



CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHY & CONSENT FORM

NAME: Elizabeth (Betsy) Ross

POSITION RUNNING FOR: Vice President

CITY/TOWN OF RESIDENCE: Santa Fe, New Mexico

APTA MEMBERSHIP (years): 16 years

APTA New Mexico MEMBERSHIP (years): 13 years

SECTION MEMBERSHIP(S): Acute Care, Cardiopulmonary, Education, Geriatrics

EDUCATION:

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Neuroscience from Illinois Wesleyan University – Graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2008

Doctor of Physical Therapy from the University of Minnesota in 2011

PREVIOUS BOARD EXPERIENCE: Vice President for APTA New Mexico, Secretary for APTA New Mexico, Education Committee Member for APTA New Mexico, Membership Committee Member for APTA New Mexico, Nominating Committee for the Academy of Acute Care Physical Therapy

PERTINENT EXPERIENCE:

I have worked as a physical therapist in acute care at Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center for 11 years, where I serve as a leader in critical care and worked to develop early mobility protocols for the intensive care unit. In 2022 I became a Board Certified Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Clinical Specialist and I provide regular inservices, trainings, and mentorship opportunities to clinicians in cardiovascular and pulmonary patient management and critical care rehab.

I have been actively involved in the APTA at the national level, especially with the Academy of Acute Care Physical Therapy (AACPT) as a Nominating Committee Chairperson and with the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy (AGPT) as the acute care liaison for the Cognitive and Mental Health Special Interest Group. In 2020 I served on the Steering Committee for the Bridge the Gap conference, a virtual event geared toward educators in acute care physical therapy in both academic and clinical settings. I have presented at the Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) in the areas of acute care, clinical education, and health policy/administration. At the state level, I am the current Vice President of APTA New Mexico and have served in the role of Secretary previously, and I was actively involved in APTA New Mexico's strategic planning initiatives in 2021-2023. I participate in the Education and Membership Committees,

including helping to plan the fall conference and Global PT Day of Service. I am actively involved in the Community Faculty Advisory Board for UNM Medical School and the Advisory Board for PIMA's PTA program.

I also hold a number of leadership positions in my own hospital community at Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center. I am the site coordinator of clinical education (SCCE) and a clinical instructor for several students every year. I am also actively involved in a number of hospital committees including the Critical Care and Code Blue Committee, Rehab Operations, and the Ethics Committee. I lead a physical therapy journal club and regularly teach evidence-based classes to individuals with stroke in our inpatient rehab unit. I am passionate about providing evidence-based healthcare to all the diverse communities we serve in northern New Mexico.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: (please provide some specific examples of projects that you'd like to participate in)

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to advancing the field of physical therapy in the state of New Mexico. Through leadership on the APTA New Mexico Board of Directors, I aim to help develop strategies for bringing therapists in various practice settings together toward the common goals of strengthening our profession, serving patients in our communities, addressing existing gaps in healthcare in our state, and providing high-quality education to students in academic and clinical settings. There is an opportunity to bring generations of therapists together, as well, and to connect with newer graduates through marketing strategies, social media involvement, and creative communication in order to increase interest in membership and nurture developing leaders, and I believe I could be a valuable resource to these efforts. I also hope to work with the leadership team in developing ways to increase diversity and inclusivity in our profession. My plans for the next two years include developing a more comprehensive practice committee and establishing mentorship pathways for clinicians in New Mexico who are pursuing specialist certifications. Through the Membership Committee, I strive to reach our members in meaningful ways, especially in rural parts of our state. Since I reside and work in Santa Fe, I would also like to be more actively involved in projects to engage APTA New Mexico members in Santa Fe and Rio Arriba Counties and other parts of Northern New Mexico. We are in a fast-moving and constantly-evolving atmosphere of healthcare, and I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to guiding professionals in our state through the challenges we may face together.

Consent to Serve Statement:

I acknowledge that the duties of the above position have been provided to me and I agree to serve in the stated position should I be elected. I am willing and able to attend the APTA New Mexico Board meetings and conference calls as needed per the position description. I agree to be responsive to electronic communications as part of conducting the business of APTA New Mexico.

Signed _____ Elizabeth Ross _____ (electronic signatures accepted)