

# Welcome to the Third Edition of the E-Newsletter of the Oncology Section of the APTA.

This edition is a follow up to the Combined Sections Meeting held in New Orleans as well as a roundup of many of the exciting developments in our Section.

Combined Sections Meeting began with a well attended Pre-Conference Course titled Exercise Training Guidelines for Individuals with Cancer. Programming during the main conference included presentations on Gynecologic, Testicular and Prostate Cancers; Lymphedema Management; Management of Upper Extremity Dysfunction after Breast Cancer and HIV/AIDS.

The Board of Directors met on Thursday evening and discussed many issues related to governance of the Section, our relationship with Components Services of the APTA and other broader issues of interest to all members of the APTA.

On Friday evening, the Annual Business meeting was held. The results of the most recent election were announced:

- Nicole Gergich, MPT, CLT-LANA was reelected as our Section President
- Rick Wilson, PT, PhD is our new Treasurer (and outgoing Chair of the Nominating Committee)
- Meredith Edwards, PT was elected to the Nominating Committee
- Julie Hobbs, PT, PhD, CHES was thanked as she stepped down as the Treasurer of the Section. She will continue to serve as the HIV/AIDS Special Interest Group Chair.

The Business meeting was immediately followed by the Celebration of Life reception. It was great to see many of our fellow Section members and enjoy a glass of wine. We all had the opportunity to raise our glasses in honor of Steve Gudas who has served for all these years as the editor of our journal- *Rehabilitation Oncology*. He was awarded the first Stephen Gudas Award. This award will honor the most outstanding article published each year in our journal. It is fitting that we inaugurate the bestowing of this award by giving it to Steve. THANK YOU Steve Gudas for all you have done for our Section!

All day on Friday, many volunteers from our Section participated in the annual Hotline sponsored by APTA. This year the hotline topic was Lymphedema and the response was overwhelming! The phones rang from 9 am until 5 pm without stop and we fielded calls from all over the country. In all, over 120 calls were received and fielded by our section members.

## In Other News:

### **\*\* Oncology Listserve Up and Running \*\***

The Oncology Section Listserve is now available to all members of the Oncology Section. Communicate with other Section Members about Clinical Issues, Research, Reimbursement, Legislation; any Oncologic/Hemimologic issues that come your way. Receive messages instantaneously or once a week. Sign up now at [www.oncologypt.org](http://www.oncologypt.org) by clicking "Listserve sign up," or e-mail your request to [oncology@apta.org](mailto:oncology@apta.org).

### **\*\* Attention Cancer Rehabilitation Researchers! \*\***

If you are currently working on a research project in ANY AREA OF CANCER REHABILITATION, please contact us! The oncology section is trying to create a research network to help you coordinate with other researchers in the field. Please send your name and contact information along with a brief overview of the work that you are doing to Tori Marchese, PT, PhD at [victoria.marchese@stjude.org](mailto:victoria.marchese@stjude.org). Info provided will be posted on our website for Oncology Section Members only.

**\*\* Cancer and Exercise Researchers- Call for Information!! \*\***

If you are currently working on a research project involving exercise and/or physical activity with people who are being treated for cancer please contact us! We are compiling information on ongoing exercise research programs throughout the country. Please send your name and contact information along with a brief overview of the work that you are doing to Nicole Gergich, MPT, CLT-LANA at [nlgergich@msn.com](mailto:nlgergich@msn.com). Also let us know if you are funded and how.

**\*\* Section Positions Available \*\***

When you visit our website, do you get ideas for what else could be offered there? Ideas for the "Member Benefits" page? We are seeking website committee members to help conceive and create new resources on our site, [www.oncologypt.org](http://www.oncologypt.org). Committee members may also keep an eye on portions of the site to ensure that information is up-to-date. No high-tech skills necessary. Interested? Contact [oncology@apta.org](mailto:oncology@apta.org).

**\*\* GET INVOLVED.....**The Section is interested in encouraging individuals who may be interested in contributing to our Section by serving in many different capacities. We are currently looking for individuals to run for election in these capacities-

Secretary  
Vice President  
Nominating Committee Member  
Member at Large

If you are interested – please contact:  
Jacqueline Drouin, P.T., Ph.D.  
The University of Michigan-Flint  
303 East Kearsley  
Flint, Michigan 48502-1950  
[jsdrou@umflint.edu](mailto:jsdrou@umflint.edu)

**\*\* YOU can help Oncology Patients- it only takes a moment! \*\***

Did you know that APTA cannot give your contact information to consumers who are looking for a PT unless you sign up for Find a PT, the online directory? Only about 7% of APTA members have entered their information into this free service that helps consumers find you! Please visit <http://www.apta.org/FindaPTParticipantForm>- it only takes a moment. We hope to have a high percentage of Oncology members signed up by the end of the year, so that our patient population won't struggle to find a Physical Therapist. Thanks for your time!

**\*\* Attention: Section Members Working In PALLIATIVE CARE SETTINGS. \*\***

Are you interested in networking with other colleagues in your practice area? The Oncology Section wants to build a network of therapists in this specialized area of practice to serve as a resource for other members of the section and of APTA. If you work with patients in a hospice or palliative setting, or if you commonly treat patients with terminal diagnoses, please contact us! Send your name, contact information and e-mail address to Richard Briggs at: [hospicept@aol.com](mailto:hospicept@aol.com)  
We are hoping to move forward in providing educational programs and further resources on palliative care over the next year. Please contact us so that we may include you in our network.

**This has been a very exciting past year for the Oncology Section.**

Visit our webpage [www.oncologypt.org](http://www.oncologypt.org) ; join the listserv, volunteer for one of our committees; join us in Boston for the Annual Conference or next February in San Diego at CSM.

Do you have anything you would like to share with US? Have you read a good research article? Send a synopsis to share with others.

Contact me at [CJA44@aol.com](mailto:CJA44@aol.com) to submit material for this newsletter.

Edited by: Joy C. Cohn, PT, CLT-LANA