LSU Names APTA President Sharon Dunn, PT, PhD, Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions Shreveport

ALEXANDRIA, VA, April 23, 2019 — American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) President Dr. Sharon Dunn, PT, PhD, has been named Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions at Louisiana State University (LSU) Shreveport.

Dr. Dunn is the current Chairman, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences. She has been on faculty at the School of Allied Health Shreveport for twenty-four years beginning her career as Chief Physical Therapist - Instructor. Since that time, Dr. Dunn has served in numerous capacities to include Program Director of the DPT program for 15 years, and Director, LSUHSC Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency in which she was instrumental in developing and gaining accreditation. She holds an ABPTS Certification in Orthopaedic Physical Therapy and is licensed by the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board.

“It is gratifying that one of our own faculty members, Dr. Sharon Dunn, has been selected as the Dean of the School of Allied Health Professions. Dr. Dunn brings a strong clinical and administrative background with a clear vision for the future.” stated LSU Health Shreveport Chancellor G. E. Ghali, DDS, MD, FACS, FRCS(Ed)

Dr. Dunn has been a fervent leader for her profession serving as the state president of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association (LPTA) and is now serving in her second term as the national president of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA.) She is a member of the Alpha Eta Society that recognizes students and faculty in the top ten percent of allied health faculty. Dr. Dunn is a former recipient of the Allen A. Copping Excellence in Teaching Award and a nationally invited keynote speaker, and a peer-reviewed publisher of numerous scientific articles and posters.

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“I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Dr. Dunn for many years, most recently as she has served in her role as APTA’s president,” said APTA CEO Justin Moore, PT, DPT. “Sharon has been a tireless advocate for the profession, the highest standards of health care, and patients’ rights everywhere. Her kindness, passion, commitment, and dedication have been an inspiration to me. She is an
outstanding colleague and, more importantly, friend. I offer her my warmest congratulations on her new appointment and cannot think of anyone more deserving. I know she will serve the position well.”

“I am so thrilled to have the opportunity to serve our faculty, students, and our community in my hometown and at my alma mater, LSU Health Shreveport!,” said APTA President Sharon L. Dunn, PT, PhD. “Becoming the Dean during these times of economic challenge to higher education and while LSU is engaging in a new partnership with Ochsner Health System provides exciting opportunities to integrate and collaborate across disciplines in education, practice, and research. I have much to learn, but I am enthusiastic about our team and our potential! Geaux Tigers!”

Dr. Dunn received her Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy followed by a Master in Health Sciences from the School of Allied Health Professions in Shreveport. She obtained her Doctor of Philosophy, Cellular Biology, and Anatomy at the School of Graduate Studies at LSU Health Shreveport.

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.

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