## **Position Statement on Cultural Diversity**

In recognition of the cultural diversity of our nation, APTA Geriatrics dedicates itself to respecting the cultural diversity of each member and older adult whom we serve. This is accomplished through a commitment to ongoing personal and professional growth, leadership development, the development of inclusive policies and practices, including active and ongoing review of the impact of those practices.

Since Academy membership strives to serve older adults from every part of our society, cross-cultural respect is an integral part of clinical, educational, and research skills. The Academy commits to providing its members with opportunities to develop an awareness of and sensitivity to relevant cultural and ethnic considerations, with the belief that this awareness will increase both communication and the effectiveness of treatment, education, and research. Increased cultural awareness can enhance the quality of patient care and contribute to sustainable future involvement with the populations we serve.

APTA Geriatrics is committed to the development of membership and leadership which is representative of the multi-diversity present in our profession and society. Such representation is sought to improve the effectiveness of APTA Geriatrics as a whole.

In order to enhance the Academy's ability to better serve our diverse society, by providing the best health care possible, the APTA Geriatrics embraces this commitment to fostering cultural diversity within itself.