Physical Therapy is a Family Tradition

Brittany Comer is one of those rare individuals who knew what she wanted to do for a career since she was a little girl. Her mother is a physical therapist and, as an avid sports player, Brittany received the benefit of her knowledge and skills to treat various injuries. When Brittany tore her ACL playing soccer in college and went through a year of rehabilitation, she was convinced that she had found her calling. She used her skill as a soccer player to get a scholarship at Florida Atlantic University and graduated with her undergraduate degree in 2009.

Currently a student in the physical therapy program at the University of North Florida, Brittany will be graduating in spring of 2013. However, she is not waiting to get her diploma to begin making a difference in the world of physical therapy. She is a chair for the Student Scholarship and Opportunities committee of the APTA Student Assembly as well as student member of the Governmental Affairs Committee and of the newly-founded Membership for the FPTA. Brittany also served as a Florida Core Ambassador to the APTA student assembly, participated in the Oxford debate as the young professional at the FPTA fall annual conference and was awarded the FPTA Northern District leadership award in 2011.

With all of this involvement, Brittany has come to realize that Legislative Advocacy holds a special interest for her because she recognizes the need for people to come together and take an active part in shaping their profession. She has chosen to focus on the issues surrounding the Medicare Therapy Cap, all the while recognizing there are many areas that need attention if the physical therapy profession is to continue to move forward.

On the physical therapy practice front, Brittany has begun to develop a special interest in orthopedics and is hoping to finish her school experience with a residency in this section. Once she has completed the requirements and passed the exams for licensure, she hopes to use this interest to create long-term relationships with patients and become what she refers to as a “family physical therapist.”
After graduation, she plans to remain involved in with advocacy and will continue to spread the word to encourage teachers and students to be active with the APTA and the FPTA. With all her activity and involvement, she considers graduating with her physical therapy degree her biggest accomplishment. Beyond that, she is proud to be a representative of the FPTA and wants people to know she is a “go-to” person for those people looking for advice, answers to questions and encouragement to pursue their dreams.

If you are interested in learning more about the Student Scholarship and Opportunities committee, please contact Brittany at brittanylynn.comer@gmail.com.