Former American Physical Therapy Association President R. Scott Ward to Preside Over 19th Annual Meeting of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy

For Immediate Release
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Alexandria, VA, August 29, 2018 – Former American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) President R. Scott Ward, PT, PhD, FAPTA, has been appointed by the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) to serve as the presiding officer of its 19th General Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, May 8-9, 2019.

The General Meeting of the WCPT draws together delegates from over 100 member organizations, representing the primary physical therapy associations in their respective countries around the globe. WCPT holds its General Meeting every 4 years, during which the president and vice president are elected, policies are adopted, and strategic direction and priorities for the next 4 years are determined. As the presiding officer, Ward will conduct and coordinate the business of the delegate assembly of the General Meeting.

Ward brings to this prestigious appointment a wealth of experience and expertise in governance, leadership, and scholarship. He served as APTA’s delegate to the 17th General Meeting in Amsterdam in 2011 and as alternate delegate to the 18th General Meeting in Singapore in 2015. Ward led APTA as its president from 2006 to 2012, was a member of APTA’s Board of Directors, was president of APTA’s Utah Chapter, and has received numerous awards and recognition for his longstanding service and contributions to physical therapy. He was elected a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association in 2016. For more than 8 years he has provided education to physical therapists under the World Health Organization’s curriculum for the provision of manual wheelchairs in less-advantaged countries. He has worked in different areas of the Middle East, and the countries of Georgia, Morocco, Kenya, Nigeria, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Ward currently is chair of the Department of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training at the University of Utah.

“I want to congratulate Scott. I can’t think of a better, more qualified person for this exciting and prestigious role. Scott stands out as a leader, and his experience in the US and internationally are well suited to WCPT,” said APTA President Sharon Dunn, PT, PhD. “He has been an asset to APTA, both as a member, former president, and friend. And I am sure his leadership and guidance will be invaluable during WCPT’s General Meeting.”

APTA is a founding member of WCPT and has participated in all 19 General Meetings. President Dunn will also be attending as a voting delegate along with 2 non-voting delegates from APTA.

About APTA
The American Physical Therapy Association represents more than 100,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students of physical therapy nationwide. Visit MoveForwardPT.com to learn more about the types of conditions physical therapists treat, and find a physical therapist in your area.