegger-Krugh, ScD, PT – Past-President  
cheryl.riegger-krugh@uchsc.edu

### **Motions for the Orthopaedic Section Board Meeting:**

#### **Motion 1**

The Animal SIG's scope and mission includes 1) The prevention of and intervention for injuries in animals, and 2) the prevention of and intervention for humans with musculoskeletal disorders that are related to working with animals, such as athletic and working? and assistance animals.

Support Statement:

The Animal SIG recommends broadening its scope to include prevention as well as intervention for injuries/pathology for animals. Our previously written scope of practice did not include prevention. Also, previously, our scope did not address 1) assistance animals, i.e. animals that assist people with disabilities and animals used for intervention for humans receiving physical therapy, (e.g. for animals used in hippotherapy or

dolphin therapy) or 2) the special needs of humans who work with athletic or assistance animals.

Broadening our scope and mission statement as suggested will allow the Animal SIG the ability to expand its programming to include topics related to preventing injuries in animals and as well as topics related to the prevention and intervention for humans who work with animals. This broadening of the Animal SIG's scope and mission will, ideally, enable the Animal SIG and the Orthopaedic Section to expand its membership.

## **Motion 2**

that the professional group, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) be added to the list of professional liaisons sought by the APTA.

### Support Statement:

The AVMA is a professional liaison relationship that did exist in the past and has recently been sought to reinstate by APTA President Ben Massey, following a lapse. This was done on request of the Animal SIG.

While this liaison relationship was pursued by APTA President Ben Massey, the AVMA has not approved a formal liaison relationship with the APTA, because they have not heard this recommendation from their veterinarian

members. The Animal SIG has recommended that veterinarians contact the AVMA. This is a professional relationship that would serve the same purpose as the other professional liaisons for the Orthopaedic Section.

At the Second International Symposium, a number of veterinarians asked to attend the Animal SIG meeting. There was agreement among the veterinarians attending the meeting and the SIG officers that a small group of Veterinarians and Physical Therapists should work together to develop language that would be agreed upon by both groups and used to approach changing the practice acts for both groups. Two of the members would be Presidents of the APTA and American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

Other aspects of the report:

Preparation for clinical practice for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in animal rehabilitation preparation is being developed. While these educational groups are not APTA sponsored, Animal SIG members provide recommendations regarding the certificate process. Canine rehabilitation clinical practice is being developed foremost by collaboration of the University of Tennessee Veterinary Medicine and Physical Therapy faculty. The Animal SIG, and especially the Committee on Practice, is providing recommendations regarding eligible participants for animal rehabilitation as well as objectives and outcomes for each of the eligible participant groups. My recommendations for participants for

this training are veterinarians, physical therapists, physical therapists assistants, and veterinary technicians, each with their own objectives for education and evaluation of achievement. My recommendations for PTs and PTAs parallel the type of training and supervision established for humans. The responsible people for any certificate process will make the decisions for this training for their own program. Equine clinical practice programs for physical therapists are advancing but are less developed than those for canine rehabilitation.

Recently the completion award for the present Canine Rehabilitation program at the University of Tennessee was determined and is as follows:

Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner (CCRP)  
Guidelines

- There is one certificate program: the Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner (CCRP).
- There will be four designations within the one certificate program, those designations recognizing the professional training level or title of the person being certified. The wording of the certificate, along with the appropriate designation, will be printed on the actual certificate awarded as follows:

CCRP - Veterinarian

CCRP - Physical Therapist

CCRP - Veterinary Technician

CCRP - Physical Therapist Assistant

Note: The letter, which will accompany the actual certificate, will indicate that the four designations are designed so as to recognize the limitations or restrictions on canine rehabilitation practice as outlined in the professional state board practice acts.

- There will be differences between the practical exam component of the certificate exam based upon practice restrictions for the following two groups:
- - Group 1: Veterinarians and Physical Therapists
  - Group 2: Veterinary Technicians and Physical Therapist Assistants

David Levine - please comment here or during your report.

David will also comment on the very successful Second International International Symposium in Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy in Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville, TN in August 2002. Many internationals attended.

Six nations, who have formally established animal rehabilitation groups as recognized by their parent organizations are needed in order to form a WCPT group. Presently 5 nations, the UK, Netherlands, the US, South Africa, and Finland have formally established groups.

A pre-conference course is being planned for CSM 2004. Kris Heinrichs will report on this in her report.

## **Past - President's personal statement**

The clinical practice of animal rehabilitation is very exciting, and I am grateful to have served since 2000 as the President of the Animal SIG. I would like to continue to be involved in the progress in this area and in the Animal SIG. I appreciate the assistance of a group of very competent colleagues, the officers and Committee Chairs, especially. I believe that the Animal SIG is in very good hands and welcome the competent new officers and Committee Chairs.

My recommended overall goal for the Animal SIG would include direction of clinical practice that would provide the same high quality intervention for animals that exists now from physical therapists and physical therapist assistants for their human patients. This has implications for but is not limited to educational preparation, scope of practice for PTs and PTAs, and legal practice / practice act issues.

2. David Levine, PhD, PT, OCS - Vice President and International Liaison  
[david-levine@utc.edu](mailto:david-levine@utc.edu)
3. Nancy Murphy, PT – Treasurer  
[nmurphy@svidaho.net](mailto:nmurphy@svidaho.net) - not present
4. Becky Newton, MSPT - Secretary and Public Relations Coordinator  
[jbeckyn@yahoo.com](mailto:jbeckyn@yahoo.com)

5. Carrie Adamson MS, PT – Practice Committee  
Chair [cadamson@aevh.com](mailto:cadamson@aevh.com) or  
[www.alamedaeast.com](http://www.alamedaeast.com)

6. Kristinn Heinrichs PhD, PT-SCS, ATC, CSCS -  
Education Chair  
[Kheinrichs@sportperformance.org](mailto:Kheinrichs@sportperformance.org)

CSM programming Saturday

13:00 - 13:30 Animal Rehabilitation Practice: How  
to build a successful

animal rehabilitation practice-T. Neal Hughes

13:30 - 13:45 Animal

Rehabilitation Practice: Question and  
Discussion-T. Neal Hughes

13:45 -15:15 Physical Evaluation and  
Management of Spinal Conditions in the Dog-  
Debbie Gross Saunders

15:15 - 16:45 Physical Examination and  
Management of Spinal Disorders in the Horse-  
Kevin Haussler

16:45 - 17:00 Session - Question and Answer

7. Siri Hamilton PT - State Liaison Coordinator -  
[sirivtpt@utk.edu](mailto:sirivtpt@utk.edu)

8. Deborah Gross Saunders MSPT, OCS -  
Nominations Committee Chair - [SirSB@aol.com](mailto:SirSB@aol.com)

9. Angela D. Frye-Lewelling, LPTA - PTA  
Representative [K9LPTA@AOL.COM](mailto:K9LPTA@AOL.COM) or  
[ALEWELLING@AOL.COM](mailto:ALEWELLING@AOL.COM) or [alewelli@utk.edu](mailto:alewelli@utk.edu)

## **VII. Other Business**

**Are there questions:**

AVMA liaison

Credentialing

Practice Act Issues

1. In most states the physical therapy practice act prevents PTs and PTAs from calling their practice with humans as physical therapy. In these states, PTs and PTAs can practice with animals but should call what they do rehabilitation or physical rehabilitation rather than physical therapy. Ben Massey, APTA president, recommends that both PTs and PTAs use their academic and not their professional credentials when treating animals, i.e. use BS or MS or PhD or DPT, etc. instead of MPT, PT, etc.
2. In many states, physical therapist and physical therapist assistant are protected terms and physical therapy is not
3. The AVMA states that the veterinarian can practice animal physical therapy and that people the veterinarian so designates can as well (MDs also can say they practice physical therapy)
4. Recommendation for people working with their state practice act language. Recommend usage of patient/client language with the addition that if the person is practicing with a patient/client not of their training that relevant training be required for the specific animal for which rehabilitation is provided. (Certification for horses would not allow providing rehabilitation for dogs, for example).
5. Need for assistance in the SIG  
Duties and Responsibilities for officers and committee chairs are

available for review and will be used in the future when recruiting and nominating officers and committee chairs

### **Programming at CSM**

Saturday– K Heinrichs – listed above

Presentations other than SIG programming from the members – either presented already or yet to be presented

### **Web-sites and new resources**

Dave's web-site - [www.utc.edu/~dlevine](http://www.utc.edu/~dlevine)

New text - Canine Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy, First Edition. This text is edited by Robert A. Taylor, DVM; Darryl L. Millis, DVM; and David Levine, PhD, PT.

Wizard of Paws – Debbie Gross Saunders' publication – PO Box 31, East Lyme, CT 06333  
Canine Physical Therapy

Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach's web-site ([animalrehabilitation@yahogroups.com](mailto:animalrehabilitation@yahogroups.com)) is no longer in service. This web-site has been combined with the web-site of Laurie McCauley DVM at TOPS Veterinary Rehabilitation. The listserv is for discussion among selected professionals regarding animal rehabilitation. At this time, only veterinarians, physical therapists, chiropractors, and occupational therapists may request access to the discussions by contacting Dr. McCauley at [drmc@tops-vet-rehab.com](mailto:drmc@tops-vet-rehab.com).

VIII. Recommended goals for the coming year – Past-President

A. Practice Act and legal issues

Clarify legal ramifications of what we call what we do and how we identify our credentials. Work with veterinarians on acceptance of language that is then proposed for both of our practice acts.

B. Liaison to the AVMA

C. Articles for the newsletter and in particular an issue of the Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice featuring the Animal SIG

Due date for articles is February 20, however, if you have not been reading the newsletters to see the call for articles, you can discuss a submission date until about March 10 with Cheryl.

D. Pre-conference course at CSM 2004

E. Welcome and information packet to send to new members and members who request information - post on the web

**Personal Statement – Past-President**

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My recommended overall goal for the Animal SIG would include direction of clinical practice that would provide the same high quality intervention for animals that exists now from physical therapists and physical therapist assistants for their human patients. This has implications for but is not limited to clinical competency, educational preparation, scope of practice for PTs and PTAs, and legal practice / practice act issues.

VIII. Goals of the new president, Deborah Gross Saunders  
MSPT, OCS - [SirSB@aol.com](mailto:SirSB@aol.com)

XIX. Other business