SCC PTA STUDENT SLATED TO RUN FOR NATIONAL OFFICE

A student currently enrolled in second-year studies in the Somerset Community College Physical Therapist Assistant Program has been slated to run for national office of the American Physical Therapy Association's Student Assembly Board of Directors. Brandon English of Lexington was selected to participate in the election process at the 2011 APTA Student Conclave October 21-23 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was nominated by classmate Glenn Trail.

The Student Assembly is a component of APTA that focuses on issues relating to students. It serves as a voice for physical therapist and physical therapist assistant students from the 489 accredited education programs in the U.S. plus those enrolled in developing programs.

Involvement in the Student Assembly allows students to learn about issues related to physical therapy, become involved in professional activities and participate in the advancement of the profession.

English recently represented the SCC PTA Program at the APTA National Conference and Exposition in National Harbor, Maryland, where he accepted the award for "Most Successful PTA Program" in the Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge, a national fundraiser for the Foundation for Physical Therapy. The SCC PTA Program was also named the winner of the competition in 2008, 2009 and 2010. While at the national conference, English participated in the APTA's Federal Advocacy Forum where he met with legislators and aides on Capitol Hill. He has also attend past National Student Conclaves and APTA Combined Sections Meetings. He presently serves as the PTA Relations Project Committee Chairperson nationally.

English currently serves as President of the SCC Physical Therapy Student Organization and serves as one of several student co-coordinators for the program's efforts in the upcoming Pittsburgh-Marquette Challenge, a fundraiser for the Foundation for Physical Therapy. He plans to assist in fundraising efforts to assist all current program students join the American Physical Therapy Association. He has participated in a number of events through the PTA Program including Kentucky Special Olympics Fun Fitness Health Screens and the American Heart Association's Heart Walk.



Brandon English has been slated to run for a national office in the APTA Student Assembly.

"Brandon is an excellent student and is an asset to our program and our profession", stated Dr. Steve Hammons, who serves as the PTA Program's Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education. "He is well-respected by his classmates and is an excellent representation of our program and our field. I am sure he will be a great success in the future and look forward to his participation in the APTA on a national level."

English will be running for the seat currently occupied by SCC PTA graduate Chris Garland of Burkesville. Garland was elected to the national office in 2010 at the APTA Student Conclave in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The position has allowed her to travel to major national conferences in New Orleans and National Harbor during her term. She is presently employed as a physical therapist assistant by Cumberland County Hospital. Other SCC graduates who served on the board include Jeff Tyree of London and Jeff Buis of Liberty.

English is the only slated candidate from Kentucky. Other states with slated candidates include: California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah and Wisconsin.

English is scheduled to graduate with an Associate of Applied Science Degree from the PTA Program in May, 2012. He is a native of Owensboro and presently resides in Lexington with his wife Brittany and son, Clayton. He is the son of Mike and Debbie English of Owensboro. He presently works for the Drayer Physical Therapy Institute in Lexington.