Nominating Committee

2016 PPS Elections



David Qualls, PT

I am honored to be slated for a position on the PPS Nominating Committee. I take this nomination very seriously. The Nominating Committee is the most important committee of an organization. This is the committee that interviews and recommends a slate of candidates that will lead the organization. Pretty awesome task, I think.

I have practiced for 42 years, the last 37 in private practice. After starting my career in the hospital setting, I saw there were rules and regulations that hindered me from practicing the way I wanted. In 1979, I opened my first practice. I have been a solo practitioner and have had partners, up to four. I have experienced practice from hospital in-patient, hospital contracting, extended care facilities, home health, wellness, Geri-psych, large national corporate outpatient, and independent practice. I have had administrative, financial, and patient responsibilities at from one site to 30 sites in five states. After the Balanced Budget Act, I returned to my original practice and grew it. Now I have downsized and practice in a small rural community. With the exception of two years in the early 90s, I have treated patients and carried out the administrative duties.

I have been a member of the Private Practice Section for almost 30 years. After my first meeting, I was hooked. I thought that first meeting was the greatest! Finally, someone was speaking about the business of physical therapy and not getting chastised for it.

I served on the PPS Board of Directors from 2009-2012. After one term, I felt I had accomplished the goals I was called to do, so I chose not to seek a second term. I currently serve as a Director on the Institute of Private Practice Physical Therapy Board and also served on the most recent PPS Strategic Planning Committee. Last fall, I was asked to represent the Private Practice Section on the Louisiana Patient Access Resolution Committee. The recommendation of this committee lead to the draft of the Patient Access to Physical Therapy Legislation, which just passed the Louisiana Legislature. While preparing for my presentation to this committee, I reviewed the PPS History Project and once again appreciated the dedication of our early founders and their goals for private practice in physical therapy. Also, I have served in leadership positions in the local and extended church, my community, as well as in LPTA and APTA.

As PPS leaders work to achieve our mission of supporting the physical therapist in business, we must continue our advocacy for appropriate payment for our expertise as movement specialists. Support for access to physical therapy without restrictions remains paramount. It is important that we continue to recognize and promote the importance of private practice physical therapy and its impact on our profession and on government advocacy now and historically. We need to continue our support of the small private physical therapy practice from which this section birthed. This includes increased public awareness of their importance in the local community. These smaller practices need the Section's expertise and guidance. They have ideas to share, just as our large corporate members do.

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If elected, I do not need to possess all the skills required to complete our Section's Mission but rather need to be able to recognize and recruit individuals that exhibit the skills needed to accomplish this mission. I can do that. I have served for a long time and I love it. I know and understand the commitment that is required to serve. I have the ability to share my experience with those who are considering serving PPS as we evaluate what might be the best position for them. I love to talk to people and enjoy individual one-on-one conversation. I am a good listener. Everyone needs affirmation and the simple *ask* validates that.

I would love to serve PPS again, this time as a member of the Nominating Committee. My service has prepared me for this position. The time is right for me, and the position is ideal for my skill set. I ask that you give me your vote of confidence. See you in Vegas!