

2026 Candidate Statements
Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

Candidate for Director II Position: Michelle Sigmund-Gaines



Current and past work experience:

- Executive Director, Oregon Board of Physical Therapy (December 2017 – present)
- Executive Director, Oregon Mortuary & Cemetery Board (July 2008 – November 2017)
- Chief Information Officer & General Manager for Implementation of Core Information Systems and Enterprise Project Portfolio Office, Port of Portland (June 2000 – July 2008)
- Adjunct Faculty, Marylhurst University (August 2000 – October 2007)
- Adjunct Faculty, Rocky Mountain College (May 2000 – December 2001)
- Lead Technical Designer/Network Specialist, Marylhurst University (September 1998 – June 2000)
- Technology Coordinator, Portland Jewish Academy (January 1994 – July 1998)
- Manager, Information Systems, Made in Oregon Shops (September 1990 – June 1994)

Licensure experience:

I have been working specifically in healthcare licensing and regulation in Oregon since 2008, serving the last eight and a half years as the Executive Director of the Oregon Board of Physical Therapy. During my prior tenure as the Executive Director of the Oregon Mortuary & Cemetery Board, which licenses both individual practitioners as well as facilities, I also had the opportunity to serve as Interim Director for both the Boards of Psychologist Examiners and Licensed Dietitians when those Boards were in transition, as well as work on a multi-stakeholder group to inform the development of legislation to regulate Nontransplant Anatomical Research Recovery Organizations now licensed through the Oregon Health Authority. I also hold the CLEAR advanced certification in investigations.

FSBPT experience pertinent to position:

My involvement with FSBPT has provided some of the most rewarding experiences and learning opportunities of my career. Currently, I serve on the BOD in the Director II position, and in that role have served as board liaison to multiple jurisdictions, to the Continuing Competence Committee, and to several task forces, in addition to serving on the BOD for King West and HRRI. Prior to serving on the BOD, I've had the opportunity to engage in regulatory trainings, webinars, the Leadership Issues Forum, and Annual Educational Meetings, as well as co-present several webinars and educational sessions. I've also served on the task forces and committees listed below, and I am honored to be the recipient of the 2021 President's Award and a 2020 Outstanding Service Award.

- Council of Board Administrators, Chair
- Education Committee, Member
- Excellence in Regulation Committee, Member
- Oregon's Delegate to the PT Compact Commission
- Board Assessment Task Force, Member
- Artificial Intelligence Task Force, Member
- Ethics & Legislation Committee, Member
- PT Compact Commission Rules & Bylaws Committee, Member

Other experience pertinent to position (e.g., same position with another organization):

- Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) Development Group Member for the 2022 APTA International Clinical Practice Guidelines on Telerehabilitation in Physical Therapy
- Board Treasurer, Leadership Portland Alumni (2006-2007)
- Founding Member, Board President, The Emerson School (2004-2006)
- Advisory Board Member and Volunteer, The Emerson School (2006-2012)
- Advisory Council Member, InnoTech: Oregon's Business & Technology Innovation Conference and CIO Summit (2004, 2005)
- Leadership Oregon: State of Oregon, Class of 2009

- Leadership Portland: Portland Business Alliance, Class of 2004
 - Society for Information Management: Regional Leadership Roundtable, Class of 2003
-

Candidate Statement:

It has been a privilege to serve on the Board of Directors, and I am honored to be considered a candidate to continue that service. This experience has deepened my appreciation for the complexity of our work, and for the dedicated people across jurisdictions who carry it forward every day. I remain committed to FSBPT's mission to protect the public while supporting member boards through evolving challenges, and I would welcome the opportunity to continue to serve as a steward of the mission of this organization, to represent the membership, and to give back to this community.

Serving on the Board has reinforced for me how important it is to listen carefully, stay curious, and approach decisions with both thoughtfulness and practicality. No one person can have all the answers, so I strive to ask good questions, consider multiple perspectives, and keep our work grounded in real-world impact. I aim to balance diligence with humility—and of course bring just enough humor to help us navigate long agendas and complex issues.

If reelected, I will continue to serve with integrity, openness, and a strong sense of responsibility to both the membership and the public we serve. Thank you for your trust and consideration of my candidacy; but first and foremost, thank you for your dedication and for the important work you do every day.

Candidate for Director III Position: Jonathan Bird



Current and past work experience:

I am a full-time clinician with advanced certifications in both wound care and lymphedema. I also teach in an entry-level PTA program as adjunct core faculty and have 17 years of combined experience in PTA education, including 14 years as Program Director/Chair of an entry-level PTA program that I led from inception to full CAPTE accreditation. Additionally, I serve as a clinical instructor for an entry-level DPT program. Beyond my clinical and educator roles, I have worked in leadership positions at the facility, multi-facility, and corporate, multi-state facility rehabilitation director roles in the PT profession.

Licensure experience:

- Idaho Physical Therapy Board (Member, 2021 – present; Chair, 2025 – present)

FSBPT experience pertinent to position:

- Item writer (2018 – 2025)
- Regional Item Writer Coordinator (2023)
- EDC-PTA (Member, 2020 – 2022; Co-Chair 2023 – 2025)
- Finance Committee (2025 – present)
- Academy of Advanced Item Writers (Inducted in 2023)
- Outstanding Service Award (2023)

Other experience pertinent to position (e.g., same position with another organization):

My involvement with my religious affiliation has given me extensive leadership roles, including being a local ecclesiastical leader of a congregation and a traveling speaker in front of both small and large audiences for over 30 years. I have also been involved with licensure and compliance in various facility and corporate regional director roles for approximately 20 years.

Candidate Statement:

Over the past 20 years, my extensive leadership and management experience has equipped me with refined skills and insights that enhance my ability to collaborate effectively with fellow leaders for the advancement of the FSBPT. My tenure with the Idaho PT Licensing Board, including service as Board Chair, has further developed my capacity to guide professionals toward positive outcomes while protecting both the public and the licensees, as recognized by my peers. I consider myself a transformational leader who prioritizes enduring values such as integrity, humility, dependability, servant leadership, and attentive listening. I hold in high regard the teachings of the late Dr. Stephen R. Covey, especially his principle of seeking first to understand before being understood. These core values align well with the mission and vision of the FSBPT, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to and grow within such a distinguished organization.

Candidate for Director III Position: Krista Wolfe



Current and past work experience:

- Central Penn College – Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost (2020-present); Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost (2018); Dean, School of Nursing & Health Sciences (2016-2020); Interim Dean, Applied Sciences (2014-2016), Director, Physical Therapist Assistant Program (2006-2014)
- Inspired Physical Therapy – PRN Pelvic Floor Physical Therapist (2018-present)
- Conforti Physical Therapy – PRN Staff Physical Therapist (2010-2016)
- Drayer Physical Therapy Institute – PRN Staff Physical Therapist (2006-2010)

Licensure experience:

- Pennsylvania State Board of Physical Therapy
 - Secretary (2020-2025)
 - Vice Chair (2026)
- Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer
 - Examiner (2000-2001)

FSBPT experience pertinent to position:

- FSBPT Board of Directors (2024-present)
 - Lead national initiatives supporting licensure, regulation, and public protection
 - Collaborate with state boards and stakeholders on regulatory consistency and policy
 - Contribute to strategic planning and organizational governance
- Finance Committee (2022-2024)
 - Develop and present an annual budget to the Board of Directors
 - Advise the Board of Directors on matters pertaining to FSBPT's financial needs, growth, and stability
 - Monitor the financial stability of FSBPT through a review of monthly financial statements
- IBRC Member and EDC-PTA Co-Chair (2011-2021)
 - Organized and led the committee meetings to include item review and revision, ensuring that items are rubriced appropriately and verifying other item-related information, such as the cognitive level, the rating scales, and the reference supporting the key and each distractor. Attended the Annual Education Meeting and provided input into the practice analysis at the Exam Committee Chairs meeting, as well as attended the LIF meeting.

Other experience pertinent to position (e.g., same position with another organization):

- Pennsylvania Department of Education (2022-present)
 - Peer Reviewer. Serve as a subject matter expert in the evaluation of academic programs, ensuring alignment with state regulatory standards and quality benchmarks within health sciences and allied health education.
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) (2021-present)
 - Peer Reviewer & Facilitator. Serve as a peer evaluator for institutional accreditation reviews, assessing compliance with MSCHE standards and federal regulatory requirements.
- Pennsylvania Department of Health (March 2020)
 - Access to Care Workforce Team. The focus group provided an opportunity to discuss Access to Care and the communities served in more depth to help assess health in Pennsylvania.
 - COVID-19 Health Equity Response Team. The Team served as the implementation team that monitored data, mitigated the virus at the community level, and implemented a long-term plan to nullify the effects throughout the continuum of the arc of the virus.

Candidate Statement:

I am honored to seek re-election to the Board of Directors of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Over the past 1.5 years, completing the remainder of a previous Director's term, I have gained valuable insight into the Board's responsibilities and the Federation's work in licensure, examination, and public protection. This experience has

strengthened my understanding of governance and strategic priorities, while allowing me to build meaningful relationships with Board members, staff, and jurisdictions. I am committed to ensuring continuity of leadership and supporting informed, mission-driven decision-making.

My background includes over two decades of experience in clinical practice, higher education leadership, and regulatory service. As a member of the Pennsylvania State Board of Physical Therapy and a long-standing contributor to Federation initiatives, including NPTE item writing, committee leadership, and governance, I bring a comprehensive understanding of licensure, regulation, and workforce development. In my role as Vice President for Academic Affairs, I also bring expertise in strategic planning, financial oversight, and program evaluation to support sustainable decision-making.

I am a collaborative, mission-driven leader dedicated to public protection, professional competence, and regulatory consistency. I value diverse perspectives and strive to translate complex issues into clear, actionable strategies. I would be honored to continue serving and contributing to the Federation's important work on behalf of the profession and the public.

Candidate for Nominating Committee Member Position: Justin Berry



Current and past work experience:

I have been the PTA Program Director at Northland Community and Technical College since 2026 and have been an adjunct faculty member for the online transitional DPT Program at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN, since 2017.

I have been a physical therapist since 2000 with experience in outpatient orthopedic, long-term care, acute care, and rural hospital settings. I have also had adjunct faculty experience at two DPT educational programs and within a Clinical Research PhD Program.

Licensure experience:

- North Dakota Board of Physical Therapy (2020-present)
 - Board President (2022-present)
- Licensed as a physical therapist in North Dakota and Minnesota

FSBPT experience pertinent to position:

- Ethics and Legislation Committee (2024-present)
- PT Compact Delegate for North Dakota (2022-present)
- PTA Tool 3 Development and Validation Task Force (Chair, 2025)
- Speaker at several FSBPT Annual Education Meetings
- Item Writer experience
- Outstanding Service Award (2025)

Other experience pertinent to position (e.g., same position with another organization):

- APTA North Dakota Nominating Committee (Member and Chair, 2012-2020)
- Academy of Physical Therapy Education's Physical Therapist Assistant Educator Special Interest Group Nominating Committee (2019-2023)
- CAPTE on-site reviewer (2012-present)
- American Council of Academic Physical Therapy, PTA Education Program Engagement Task Force (Vice Chair, 2023-2024)
- Academy of Physical Therapy Education, PTA Education Summit Task Force (Member, 2022)
- Academy of Physical Therapy Education Trends Task Force (Co-chair, 2018-2020)

Candidate Statement:

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered as a member of the Nominating Committee. My previous experience as a nominating committee member for APTA North Dakota and for the Academy of Physical Therapy Education's Physical Therapist Assistant Special Interest Group was very rewarding, and I feel these experiences would be beneficial as an FSBPT nominating committee member. I initially became involved with FSBPT as an item writer and as a speaker at several Annual Education Meetings. Since becoming a state board member, I have enjoyed becoming more involved and really appreciate the wide range of backgrounds and experiences of everyone active with FSBPT. My prior service/volunteering experience with FSBPT, as well as with the PT Compact, CAPTE, and APTA, has provided me the opportunity to meet many people involved with FSBPT. These experiences would assist greatly in identifying, recruiting, and persuading individuals to run for future positions. Thank you again, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Candidate for Nominating Committee Member Position: Susan Gile



Current and past work experience:

- Executive Director, Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (October 2021 – current). The Board licenses and regulates 16 healthcare professions.
- Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department for Children and Families (September 1991 – April 2019)

I am a social worker by degree and license and spent 27 years in the child welfare field working with abused and neglected children and overwhelmed parents, providing services to help families function in a healthy manner. That work and the work I do now is rewarding because it's all about public protection.

Licensure experience:

I supervise the licensing administrator for our licensing department. The KSBHA licenses 16 healthcare professions. While our mission is public protection, we also strive to make the licensure process as seamless and painless as possible for our licensees and applicants. We are also mindful of the employers and try to help them easily find and employ qualified applicants in a timely manner.

FSBPT experience pertinent to position:

- Ethics and Legislation Committee (Member, 2024 – present; Chair, 2025 – present)
- Kansas' Delegate to the PT Compact Commission (2021 – present)
- PT Compact Executive Board, Member-at-Large (2024 – present)
- PT Compact Compliance Committee (2024)

Other experience pertinent to position (e.g., same position with another organization):

I served on the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee for the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact for two years, including serving as Chair for one of those years.

Candidate Statement:

I have been involved with the FSBPT for a number of years and I am always amazed at the incredible work of this organization. I am honored by the opportunity to be involved in shaping the future of the FSBPT through helping select the next generation of candidates for office.

I believe my history of successfully managing an umbrella board of 16 professions leaves me well situated to manage different personalities in any environment. I generally stay focused on the task and goal and will look for candidates best suited to meet the same, while keeping in mind the mission of the organization.