

Editorial

Honoring Mary Wilkinson: A Legacy of Vision and Excellence

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Since the inception of The North American Journal of Sports Physical Therapy in 2006, Mary Wilkinson has played a pivotal role in shaping its success and enduring global legacy as The International Journal of Sports Physical Therapy (IJSPT). Mary's strategic vision during the journal's foundational years was instrumental in enhancing its visibility and readership, firmly establishing it as an essential resource for evidence-based practice among sports physical therapists.

Initially created through a partnership between the Sports Physical Therapy Section (SPTS) of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Canadian Physiotherapy Association, the journal aimed to provide clinically relevant, accessible evidence for sports physical therapists across North America. Under Mary's visionary leadership, the publication transitioned into the International Journal of Sports Physical Therapy, significantly broadening its scope to meet the needs of clinicians worldwide.

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT

Mary Wilkinson joined the journal in its earliest days, initially serving as Managing Editor. When the journal transitioned to NASMI's independent publishing model, Mary seamlessly assumed the role of Executive Director—a position she continued to fulfill with unwavering dedication, clarity of purpose, and consistent excellence until her retirement in February 2025.

INNOVATION AND GLOBAL REACH

Over nearly two decades, Mary has overseen transformative changes, guiding IJSPT from a traditional print journal to an innovative, fully digital, and open-access platform. Her exceptional marketing insight, superb communication skills, and established relationships with sponsors, vendors, and the broader sports physical therapy community have significantly expanded the journal's international reach. Notable achievements include the successful launch of the journal's initial online presence and targeted social media initiatives aimed at engaging new global audiences. Today, IJSPT proudly connects with readers in 120 countries—an achievement greatly facilitated by Mary's influential role within the International Federation of Sports Physical Therapy (IFSPT).

A LASTING IMPACT

Mary's tireless dedication, exemplary standards, and innovative approach have consistently strengthened the journal's reputation for excellence, quality, and integrity. As members of the editorial team, we have profoundly benefited from her wisdom, leadership, and commitment, continually inspired by her passion for advancing sports physical therapy around the globe.

With deep appreciation and utmost respect, we honor Mary Wilkinson for her invaluable contributions to the IJSPT. Her influence on our journal and the broader professional community is immense, enduring, and deeply valued. We wish you all the best in retirement.

Fondly,

Barb Hoogenboom, Editor In Chief

Ashley Campbell, Managing Editor

Mike Voight, Executive Editor





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