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PHYSICAL THERAPIST ALAN M. JETTE, PT, PHD, FAPTA, NAMED EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL PHYSICAL THERAPY

Alexandria, Va, January 20, 2016 – On January 1, physical therapist Alan M. Jette, PT, PhD, FAPTA, officially commenced his role as editor-in-chief of Physical Therapy (PTJ), the monthly scientific journal of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Jette will serve a 5-year term, succeeding Rebecca L. Craik, PT, PhD, FAPTA.

As editor-in-chief, Jette has final decision-making authority and responsibility for delegating editorial board responsibilities related PTJ’s scientific, clinical and other editorial content.

Jette is professor of health law, policy, and management at Boston’s University School of Public Health, where he directs the Health & Disability Research Institute. He also serves as a professor in the PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences Program at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Institute of Health Professions.

Jette’s research interests include late-life exercise, evaluation of rehabilitation treatment outcomes, and the measurement, cause and prevention of disability. During a career spanning more than 35 years, Jette has received more than $50 million in research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Social Security Administration (SSA), and foundations and private corporations. He has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, which have been published in numerous international scientific journals.

“Physical therapist practice is moving quickly toward delivering value through evidence, best practices and outcomes,” said APTA President Sharon L. Dunn, PhD, PT, OCS. “I am confident that Alan’s exemplary leadership in outcomes measurement and disability research will position PTJ to grow in the extraordinary impact, both nationally and internationally, that was achieved under Dr. Craik.”

Jette and his collaborators in the Department of Rehabilitation at the NIH Clinical Center are contributing to work being done at SSA by developing new measures to be applied within the SSA work disability determination process. In addition, Jette directs Boston’s Rehabilitation Outcome Measurement Center, funded by the NIH National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR); serves on the Executive Committee of the Boston Roybal Center for Active Lifestyle Interventions, funded by the NIH National Institute on Aging; and is director of the New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center, funded by NIDRR.
For the past 14 years, Jette has directed Boston University’s Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program in Outcomes Research and served as dean of Boston University’s Sargent College of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences (1996-2004). In 2013, Jette was elected a member of the National Academies of Science’s Institute of Medicine (IOM), where from 2011-2014 he cochaired the IOM Forum on Aging, Disability and Independence.

“I am deeply honored to be given this opportunity to serve my profession in this capacity, building on the distinguished contributions of current editor-in-chief, Dr. Rebecca Craik,” said Jette. “I have become increasingly interested in fostering the research of others, and I believe that serving as editor-in-chief will be a natural extension of this process. Now is a time of major changes in scholarly publishing, so I look forward to strategic planning that keeps PTJ and APTA in the vanguard.”

Jette formerly cochaired the Panel on Assessment & Epidemiology on the Hunt Valley Task Force on Medical Rehabilitation, which was instrumental in founding the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research within NIH. From 2011-2012, he served on the NIH Blue Ribbon Panel that evaluated rehabilitation research funding within NIH. He also chaired the Institute of Medicine’s study and co-edited, “The Future of Disability in America,” which highlights disability priorities for the nation.

An APTA member for more than 30 years and a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the association, Jette has served PTJ in various capacities, including special issues editor in 1994 and 2012 on topics related to disability research, editorial board member (1990-1996), deputy editor (1993-1996), and in 2005 as acting editor-in-chief. The winner of numerous honors and awards, Jette received the Charles M. Magistro Distinguished Service Award from the Foundation for Physical Therapy (2014); the John P. Maley Award for Outstanding Contributions to Research from APTA’s Section on Research (2014); Distinguished Lecturer at the University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands (2013); Excellence in the Rehabilitation of Aging Persons Award (Gerontological Society of America, 2011); the Stephen M. Haley Memorial Lecture & Award; Howard H. Steel International Conference on Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury (2012); and APTA’s Mary McMillan Honorary Lectureship Award (2012), among many others.

Jette received a BS in physical therapy from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1973, MPH (1975) and PhD (1979) in Public Health from the University of Michigan.

Founded in 1921, PTJ is the official publication of the American Physical Therapy Association and is an international scholarly peer-reviewed journal.

The American Physical Therapy Association represents more than 93,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and students of physical therapy nationwide. Learn more about the types of conditions physical therapists can treat, and find a physical therapist in your area, by visiting www.MoveForwardPT.com. Follow Move Forward PT on Twitter and Facebook.

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