

American Academy of Physicians' Assistants

Candidate Platforms

Biographical Data

1977

Candidates for President-Elect



Stephen L. Joyner

I am a 1968 graduate of the Duke University PA Program and have been in a family practice for eight years. I am a charter member of the AAPA and past member of its Board of Directors. At present I serve as Secretary to the National Commission on Certification of Physician's Assistants (NCCPA) and chairman of the Academy Ad Hoc Committee on Graduate Credentialing and Certification. I also serve on the Role Delineation Committee for the Academy.

In these areas of service I have worked hard to uphold the professional status of our membership and to help establish the present mechanism used to certify our competency thus assuring us national mobility. I have pressed the NCCPA at every meeting to speedily establish a Surgical Specialty Certifying Examination and I feel assured this will be a reality in 1978 and soon to follow this, other specialty examinations. I feel that the NCCPA is the organization to do this work, and I will continue to work toward this end. I feel the certifying examination should be closed to the informally trained as all have had ample opportunity to become certified by this time.

I know the largest percentage of the Academy membership is and will continue to be located in clinical practice settings not in the universities or medical schools. Now is the time to select our representatives from the clinical areas. With my experience at the Academy level and with eight years of clinical experience I see all too clearly the many pressing needs on both ends of the scale and if elected my efforts would be to see that the Academy serves the best interest of all its members.

I hope that everyone will work for the Academy in any way that he can, for I feel that the Academy has been a tremendous benefit to us. It has not been perfect but what or who is. I know that the Academy will continue to serve us well in the future, however it cannot function for us unless we are willing to work for it. I will continue to serve our Academy regardless of the outcome of this election.

I hope to see all of you in Houston, Texas, for the annual meeting in April.



James E. Konopa

Goals of the Academy:

The following list of priorities must be addressed and resolved during the forthcoming year:

1. Approval for third-party reimbursement
2. A strong marketing/public relations effort which will remain constant and not sporadic
3. Offer CME programs in regions making available quality education to those persons unable to attend the annual meeting due to professional or personal restraints
4. Strengthen the constituent chapter/AAPA lines of communication by utilizing a regional plan
5. Actively pursue a downward adjustment in the liability insurance fees currently being offered by the Academy
6. Work jointly with the National Commission on Certification of Physician's Assistants to reduce the cost of the certifying examination
7. Pursue enabling legislation in all 50 states.

Academy Activities:

Over the past two and a half years, I have attended all AAPA Board of Directors meetings in an effort to remain abreast of the current activities as well as to present to the Board all constituent chapter charter requests. I am the original chairman of the Constituent Chapters Committee (formerly known as the Apportionment Committee) since its establishment in 1974. I also serve as the CME liaison representing the Academy to the Emory-Stony Brook PA CME Advisory Board. I believe I have the awareness to intelligently pursue resolution of the problems facing the Academy demonstrated by my continued participation in Academy activities. There are presently many issues which confront the Academy, all of which must be resolved to the interests of the membership and the profession. The foremost problem remains in making the term "Physician Assistant" a household word. Through a strong continuous marketing and public relations effort, this can be done. There is no doubt the profession has made a mark in society and it is now time to expand that mark and make it indelible.

Past Activities:

1. Chairman, AAPA Bylaws/Judicial Affairs Committee, 1972-1974
2. AAPA Vice President, 1973-1974
3. Member, Advisory Committee on PAs

- to the Florida State Board of Medical Examiners, 1974-Present
4. President Elect, Florida Academy of Physicians' Assistants, 1974-1975
5. President, Florida Academy of Physicians' Assistants, 1975-1976

Work and Education Experience:

1. Navy Corpsman, 1960-1964
2. Surgical Technician, Rockford Memorial Hospital, Rockford, Illinois, 1964-1968
3. Duke University PA Program, Graduate, 1970
4. Staff PA and Clinical Instructor, VA Hospital Medical Services, Muskogee, Oklahoma, 1970-1973
5. NCCPA Certification, December, 1973
6. Clinical Coordinator, Physician Assistant Program, University of Florida, 1974-April, 1976
7. Associate Director, Physician Assistant Program, University of Florida, April 1976-Present.



Nancy Henderson Stable

I have had the opportunity of being involved in this Academy over the past four years. I enrolled in the Medical College of Georgia in the fall of 1973 to begin my training as a PA. As a student, I served as the Secretary of the AAPA Student Executive Board. Following graduation I moved to Denver, Colorado where I now practice with a group of internists in a multi-specialty clinic. I have been a member of the AAPA CME Committee and am currently the Secretary of the Academy. I am now declaring my candidacy for the position of President-Elect.

We have a common intent and we all need to become involved. I would like to see a more equal sharing of responsibilities with a reorganization of the executive and committee structure of the Academy. The establishment of the House of Delegates has created the opportunity for the decentralization of the governing body. The House will allow for direct input on the part of each individual member. This type of involvement will be essential in addressing the issues confronting our profession now and in the future.

Educating the general public as well as the medical profession about the concept and utilization of the PA is one of the major issues facing the Academy today. It is essential for our continued growth that we develop a process of education creating a better awareness on a national level of what the PA is and is not.

Legislation on the state and national level continues to be an issue of utmost importance to us all. There now exists

in several states, model legislation allowing for the practice of the physician assistant. With assistance from the Academy through dissemination of information regarding current legislation in the various states, others can gain as a result. On the national level the issue of third-party reimbursement must again be addressed. We must make and launch an all out effort toward the passage of legislation calling for the reimbursement of the physician for the services provided by the physician assistant.

These are but a few of the important items on the Academy work list for the next two years. As a member of the Academy, as a practicing physician assistant with the support of my employer and family, I would hope to the best of my ability to work with each of you in dealing with the issues confronting our profession today.

Candidates for Secretary



Lewis M. DeVore

Fellow Members: Are you aware that there are board members who did not attend AAPA board meetings last year? And, that there are board members who left early without voting on key issues? This has been and is happening! I'm very concerned with public accountability and I would strive to enhance communications with the general membership of the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants by the following methods: 1) distributing minutes of the board of directors meetings to the presidents of all state constituent chapters; 2) to make known in newsletters following board meetings the issues that arose and who voted for them; 3) to strive for early distribution of unapproved minutes of board meetings to all board members well in advance of upcoming board meetings.

Additionally I would like to comment that I am very concerned with certain issues of primary importance. The number one priority is reimbursement for physician assistants by the Social Security Administration. Another area of high priority would be to have the Academy compile and distribute position papers demonstrating our stand on key issues. A third priority would be to insure the provisions for quality, low cost continuing medical education to all members. Additional issues of importance includes the concept of closing the National Board Exams to everyone except graduates of approved programs; and, a long hard look at the rationale behind the proposed

re-examination for certification every six years.

I am an ex-Navy corpsman, and a graduate of the OUPA Program of 1972. I worked in a private rural practice in Muscatine, Iowa for two years. Besides the time I spend daily in private practice; I am currently on the faculty of the University of Oklahoma, teaching in the PA Program, and working to establish the role of the physician assistants in dental education.

I have worked diligently as a board member and an officer on the state level over the past three years and have chaired the State Continuing Medical Education Committee the past two years.

In conclusion, I would like to state that I have full support from my Departmental Chairman and physician to pursue this office. I would also state that I have the staff required to fulfill the functions of secretary of the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants. I will appreciate your support. Thank you.



Robin Morgenstern

Education:

University of Wisconsin—Bachelors of Science in Zoology (with Honors), 1970. USPHS PA Program, Staten Island, New York, 1973.

PASSED: NBME Certifying Examination—1973.

NCCPA Certification—1974.
Registered as PA in New York—1973; Illinois—1976.

Work Experience:

1. Primary Care PA—Multispecialty clinic—Brooklyn, NY, 1973-1975. 1974—Article: "Effect of Negative Heel on Posture, Fatigue and Low Back Pain."
2. PA to Internist, Chicago, Illinois, 1975-1977. Assisted in the instruction of physical diagnosis course to medical students.
3. PA to Orthopedic Surgeon with Spine Specialty—1977. Assisting in screening Chicago Park District and Chicago School System for Scoliosis; teaching and organization of lectures for Spine Center.

Current Activities:

1. 1977—President-Elect of Illinois Academy of Physicians' Assistants.
2. Since 1976—PA Representative to the Illinois State Medical Society's Advisory Committee on Physician Assistants.
3. PA Representative to the Illinois Physician Assistant Statute Ad Hoc Committee.
4. PA member to Advisory Committee

for Establishment of PA Programs in Illinois.

When attending the AAPA State Officer's Workshop (Nov. 4-5, 1976) in Kansas City, Missouri, I realized what a dynamic organization the AAPA is. We must transmit the enthusiasm of the Academy to our state chapters.

In the past few years I have had and continue to have legislative and political experience in Illinois that would be of practical benefit to the Academy. I feel that commitment by our members both nationally and locally is needed. With total commitment the following goals will be reached. . . .

Goals:

1. improved communication by the national Academy to the local chapters by means of the Newsletter. I intend to have direct lines of communication to me from the membership.
2. continued improvement of the public's understanding of the PA concept, as well as education of other health professionals through meetings, seminars and improved public relations—as we've attempted in Illinois in the past few years.
3. further the development of model PA legislation so that other states don't repeat Illinois' mistakes. As long as PAs maintain professional unity, such poor and detrimental legislation will not appear again.
4. help resolve the Medicare/welfare reimbursement problems.
5. make CME and new PA training programs even more relevant to each state's needs; help in recording CME hours efficiently.
6. this being the first year in which the House of Delegates will be in existence, I will help to implement the recommendations received from the House, as it represents the ideas of the working PA.



Michael B. Sheldon

Since the inception of the Academy we have seen the formulation and organization of a professional association at national, state and recently, regional levels. It has been a necessary task but now the need lies in active public promotion of a profession and professional.

It is a fact that organization gives strength and the issues of third party payments, military commissions, prescriptive practices and malpractice insurance will only be solved in committee. However, in order to expedite the solutions to these issues we must begin an active

public relations campaign. You must elect leaders who are willing to act on policy and not continually just sit and formulate it.

With an active public relations campaign it is inevitable that the number of opportunities for employment will increase in and out of patient related fields because of the demonstrated practicality of using new mid-level health practitioners.

As you can see, all of the issues presented affect your ability to earn a living and practice your vocation. It must be made clear that being a PA is synonymous with public activity in the politics of your profession and in the eye of the populace.

The crux of my reasons for declaring to national office are two-fold: First, some leaders are apparently concerned with power and as a result stagnation has developed on issues of major importance. Is the House of Delegates absolutely essential this year? Could it not be power politics and a form of bureaucratic organization to secure that power? Secondly, it is my belief we have enough organization and the need is to solve the issues that effect our earning capacity as well as representing the needs of increasing special interests within the academy such as surgical physician's assistant, the regional factions and nurse practitioners.

In closing, the duties of secretary are defined, but most important is the seat it occupies on the Board and I hope my experience as a participant on student AAPA committees, numerous standing AAPA committees, representative of my student society to the second New Health Practitioner Convention, a major participant in forming Maine's first large CME program and state academy, and my employment experience, first as a surgical PA and now as an Emergency Room PA will be used to represent and benefit you.

Candidates for Treasurer



Daniel O. Myhre

One of the strengths of the AAPA has been the involvement and utilization of people with new ideas. These people have gained experience within the ranks of the Academy. As chairman of the Credentials Committee of the House of Delegates, President of the Washington State Academy, member of the Constituent Chapters Committee, VA Taskforce on PAs, and several other committees, I have gained the experience necessary to be a good Treasurer.

I believe strongly that the Treasurer could devote a larger proportion of his time to the development and implementation of new ideas that are constantly arising from the ranks of the Academy. These ideas, if brought to fruition, can greatly benefit the practicing PA.

When the Academy obtained the services of a full-time comptroller additional time was made available to the Treasurer to work in other areas of the Academy's development. If chosen your Treasurer, I would direct a great deal of my energies into two major projects.

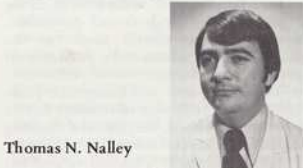
The first would be to institute a series of regional AAPA meetings. I propose that these be held simultaneously approximately six months after the national meeting in four or five cities throughout the country. These would be arranged through the cooperative efforts of constituent chapters in a given region with assistance from the AAPA. Each would be attended by two or more of the Academy's officers and board members.

I submit that these meetings would expose more PAs to the AAPA and would generate additional revenue for the AAPA and sponsoring chapters.

Secondly, I would press for more benefits for Academy members, such as group life insurance; health and accident policies for members and their families; financial, estate, and tax planning services; fleet-wide purchasing of automobiles; and low cost, group purchasing of major items such as furniture and appliances. These services are available to us if we, as an Academy, wish to obtain them.

I know that as Academy members, you want the best possible return-for your dollar. To accomplish this will require a great deal of effort and planning. I have the necessary experience to get the job done and I am willing to invest the time and energy required to reach this goal.

Your vote and support in this election will be greatly appreciated.



Thomas N. Nalley

I am 34 years old, married, and the father of 3 boys. I am employed by Charles R. Hatcher, Jr., M.D., Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Emory University Clinic, Atlanta, Georgia. I have been employed by Emory since my graduation from the Duke University program in 1973.

While I worked for the Marriott Hot Shoppe Restaurant chain, I gained experience in bookkeeping. I was responsible for maintaining the books on a restaurant which brought in \$80 to \$100 thousand per year. They had an active program of

education for their managers in records maintenance.

It was my pleasure to serve this past year as Treasurer of the AAPA. This was an important financial year. For the first time since the AAPA's inception we have been able to work within our budget and not depend on next year's finances to pay last year's bills. We have changed our fiscal year to coincide with other corporations and our budget has been changed from a cash flow system to an accrual system. These changes will aid us in a better understanding of our cash flow.

The issues facing PAs today are not new issues. The issue of identity continues to plague us as does the issue of third-party reimbursement. Prescriptive writing privileges are now permitted in some states but not all. The National Board exam, recertification, and specialty boards continue to need our input. The list can go on forever and tomorrow will bring new issues. These issues will be resolved but only with diligent effort—not just by the AAPA Board but on the state level by the constituent chapters. Ten years ago, when we were small in numbers, the Board of Directors could handle the matters brought to it. Now numbers have greatly increased and the AAPA Board will need to work more closely with the state organizations.

My employer is a strong supporter of the PA concept as is documented by his employing seven PAs in our group. He has further shown support by granting the time away from work to fulfill my obligations to both the AAPA and our state organization.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for electing me Treasurer this past year. It has been quite an educational experience and I look forward to putting that education to work for you in the future.

Candidates for Board of Directors



Dennis Balsam

Even as this declaration is made, the PA concept enters a critical juncture in its history: a time when full and active PA participation, at all levels, is an absolute necessity. The struggle to achieve our full potential continues; but unless and until American physicians truly understand and support this goal, it will remain an unrealized potential.

Only a strongly united profession, speaking through a responsive and responsible organization can achieve the desired end. We must build the Academy into an

organization that is responsive to the needs of the PA delivering health care at the community level; not a large bureaucratic sounding board used by a few to further their own goals.

I received a B.S. degree in Biology from Texas Tech. I attended Southwestern Medical School PA Program receiving a Bachelors in Health Care Science. Upon graduation, I went for one year of postgraduate training in trauma to the Maryland Institute of Emergency Medicine. I then went to work as Clinical Coordinator at the Medical College of Georgia and then after a year came to my current job as Clinical Coordinator at Emory University Physician Associate Program.



Burdeen M. Camp

Having worked in the same clinical position since graduating from the Yale Physician Associate Program over four years ago, I now feel I have the time to devote to my professional organization. For the past year and a half I have chaired the Continuing Medical Education Committee in Connecticut and have worked on the national Ad Hoc Committee on Prescriptive Practices. I feel that both our profession and professional organization are still in a crucial stage of development; particularly in the areas of certification, state registration, third-party reimbursement, and prescriptive practices.

Our state chapters, now that they have become a reality in most areas, need to be strengthened so that they may solve local problems. This will allow the Academy to devote its energy to the aspects of these problems that can only be solved on a national level. I feel that some of these issues are going to be crucial during the next two years. As a member of the Board of Directors I will work toward resolving them in a manner that is beneficial to the Academy membership.



Thomas S. Clayton

My background includes ten years in health care, an AA degree from Santa Monica College, a BS degree from the University of Nebraska. I graduated from the USN Physician Assistant Program in 1976. I work in a primary care clinic, providing daily medical care.

I've been active in the AAPA since January 1975. I served as President of my student society; where I promoted PAs on television, the press, and radio. I helped found the Uniformed Services Committee, AAPA, and the Naval Association of Physicians' Assistants (constituent chapter), AAPA. I'm still active in both. I edit the NAPA Newsletter. The AAPA selected me their "Outstanding PA Student of the Year" for 1976.

If elected I will publish my home phone number and address, in an attempt to be available to any PA with a suggestion or problem. I offer fresh new views, proven performance, and enthusiasm. I would use three tools to attack the problems of third-party reimbursement and inadequate state legislation: improve CME, improve grass roots communication, and strive for unity among all PAs.

I hope to talk with you in Houston. Then I can better represent your ideas. Please support me, so I can serve you.



Louis A. Falligant

I would like to announce my candidacy for the AAPA Board of Directors. I am a Wisconsin farm boy with a BS degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I graduated from Yale Physician Associate Program in 1975 and am presently employed by a family practitioner in Mondovi, Wis.

I am a founding member of the Wisconsin Academy of Physicians' Assistants and serve as chairman of the Legislative Watch Dog Committee. I serve on the Wisconsin Physician Assistant Advisory Council and on the AAPA Prescriptive Practices Committee.

My experiences thus far have given me a great deal of pride in our profession. However, I am acutely aware of the problems that threaten the existence of physician extenders.

The third-party reimbursement problem must be dealt with relentlessly until a solution is reached. We still need enabling legislation in several states.

Fresh leadership is needed to give our Academy new direction. I would like to propose NCCPA certification as a mandatory prerequisite for all offices and committee posts within the AAPA. I would also encourage a limitation on the number of offices and committee seats any one member can hold simultaneously. I welcome your support and your suggestions for a better Academy.



Ronald L. Fisher

Marital Status:
Married—2 children

Resident of:
Danville, Pennsylvania 17821

Education:
Passed NBME Examination, 1975
Graduate, Geisinger Medical Center Health Care Associate Program, 1973
Graduate, LPN—Pennsylvania, 1968

Professional Affiliations:
AAPA, PSOPA

Present Position:
Administrative responsibility for (3) nurse practitioners, (4) surgical assistants, (1) Medex student and (1) graduate PA at Geisinger Medical Center, a 466 bed multi-specialty clinic, in Danville, Pennsylvania. I also function as a primary care physician assistant in the Department of Family Medicine.

I feel that my experience, and responsibility for various health care extenders, the PA, nurse practitioner, surgical assistant, and Medex has given me insight into the problems of each. It has made me aware of the need for unity among these professionals as well as the necessity for good public relations and education, not only for lay persons, but also among the medical community.

We must continue to up-date our CME programs on a local level as well as through our state societies and the AAPA so as to reduce the cost to the PA.

The need for legislative representation will continue to exist in order to continuously ensure competency of the PA.

I feel that I can represent you in these areas of concern, and ask for your support in the election in April.



Samuel G. Hoskins

Birth Date:
November 14, 1946

Occupation:
Registered Physician Assistant—Certified 1973; CME Current

Education:
1971-1973—University of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama, Physician Assistant Program (Physician Assistant Certificate, Bachelor of Health Science Degree)

Military Obligation:
1968-1970—Served as a conscientious objector in the interest of national health

at the University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver, Colorado

Organizations:

1975-present—Founding Member of Board of Directors and Treasurer, New York State Society of Physicians' Assistants

1972-present—American Academy of Physicians' Assistants

1973—President of Senior Class, PA Program, University of Alabama

Employment:

1975-present—Physician Assistant, Department of Surgery, The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Cooperstown, New York. Have had numerous duties on general Surgical Service, presently involved in Surgical Oncology.

Concerns:

That the Physician Assistant concept not be splintered into subgroups by individual specialty demands. I would strive for unity of the PA profession on the basis that our profession is unique. We function professionally only through delegated responsibility by our employing physicians. I would be in favor of Specialty Boards for recertification, but would favor a core exam for initial certification as Physician Assistant. I would appreciate your support and look forward to meeting you in Houston.



Noel H. McFarlane

I would like to request your support for my candidacy for the Board of Directors of the Academy. Our profession has grown and must continue to develop to assure quality primary care services in underserved medical communities. In order to maintain quality professional care, several measures must be addressed as support systems for the practicing physician assistant.

The Board of Directors must be active in:

- Seeking methods for reduction of malpractice rates
- Increase public relations campaigns as to the utilization and deployment of physician assistants in areas of medical need
- Pursuit in securing third-party reimbursement
- Developing CME quizzes with appropriate CME credits for the Academy Journal
- Restrictive measures for eligibility to sit for National Board Examinations

My concern involves the total health care system, it should provide equal opportunities in education, employment,

and receiving health care services.

I would work toward achieving these goals.

Employment:

Howard University, Washington, D.C.—Instructor, Physician Assistant Department

Education:

AAS Degree, Inhalation Therapy
AAS Degree, Nursing Education
Certificate/BS—Howard University, Physician Assistant Department

Professional Organizations:

AAPA, Minority Affairs Committee, Liaison Committee, Membership Committee
AMA—Team, Program Evaluation
APAP—Board Member, D.C. PA Chapter

Certification:

RN, PA-C



David E. Larson

I am declaring my candidacy for a Board of Directors seat in AAPA for many reasons, the most important of which are: 1) Striving for a National Exam for all PAs including those PAs working in a surgical subspecialty that are graduates of approved programs and on-the-job trained. 2) Insuring AAPA representation of all PAs from all states and the military, whether they are AAPA chartered or not. 3) Continue to push for and back all who favor the passage of third party reimbursement for physician assistants.

Qualifications:

1. Graduate of the AMA approved Marshfield Clinic PA Program.
2. National Certification 1974.
3. Founding President Wisconsin Academy of Physicians' Assistants.
4. AAPA Student Member, serving on the Bylaws Committee, 1973-1974.
5. AAPA Fellow Member 1974-present.
6. Ambitious and willing to work for all physician assistants.



Edwin W. McCammack

I am presently working in a multi-specialty clinic in Champaign, Illinois.

Education:

1. Graduate Air Force PA Program, 1974
2. Bachelor of Science, University of Nebraska, 1974
3. Certified by National Board of Medical Examiners, 1975
4. Certified by additional examination, State of Illinois, 1976
5. Masters of Science in Education and in Guidance and Counseling, 1977
6. Accepted for Ph.D. program in Allied Health Professions, University of Illinois, summer 1977

Accomplishments:

1. Astronaut Medical Rescue Team, Apollo-Soyuz mission
2. Vice President, Air Force Society of PAs, 1974-1975
3. Vice President, Illinois Academy of Physicians' Assistants, 1975-1976, 1976-1977
4. Consultant to Illinois State Medical Society Advisory Committee to Physician Assistants
5. Chairman, Illinois Academy Legislative Committee
6. Coordinator Emergency Medical Technician Program for Parkland College Life Science Department

If elected, I would continue to work toward third-party reimbursement. A task force towards uniform national legislation is imperative. The Board must also develop a harmonious working relationship with the newly formed House of Delegates, which will be the voice of the grass root PA.

I have the desire, knowledge, and willingness to serve the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants, and promote the PA concept. I would like the opportunity to serve "you," the Members of the AAPA.



Kederick Meyers

I wish to announce my candidacy for a director seat on the AAPA Board of Directors. I am 27, single, an ex-Navy hospital corpsman and 1974 graduate of the Indiana University School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program. Since graduation I have been employed in a medically underserved community of 15,000 by a family physician in a diversified family practice in Indiana. I am nationally certified, have served on the AAPA Membership Committee and as Vice President of the Indiana Academy of Physicians' Assistants.

It is imperative that members of the Board be practitioners from clinical settings attuned to the issues. I stay abreast of AAPA-AAFP issues through active participation and by association with my employer who is a delegate to

the AAFP House of Delegates. One important issue I support is third-party reimbursement at a level that the employing physician normally receives for those same services.

Another issue is the regionalization of chapters of bordering states. I feel that the expense of Category I CME would be lowered if area states (chapters) would coordinate and, where possible, consolidate their CME efforts. This is particularly important for those PAs who receive no compensation or reimbursement for CME and traveling expenses.



James C. Noyes

It has become clear to me that we must face the responsibilities of a concept that no longer is new.

The time has come for the leadership and direction of this organization to be provided by persons specifically in tune with the needs of the majority of its members. Clinical PAs need representation from PAs with clinical backgrounds, rather than from academicians who are once removed from our daily problems.

Mechanism form more accessible CME must be instituted. This can be accomplished through local or regional weekend workshops. Accessibility and cost must be taken into account.

National publicity of our profession is essential. How can we obtain effective legislation when so few are aware of our training, competence, and dedication to patient care.

The Academy is accountable to us, its members. We need to increase its communication efforts in fiscal, professional and legislative matters, so that we may realistically evaluate the service it provides us.

I am a 1975 graduate of the G.W. PA program and have worked at Group Health Association for the past two years. As a clinical PA I share your problems and goals. As a board member, I will work to solve our problems and help us to realize our goals.



Catherine P. Vangellow

Education:

University of Rochester; Duke University PA Program—PA Certificate and BS Degree, 1975; NCCPA Certification—

November 1975

Activities:

Member, AAPA since 1973
Member, AAPA Ad Hoc Committee on Certification and Credentialing 1976-1977

Position:

PA in Internal Medicine, multi-specialty practice, 1975

The Academy continues to grow at a rapid pace and with this growth there are many challenges to be met, both old and new. The following are areas which will have my support over the next year if I am elected to serve on the Board of Directors:

1. *Continuing medical education*—establishment of self-instructional programs by the AAPA for its membership whereby a major portion of required credits may be obtained.
2. *Certification of specialty*—establishment of an equitable means of certifying qualified PAs in the various specialties
3. *Public relations*—clarification of the PA concept through the news media, literature, and films.
4. *AAPA membership*—encourage membership by eligible PAs thereby strengthening and unifying the AAPA.
5. *Physician Extender reimbursement by Medicare.*

Physician Assistants are helping to fill a void in the delivery of health care in this country and will continue to do so especially if we continue to have a strong and unified professional organization. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Joseph R. Varano

I would like to take this opportunity to ask your support as a candidate for a seat on the Board of Directors in the forthcoming elections.

Presently, I feel it is necessary to address the important issues regarding the Physician Assistant concept. I remain well informed on some of these issues through my close relationship with the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants.

1. There is a need to recognize our fellow surgical physician assistants. Why is the National Commission taking so long to decide on a specialty exam?

2. Several states still lack proper legislation. Qualified PAs cannot find employment in their home states and are forced to find employment elsewhere.

3. Malpractice insurance is another

factor that has been tossed around without success. We need our own policies for all specialties and geographic areas.

4. There is a need to establish a good public relations campaign to voice our Academy and professional capabilities.

5. A strong need for CME. The medical profession is rapidly changing and we should keep abreast on new procedures and techniques in our related fields.

I would appreciate the opportunity to actively serve you and the Academy as a member of the Board of Directors.