**Incoming Chair**

Firstly I would like to express my thanks both personally and on behalf of the executive committee for all of the hard work, leadership and direction that Martin has provided over his terms as Chair. I know I have learnt a great deal from Martin and am sure that others have benefitted greatly from his representation of the organisation. Under Martin’s leadership we have forged forwards in connecting with the world physiotherapy communities and the PPA has developed a clear purpose whilst still connecting with the membership that the exec serves.

Moving into the role of chair of the PPA is both exciting and overwhelming. Early in my career I encountered Louis’s energy which brought not just the PPA but the physiotherapy profession as a whole a new understanding and empathy for those with pain. I have been lucky to meet many of the early contributors to the PPA’s success and it is fantastic that Mick agreed to present the first Louis Gifford lecture in Liverpool this year. Throughout my professional career I have admired the work of the PPA and becoming more involved in the organisation over the past 6 years has helped me to understand the changes that can happen when a committee works together.

I believe that the PPA retains huge passion and vision, amongst the membership are numerous people who have much to contribute. I would welcome every member becoming involved in the work of the PPA. All of our time is limited but the PPA needs new ideas and projects can only be driven forward where members give their valuable time to projects.

I look forward to the work that needs to be continued on the project developing career structures and education for physiotherapists working with people with pain. This of course encompasses a wide range of physios in all areas of practice and I would welcome more joint projects with other professional networks within the CSP. Having also been involved in The British Pain Society Pain Management Programmes Special Interest Group I would like to see links with the British Pain Society continuing to be strengthened. The hard work of Heather Cameron and Paul Cameron has gone a long way to raise our profile with the BPS and I hope that further collaborative working is on the horizon.

I an excited to working with the exec and to see the PPA go from strength to strength. Under Cormac Ryan’s editorship our journal, Pain and Rehabilitation, continues to draw in readers and communicate developments in research and practice to the membership and beyond. The PPAN committee ensure a strong and involved presence in Scotland and the North and I know that we can continue to work together for the benefit of our members. Good things are ahead!

 Sarah Wilson Sept 15