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**PO Box 30618
Indianapolis IN 46230**

Dear Members,

We now wash our hands while humming "Happy Birthday", make fashion statements with face masks, and turn Zoom backgrounds into colleague conversation pieces. Those are a few of the ways the COVID-19 pandemic has curated our culture. We also appreciate friends, family, and colleagues now more than ever and a big part of that is doing things that keep them healthy and safe. After all, Maslow taught us that safety matters first.

In that spirit, AADPRT leadership has moved our 50th Annual Meeting to 2022. In its place, March 3-6, 2021, AADPRT will host a virtual Spring Conference -- **Innovation, Collaboration, and Inclusion!** While it won't include hugs and dining out together, the conference will offer much of what we value and look forward to at our Annual Meeting:

- Mentorship
- Presenting workshops and posters
- Learning about timely, relevant topics
- Impromptu chats
- Awards & fellowships
- Catching up with colleagues while sipping favorite beverages at a virtual soirée
- Practicing our Downward Dog together in on-screen Yoga sessions

Besides the #1 priority of health and safety, having fewer attendees due to safety concerns, travel bans, and program budget cuts, as well as required pandemic protocols for an in-person, large meeting would mask the momentous occasion of our 50th anniversary.

We hope this rationale -- notwithstanding disappointment -- appeals to your sense of what makes the **most** sense and that you'll help us continue the tradition of making fantastic memories at our annual family reunion!

Stay tuned for details about how we're going to make the Spring Conference a uniquely excellent experience.

Thank you for your loyalty and trust,
Sara

Sara Stramel-Brewer
Executive Director