

Vice President - Clarice Grote

I am excited to submit my self-nomination for the Vice President position with the North Carolina Occupational Therapy Association (NCOTA). With a strong foundation in policy and organizational leadership, I bring state association experience from my current role as the NCOTA Legal and Political Co-Chair for NCOTA and previously as Director of Practice for the Missouri Occupational Therapy Association.

During my time with NCOTA, I've led and supported successful advocacy efforts, including securing increased reimbursement rates from Blue Cross Blue Shield and addressing key Medicaid policy issues impacting OT access and provider sustainability. I am passionate about strengthening our profession through action-oriented leadership and strategic planning.

As Vice President, I am committed to supporting and improving the systems that drive our association forward. I believe in NCOTA's mission to serve OT practitioners, students, and faculty, and I'm eager to help advance that mission by refining our strategic plan and enhancing our capacity to serve our members with greater impact.

Secretary - Alison Bolin

Allison Bolin, MS, MBA, OTR/L (she/her), is a seasoned hospital administrator with over 21 years of clinical, managerial, and operational experience in the healthcare industry. She serves the hospital in various capacities, including clinical business operations, marketing and network development, ambulatory services development, and continuous improvement governance. Allison has experience practicing in SNF, ALF, acute care, AIR, and ambulatory settings and has served as an adjunct faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. Currently, Allison is the secretary of the United Way of Chatham County Board of Directors and an active participant in the Chatham Health Alliance. Residing in Pittsboro, NC for 19 years, Allison and her husband are proud to raise their two boys in Chatham County, where she enjoys cycling and spending time with her family.

Treasurer - Stacey Caplan

I would like to express my interest in serving as Treasurer on the NCOTA Board of Directors beginning July 2025. With a deep commitment to advancing our profession and a 20+ year career in nonprofit leadership and fiscal stewardship, I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to NCOTA in this capacity.

Currently serving as the Co-Chair of the Education and Research Special Interest Section (SIS), I have had the privilege of supporting NCOTA's mission and strategic plan by 1) promoting NCOTA membership and professional development among North Carolina OT and OTA students, clinicians and faculty while serving as liaison between NCOTA and North Carolina OT/OTA educational programs, 2) co-creating the NCOTA mentorship program, and 3) supporting schools' engagement in NCOTA events and activities through scholarship.

My experience includes serving on and reporting to boards of directors in various professional capacities and across nonprofit institutions, where I have helped to develop and guide organizational strategy, ensure fiscal accountability, and promote sustainable growth. Additionally, I bring a solid foundation in financial oversight, including budget development and monitoring, audit preparation, and financial reporting. My first-hand experience managing nonprofit budgets has been complemented by successful grant writing and administration to support programming and operations.

I am deeply committed to the values and goals of NCOTA and believe that sound financial stewardship is essential to advancing our profession and supporting our members. I would be honored to apply my skills and experience in service of NCOTA and look forward to an opportunity to support our continued success and impact in the treasurer role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Legal and Political Co-chair - Alita Borkar

I am writing to express my interest in the Legal and Political co-chair position. I believe my skill set and 7 years of experience as an OT in a variety of pediatric/adult, leadership, research, networking, fieldwork education and advocacy related roles including delivering and organizing education events would be helpful in this position. I have served as the AOTPAC ambassador for Maryland and on the legislative action committee for MOTA starting a virtual fundraising series, participating in letter writing, leading Hill day discussions and conference presentations. I am continuously looking for new ways to help grow and develop our profession and believe volunteering my time to NCOTA would help fulfill these goals.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Alita Borkar, MA OTR/L

DEI Chair - Linn Wakeford

I have a strong desire to serve as the DEI Committee Chair. I helped to get this committee started based on the recommendations of a group of OT practitioners during a conference workshop on the need to diversify the OT workforce in North Carolina. That need continues to exist, but recent and current events at the local, state, and national level present significant challenges to the efforts of OT/OTA educational programs to meet that need. In addition, the efforts of health providers to address health disparities are also facing multiple barriers. I am unwilling to see the intent and work of the DEI Committee diminish because of these challenges, but rather see them as a call for us to be louder and bolder, to act, advocate, educate, inspire, welcome, and support our potential, new, and existing fellow OTs in ways that do help increase the diversity of our workforce and address health disparities in North Carolina.

OTA REP

No nominations- write ins accepted

SIS Coordinator

No nominations- write ins accepted

Continuing Education Co-chair (1 position)

No nominations- write ins accepted