

Richard Ruoti Research Award for Excellence

This is a most prestigious award presented by the Aquatic Section. It is named in honor of Dr. Richard Ruoti PhD, PT., as one of the founders of the Aquatic Section established in 1992. Dr. Ruoti's achievements set the standard of volunteer leadership for the Section. It is through the unrelenting efforts of Dr. Ruoti that the Aquatic Physical Therapy Section is a thriving section today. This award was established in 2002. The purpose of this award is to recognize exemplary efforts in the advancement of aquatic physical therapy through scholarly endeavors.

Richard G. Ruoti, PH.D., PT, Physiologist, Physical Therapist, is a graduate of Temple University's College of Allied Health Professions and The Department of Kinesiology, Biokenetics Research Laboratory. He has spent the past several years combining bench research with clinical application, particularly in the area of aquatic physiology and rehabilitation. In addition, he is a member of the American College of Sports Medicine and a constituent of several professional associations. He is also the editor of the textbook Aquatic Rehabilitation and a member of the editorial board of the journal of Aquatic Physical Therapy.

Richard Ruoti Award

The purpose of the Richard Ruoti award is to acknowledge a single member of the Aquatic Physical Therapy Section whose contributions to the Section as a whole, at both the Section level and the APTA level, like those of Richard Ruoti, have been of exceptional value. Please review the suggested criteria and guidelines for the nominating process, and send us your nominees for the award on the form provided on the next page.

CRITERIA

A Must be a physical therapist, physical therapist assistant or Life physical therapist member of the Aquatic Physical Therapy Section. Award may be presented posthumously to those meeting membership eligibility qualifications.

B Aquatic Physical Therapy Activity
Has participated and involved in the Section through committee and/or task force appointments and other Section activities.

C Persisting and lasting contributions in three (3) of the following areas:

1) Professional Competence - Clinical
Has demonstrated evidence of exceptional service in the area of clinical practice on a continuing basis.

2) Professional Expertise - Educational
Has demonstrated outstanding ability to educate and motivate colleagues and students to acquire new knowledge, and foster in them an attitude of professional responsibility in meeting the health needs of the people served by our profession.

Services to the Profession and Community at Large
Has provided service in the community which demonstrates the scope and dimension of professional responsibility.

3) Participated in the APTA or Other Organizations
Has demonstrated on a continuing basis the development of the profession through involvement with the APTA and has made contributions at the district, chapter, national or international levels. Has served on committees, held elected offices, participated in professional and business meetings, served on regulatory boards, and involved in legislative activities.

4) Commitment to Aquatic Physical Therapy

Has demonstrated an abiding commitment to aquatic physical therapy as evidenced by participating in continuing education, and by actively contributing to the education of others about aquatic physical therapy through such things as publications, seminars, lectures and workshops.

ELIGIBILITY

- 1 All nominees for the Award must be Aquatic Physical Therapy Section members in good standing.
- 2 Members excluded from eligibility, during their respective period or terms of service are: Aquatic Physical Therapy Section employees (Exception: A Section employee shall not be excluded if the services that constitute the basis for the award nomination were performed at a time when the individual was not an employee.), members of the Awards Committee responsible for recommending or selecting recipient(s) of the award; and members of the Board of Directors.

PROCEDURE

- A Nominations for the Award must be submitted by an Aquatic Physical Therapy Section members in good standing.
- B Nomination packages must be submitted with the current nomination form provided (back of this form). Nomination forms may be photocopied, but may not be recreated by computer.
- C The nominator is responsible for submitting the following documents to the Aquatic Physical Therapy Section Headquarters as a single award nomination package. The Nomination Package must contain the following documents:

In order for the application to be considered, the following must be completed and received in the Aquatic Section Office by midnight of the deadline date.

- The potential recipient must be a licensed physical therapist in good standing with the Aquatic Section at the time of the application submission.

- The following documents are required by deadline:
 - Letter of Recommendation written by an Aquatic Section member in good standing, and must include why this applicant is worthy to receive the Section's highest research award.
 - List of published research that qualifies this applicant for consideration for the Ruoti Award.
 - Copy of the published research article that is being presented as evidence of this candidate's research efforts.
 - Submission of completed documentation by the deadline published on the Aquatic Section website.
- D Incomplete award nomination packages (e.g., no signature, no curriculum vitae, no letter of support, or documentation of specific criteria met) will not be eligible for consideration.
 - E All nomination packages must be received by December 15, 2015. Nomination packages will not be returned. The nominations will be judged based on the eligibility and criteria requirements.
 - F In the event those candidates nominated for the Richard Ruoti Award do not meet the criteria for eligibility, the Membership Committee reserves the right to postpone the selection of a candidate until such time as a candidate meeting the requirements for eligibility is nominated.

**Richard Ruoti Award Nomination Form Deadline
for Nomination: Third Monday in December**

The following person is nominated for consideration for the Richard Ruoti Award, Aquatic Physical Therapy Section Outstanding Service Award:

I wish to Nominate (Member's Name) _____

Name of Practice _____

Work Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Work () _____ Fax () _____

ATTACHMENTS

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- The potential recipient must be a licensed physical therapist in good standing with the Aquatic Section at the time of the application submission.

The following documents are required by deadline:

- Letter of Recommendation written by an Aquatic Section member in good standing, and must include why this applicant is worthy to receive the Section's highest research award.
- List of published research that qualifies this applicant for consideration for the Ruoti Award.
- Copy of the published research article that is being presented as evidence of this candidate's research efforts.
- Submission of completed documentation by the deadline published on the Aquatic Section website.

GENERAL GUIDELINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION FOR ANY AQUATIC SECTION AWARD

1. Must be typed and be able to be sent via internet
2. Must be auto-signed by the individual submitting this application
3. The one-page application must be completed by the primary submitter; be included with letter(s) of recommendation and submitted as a single packet of information.
4. Letter(s) of recommendation must be no more than 500 words.

Name of Nominator _____

Name of Practice _____

Work Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Work () _____ Fax () _____

Signature _____ Date Submitted _____

(Signature of Nominator)

Return to or Direct Questions to:
Aquatic Physical Therapy Section
1055 North Fairfax Street, Suite 205
Alexandria, VA 22314 U.S.A.

EMAIL US: aquaticspt@apta.org