

2009-2010 Board Election

Meet the Candidates

Portia Tomlinson, PA-C for President

VAPA President July 2007 – present

VAPA Director at Large July 2005 – June 2007

VAPA Member since 1990

AAPA Member since 1979

House of Delegate for VAPA 2007 – present

Jefferson College of Health Science - Chair of Advisory Board since 2007

Board member since 1995

Clinical Adjunct Faculty Clinical Preceptor – Neurosurgery

Constituent Organization Resource Exchange (AAPA) – February 2007 and 2009

Adventures in Lobbying (AAPA) – February 2008

VAPA Lobby Day – January 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009

White Coats on Call – Medical Society of Virginia – February 2009

Exhibitor for VAPA @ Medical Society of Virginia – October 2007, 2008

Exhibitor for VAPA @ Virginia Osteopathic Society – September 2008

Exhibitor for VAPA @ Virginia Academy of Family Practice

As President of the VAPA it has been my pleasure to represent the membership on a wide range of issues including support for final diagnosis by PAs, maintenance of continued supervision of NPs by physicians (not independent practice), maintenance of the malpractice cap, and potential membership in the Medical Society of Virginia. We have wonderful support from the AAPA and should continue to grow the relationship with our new regional director. The VAPA mission must remain in the forefront. The office of president is much more than chairing meetings and approving payment of invoices. In the past two years we have hired a CME management company and a grant writing service to further advance our Summer CME event. There is more to do. I would like to see our organization support PAs in volunteer opportunities, advance our association with the MSV and continue to increase member benefits such as the recent addition of long term care insurance. Job opportunities in the state are exploding! It is a great time to be a PA and I would like to continue to work for you, the membership, over the next year.

Polly Porter, PA-C for Vice President/President Elect

Polly Porter

Currently is Secretary of the VAPA and also serves on the reimbursement committee. A VAPA member since 2002, she has been active in the Northern VA chapter with monthly meetings and volunteer events. (South County Physicals and Helmet Fitting, Cherry Blossom 10 miler Medical Team) She has attended the CORE conference and Leadership Summit sponsored by the AAPA. She hopes to build on her leadership skills and continue with membership initiatives. She is speaking at the VAPA Summer conference and has been active with Lobby Day in efforts to Protect the CAP on Malpractice. She is a member of the Virginia Orthopaedic Society and works as a Surgical Physician Assistant at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital in Alexandria, VA.

Polly A. Porter PA-C, MPAS, ATC
Department of Surgery
INOVA/ Mt. Vernon Hospital
2501 Parker's Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306

Jennifer Hedden, PA-C for Treasurer



Jennifer Hedden

I ask for your support to allow me to remain VAPA Treasurer and continue to represent and contribute to our organization.

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the VAPA as Treasurer for the past year. The Academy has played a significant role in our profession, and I feel that contributing time is a significant responsibility and honor. I am currently in the process of creating a PA Fund for the VAPA that will provide grant money for any member who applies for assistance with approval by a committee. I feel it is important we continue to help our profession grow and give back to the community. This fund will allow financial assistance for a range of projects.

I have been a member of AAPA since 2001, and VAPA since 2005. I am also active with the Northern Virginia Chapter, through which I have volunteered for many community events including the NBC Health Fair and the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile Run in Washington DC.

Kathleen Scarbalis, PA-C for Secretary

Kathleen Scarbalis, PA-C is a candidate for Secretary of the Virginia Academy of Physician Assistants. An AAPA member since 1984, I have always been active at the local level of many state and overseas PA organizations. Since moving to Virginia in 2006 I have been a member of the Northern Virginia PA association and an active participant in its many activities. Volunteering has always been a very important part of my professional life. I have assisted with free annual school physicals in Fairfax County, free bicycle helmets with safety education, medical support for local runs such as the Cherry Blossom 10 Miler, and medical staff for Health Fairs as a member of the Northern Virginia PA association.

Our Northern Virginia PA group and my employer, Children's National Medical Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders of Northern Virginia offer individuals many volunteering opportunities to promote the PA profession. Given my experiences and my long career, I love to educate newcomers to the PA profession in addition to providing good health care and health education. As a member of the board, I would strengthen our efforts to support recruiting and educating PAs. I enjoy speaking to current students and have encouraged many to apply to PA school. While at Children's National Medical Center I've worked to educate senior management on policy for the better utilization of physician assistants on staff. Using all my experiences as a PA, I would also like to encourage all PAs to become members of the VAPA because there is truly strength in numbers.

It is my hope that my passion for my chosen profession shines through in this short message. I appreciate the nomination and the opportunity to serve. I request your support. I am a proud advocate of the PA profession.



Ken Anderson, PA-C for Director at Large

Ken Anderson

For years, after graduating from PA school, I worked and complained about PA issues. It finally dawned on me to get involved and work to make positive changes for the profession. I began going to the regional PA meetings and eventually took over as regional coordinator for the Western Region. Attending my first Lobbying Day was a real eye-opener to what we could accomplish to really affect our profession. As regional coordinator I work to keep a forum where we as PA s can exchange ideas, especially with regards to jobs and benefits. A regional coordinator is essentially someone who sets up dinner programs, but in addition to setting up meetings I try to encourage others to get involved in the VAPA and in the community. As Director at Large I hope to continue on that same line and perhaps more. I support our attempts at joining the Medical Society of Virginia as I believe our direct involvement with physicians is what sets us apart from other mid-level providers.

J. Randy Howell, MPA, PA-C for Director at Large

- Carilion Bone and Joint Center
- Orthopedic Surgery
Clinical Assistant Professor, Jefferson College of Health Sciences
- JCHS Advisory board member
- VAPA Director at Large 2007-2008
- Public Relations Chair, VAPA 2008-present
- Volunteer medical staff Roanoke Rescue Mission
- Speaker and facilitator for the Roanoke Trust house crisis center.
- Board of Directors Appalachian Center for Wilderness Medicine.
- Volunteer ski patrol, Snowshoe Mountain Resort

I am particularly interested in advancing the public service role of PAs, especially in undeserved populations. I am also involved in medical education, both didactic and clinical.



Rachel Carlson, PA-C for VAPA Chief Delegate

Rachel A. Carlson, MSBS, PA-C

2273 Hunting Ridge Rd
Winchester, VA 22603

Day: 540.545.7382
rcarlso2@su.edu

EDUCATION

Ed.D (c).	Higher Education Leadership <u>Nova Southeastern University</u> Ft. Lauderdale, Florida	2004-2009
	<p>Dissertation: <i>Instructional Delivery Comparison of Physician Assistant Students' Attitudes and Final Course Grades</i> Chair: Robert Rose, PhD</p>	
M.S.B.S.	Physician Assistant Studies <u>Medical College of Ohio</u> Toledo, Ohio	2001
	<p>Scholarly Project: <i>Problem-Based Learning: A comparison of problem-based learning curriculum and a traditional lecture-based curriculum</i> Advisor: P. Conran, Ph.D., DVM</p>	
B.S.	Environmental Resource Mgmt <u>The Pennsylvania State University</u> University Park, Pennsylvania	1998

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

	<p><u>Shenandoah University, Winchester, Virginia</u> Associate Director-Division of Physician Assistant Studies (2007-Present) Associate Professor-Division of Physician Assistant Studies (2007-Present) Assistant Professor-Division of Physician Assistant Studies (2002-2007)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in didactic portion of master's physician assistant program. Responsible for coordinating courses, lecturing, advising and evaluating students (2004-Present) • Director of Clinical Education for physician assistant program. Developed, maintained and coordinated clinical sites during rotation phase of curriculum. Responsible for lecturing, advising and evaluating students (2002-2004)
	<p><u>Premier On-Site Care-Premier Health Resources Winchester, VA</u> Physician Assistant (2008-Present)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide physician supervised medical services in an employee based health clinic, in an autonomous setting. Evaluate and treat patients including patient education. Provide referral services as necessary. Perform phlebotomy and order other diagnostic testing. Involved with monitoring and management of chronic disorders and of the clinic.
	<p><u>Urgent Care Center-Valley Health Winchester, VA</u> Physician Assistant (2003-2007)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide physician supervised medical services in an urgent care setting. Evaluate and treat patients in all age levels in semi-acute setting. Initiate and develop treatment and patient education plans
	<p><u>Life Stages Family Care Specialists, Bellevue, Ohio</u> Physician Assistant (2001-2002)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided physician supervised medical services in a family practice setting. Evaluated and treated patients of all age levels and presentations. Initiated and implemented continuing education for nursing staff. Researched and instituted CLIA waived lab testing. Developed and managed office's website, newsletter and advertising pamphlet. Provided care for acute and chronic patients affiliated with Bellevue Occupational Health Center