



APTA

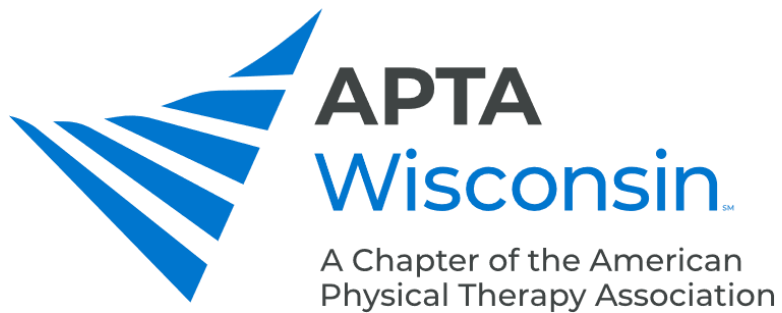
WisconsinSM

A Chapter of the American
Physical Therapy Association

Through The Years

1919

- Junior League Curative Workshop was founded in the basement of Columbia Hospital in Milwaukee, becoming home to the first physical therapy department in the state.

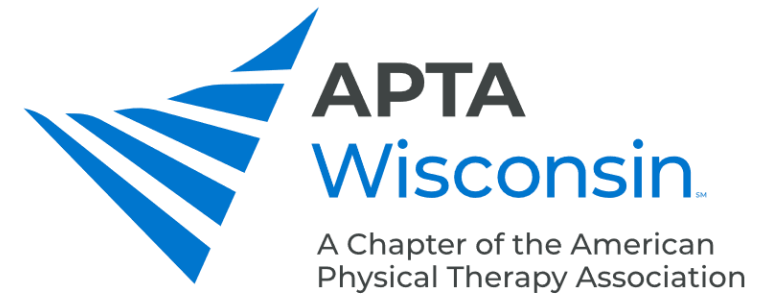


1926 - 1937

- University of Wisconsin began planning courses in physical therapy, becoming one of the oldest programs in the country. Courses were offered to students seeking a BS or MS degree in physical education as electives. Supervised clinical experiences were required at Wisconsin General Hospital.
- Courses were housed in the Department of Physical Education with Dr Helen Denniston as Director.
- The program became accredited by APTA in 1929 as one of only three PT curricula in the US (non-degree program)
- A certificate of Physical Therapy was awarded in 1937 and UW was included on initial list of accredited PT programs.
- 4-year BS degree in Physical Medicine was later established.

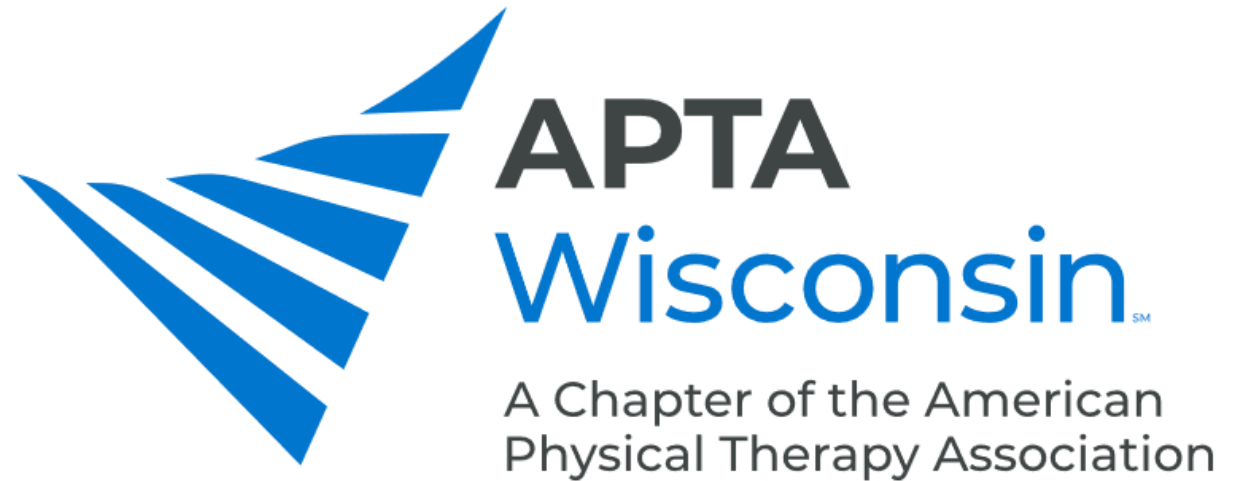
1929

- On January 25, 1929, the first meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter of the APTA took place during a severe blizzard. The meeting took place in room 725 of the Loraine Hotel and was attended by Laura Borwell, Madison; Mildren Elson, Milwaukee; Claire B. Miller, La Crosse; and Florence Phenix, Milwaukee.
- The Constitution and Bylaws were accepted. Elected officers were: President Mildred Elson, Vice-President Laura Borwell, Secretary Florence Phenix, Treasurer Muriel Patrick (Kenosha) and Claire Miller as member-at-large.



Membership

- 1929 = 5
- 1930 = 17
- 1939 = 52
- 1954 = 175
- 1987 = 841
- 1993 = 1390
- 2002 = 1777
- 2014 = 2440



1931

- First Wisconsin Chapter newsletter, known as “Home Town Thistle Down News” was published with Lucy Blair as its founding Editor.
- Publication later became known as Wisconsin Chapter News and eventually PT Connections.

1932

- First APTA National Conference (held separately from AMA) took place in Milwaukee WI.

1951

- Wisconsin Chapter- APTA becomes incorporated (April 12, 1951)

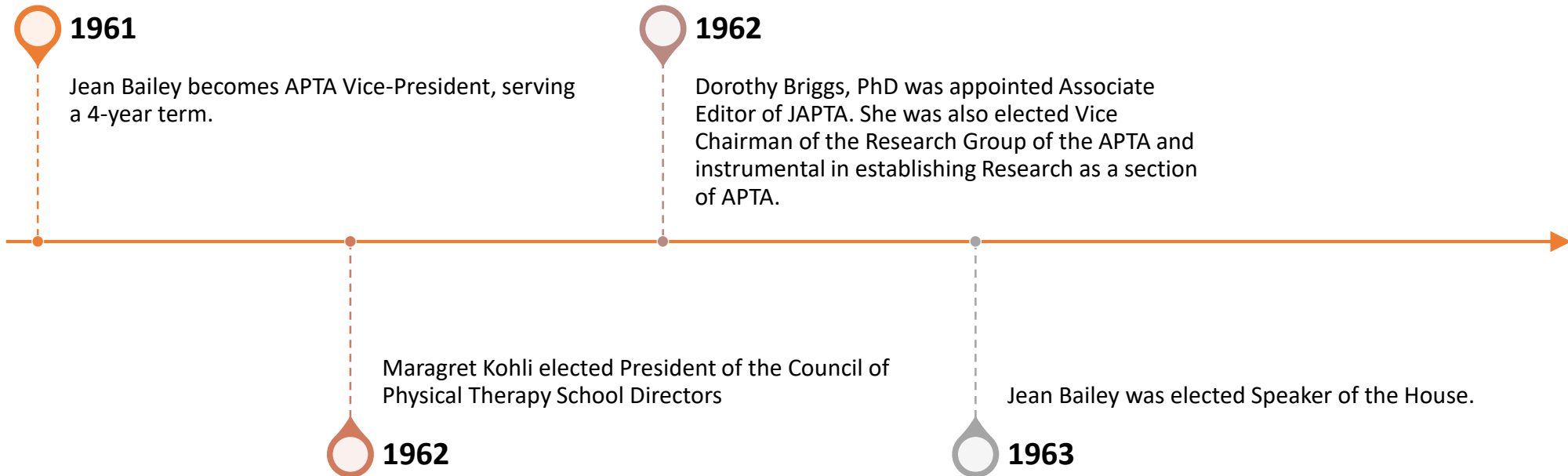
1952

- Marquette University becomes the second academic institution to house a physical therapy program in the state. Beth Philips was the PT program director.

1953

- PT Practice Act Created, licensing PTs
- PT examining committee within the Medical Examining Board was established and comprised of Chapter-member PTs
- First PT licensed in 1954

Wisconsin PTs hold National Offices



1967

- PES used for PT examination process by the State Board of Medical Examiners

1967

- Jane Bolinske and Dick Duerr formed a self-employed section within the Wisconsin Chapter

1967

- APTA charges state chapters with providing structure for PTA education at a two-year junior college level with state licensure as an outcome.
- At the time, PTs practiced under direct supervision of the physician. It was determined that PTs did not have the authority to set standards for licensing assistants.

1977

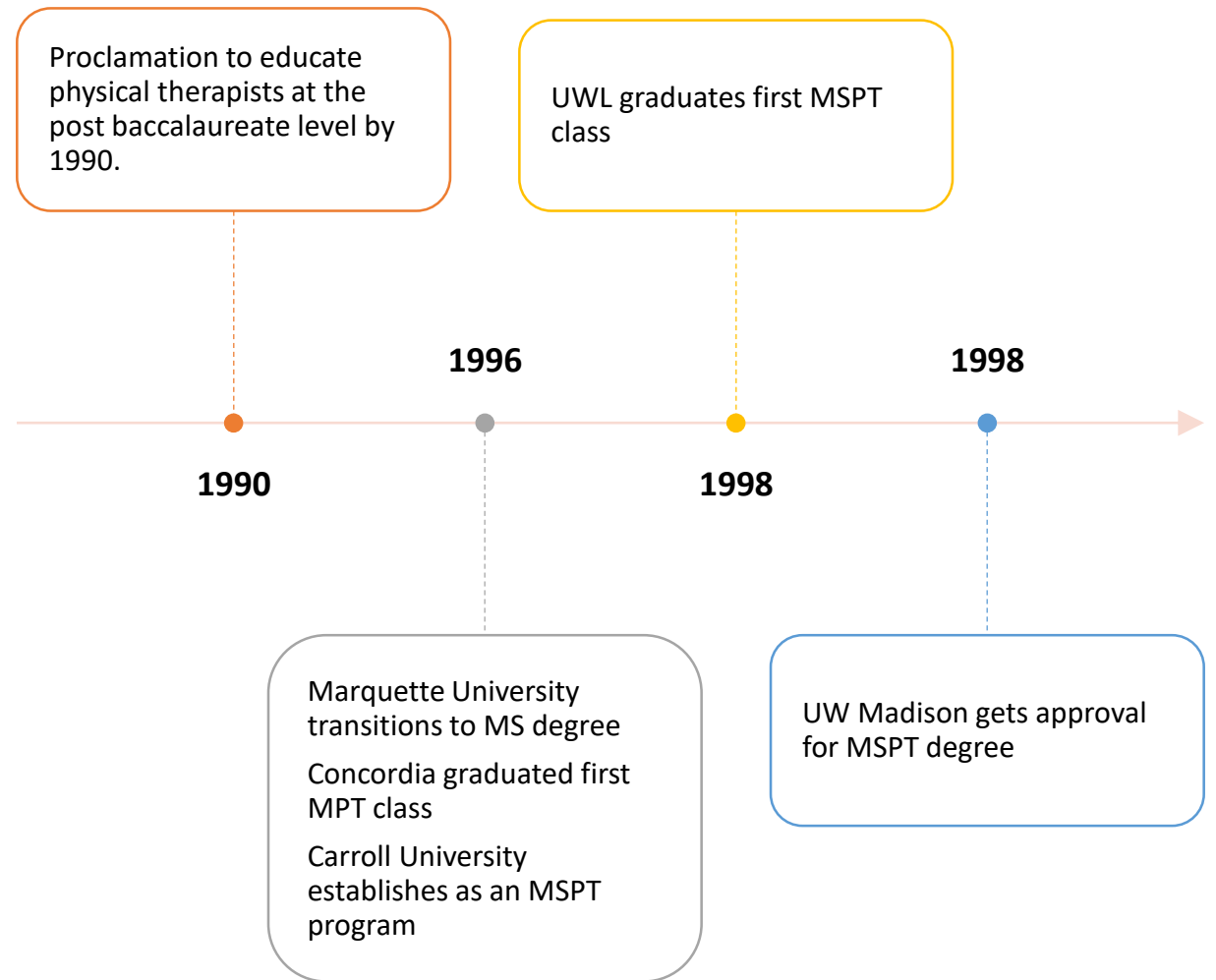
Quality Assurance
mandated by H-24, JCAH
and Professional
Standards Review
Organization (PSRO).

Required documented
evidence that mechanism
in place for monitoring
and upgrading quality of
care continually.

1978

University of Wisconsin – La Crosse graduates its first BS class of physical therapists.

1980



1989

Direct Access legislation
signed into law on
8/3/1989.

1989

- Clinical Education Special Interest Group approved by Wisconsin Chapter. Gwyneth Straker, founder and First Chair.

1989

Blackhawk Technical College receives accreditation

1989

- Marquette physical therapy students initiated the Marquette Challenge as a fundraising effort to support physical therapy research.
- Since its inception, the Marquette Challenge has raised over \$4 million dollars for research.

1998

Gateway Technical College PTA program becomes accredited.

2002

- PT Practice Act Legislation:
 - Updated definition of physical therapy
 - PTs able to render a PT diagnosis
 - PTs able to perform spinal manipulation
 - License PTAs
 - Require continued competence of PTs/PTAs



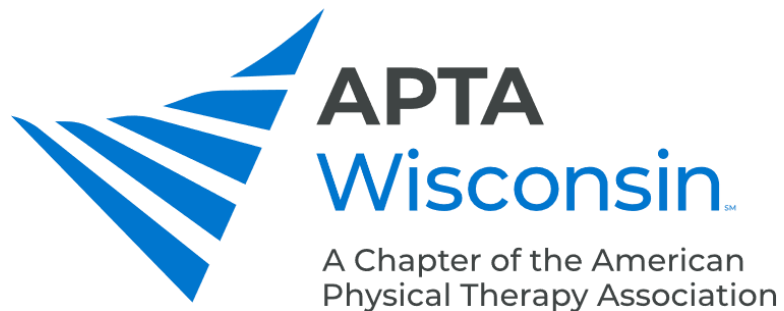
2002

WPTA awarded an APTA PIE award for fiscal management

Transition to DPT

- 2005:
 - Marquette University
 - Concordia University
 - UW Board of Regents approves consortial degree to be offered by UWL & UW-Milwaukee
- 2006:
 - Carroll University transitions to DPT
 - UW-Milwaukee hires its first program director, Kathy Zalewski, PT, PhD
- 2007:
 - UW-Madison obtains approval from Board of Regents to offer DPT

2006



- New Rules established by the PTACB included ethics and jurisprudence training. Membership awareness of this important aspect of practice is in keeping with efforts to create an independent examining board and professional self-policing, consistent with Vision 2020.

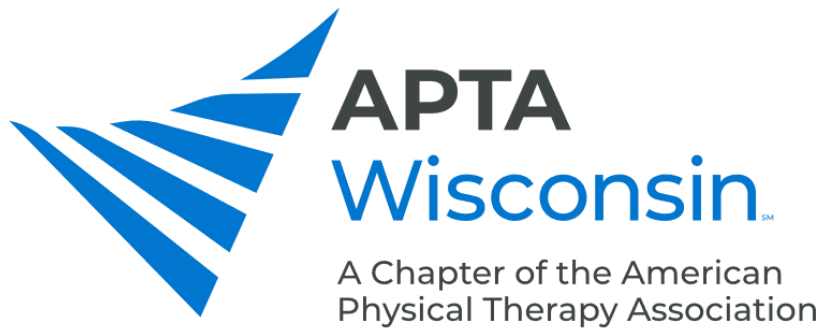
2006 Direct Access

- Amery Hospital, under leadership of Jeff Nassman, becomes the first hospital in WI to provide PT under direct access. UW Hospitals would follow under leadership of Bill Boissonnault. This is a great example of how dynamic leadership can pave the way to progress PT accessibility and practice liberties.

2007

Chippewa Valley Technical College PTA program started.

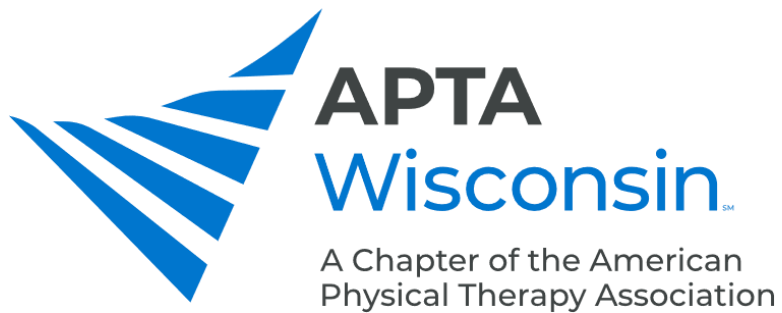
2016 Diagnostic Imaging



Governor Walker signed AB549 into law allowing qualified PTs to order x-rays and radiologic technologists to accept such orders to take x-rays films as directed by a PT.

2010 PTEB

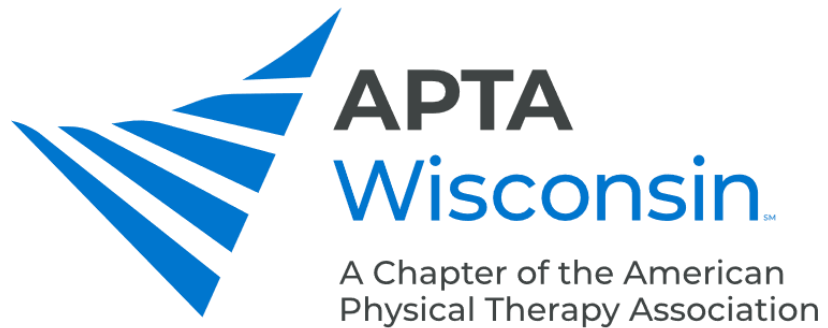
- Legislation passed to create the first independent Physical Therapy Examining Board (PTEB).
- Discussion surrounding this important change started in 1989!.



2011

Madison Area Technical College starts its PTA program

2014



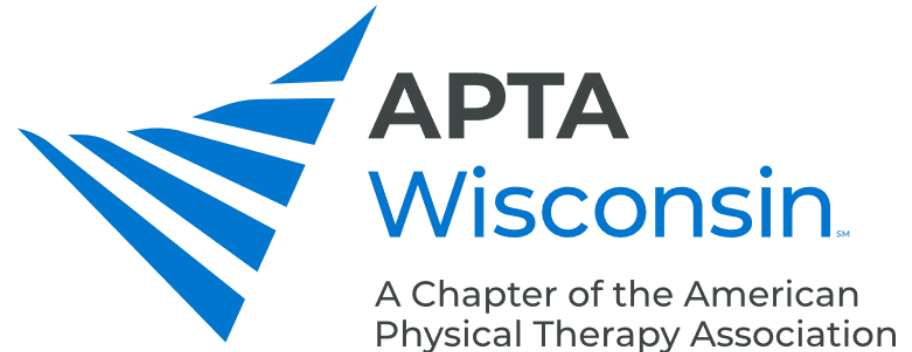
- The Jayne Snyder National Private Practice of the Year Award was presented to Advanced Physical Therapy and Sports (owned by Rob Worth).

Dr. Susan Griffin
elected APTA Speaker
of the House

2014

2015

- APTA Outstanding Effort Award given to WPTA in Health and Wellness/senior exercise and fitness efforts in response to \$10,000 grant (2014) authored by Gwyneth Straker to develop Strong Seniors classes in rural Wisconsin communities.



Dr. Kip Schick elected to APTA Board
of Directors

2016



APTA
WisconsinSM

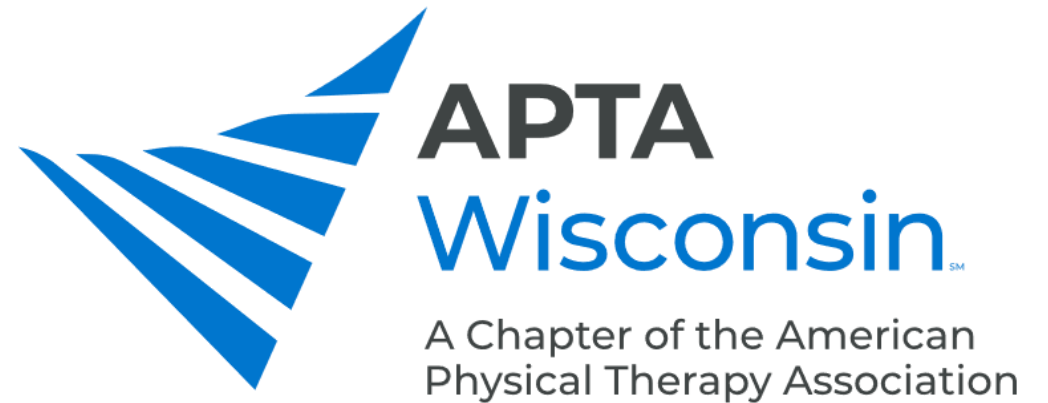
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2017

Bryant Stratton PTA program opens in Milwaukee as a 5 semester accelerated program.

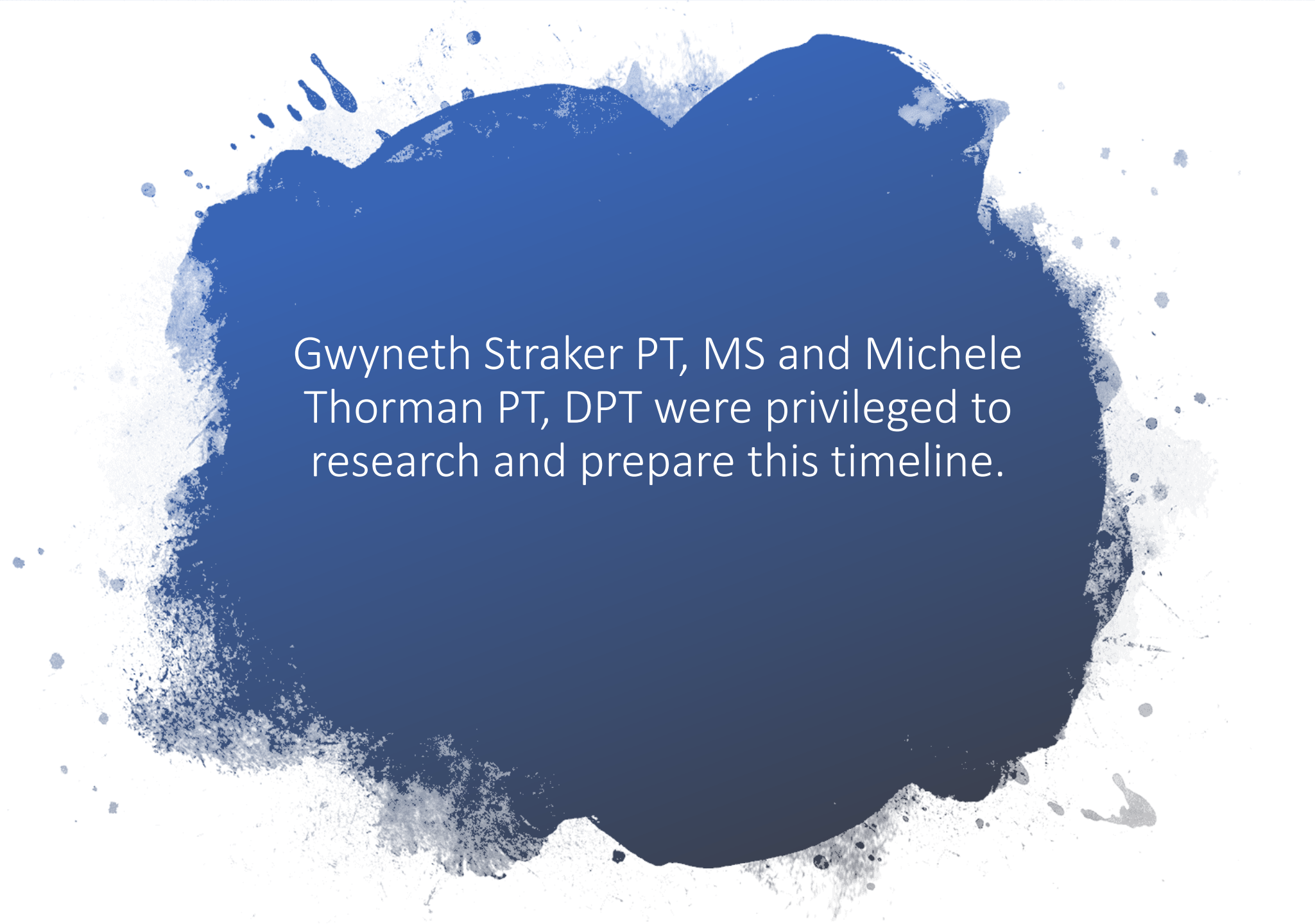
2019

Governor Ever signed SB-390 on Feb 6,
2019 adding WI to the PT Interstate
Licensure Compact

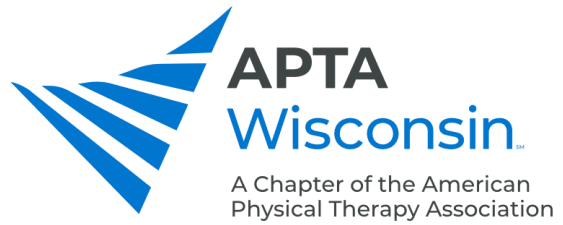


COVID – 19 Virus

- Covid – 19 pandemic resulted in historic changes with practice delivery and APTA Wisconsin operations. Telehealth practice models emerged as a safer yet effective alternative to face-to-face treatment during these challenging times. APTA Wisconsin moves all conferences, board meetings, and continuing education offerings to virtual encounters. We looked back to our history with the polio epidemic to forge forward.



Gwyneth Straker PT, MS and Michele Thorman PT, DPT were privileged to research and prepare this timeline.



To be continued...