

2023 Candidate Bio – Candidate for Director



Skye Donovan, PT, PhD Board-Certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist

From the lab to the clinic to the classroom, my journey as a physical therapist has been anything but ordinary. As a mother, wife, and educator, I'm driven by a passion for serving others and creating positive change.

My path towards physical therapy began when I realized that talking to mice in a biochemistry lab was no substitute for engaging with real patients. After getting my masters degree in Physical Therapy in Texas, I immersed myself in orthopedic practice, working in outpatient clinics in California and Virginia. My journey didn't stop there, however. My Biochemistry PhD opened doors to new possibilities, and I soon discovered a passion for teaching. As a tenure-track faculty member at Chapman University, I relished the chance to shape the next generation of physical therapists.

Every adventure has twists and turns, and when my family relocated to Northern Virginia, I faced a new challenge -- finding my place in a new community. Now, working within five miles of the APTA headquarters, I began to feel a purpose and belonging that I hadn't experienced before. As an extrovert and optimist, I thrive in team environments, and the APTA quickly became my team.

Outside of the APTA team, you can find me pursuing other service-related passions -- modifying cars for kids with mobility challenges through the Go Baby Go program and providing physical therapy services to underserved communities in rural Appalachia and Nicaragua. I'm never one to sit still, literally or metaphorically, and I believe the key to a fulfilling life is finding ways to serve others.

I'm excited to bring my passion and diverse expertise to bear on the national stage as I run for office in our professional association. Together, we can make a difference and transform physical therapy for the better.

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Contact: governancehouse@apta.org