

My name is Srikesavan Sabapathy. I was born in Sri Lanka to Indian parents and after living in Sri Lanka, India, and Canada, I call the United Kingdom as my home now.

I started my journey as a Physiotherapist in India in 1998 and over the last 27 years, my career has taken me through a wide range of experiences in India, Canada, and the UK.

My experience in India has included academic teaching, academic administration, clinical work, and research. I have experience of leading two physiotherapy programmes, one of which I led from its inception. As part of these positions, I have had to conduct significant stakeholder engagement which involved skilfully negotiating time sensitive decisions that had important significance to the governance of the institutions.

In 2009, I was successful in securing a competitive Government of Canada scholarship to complete an MSc (Medical Rehabilitation) at the University of Manitoba. During and after my studies, I worked in both inpatient and outpatient settings as a Physiotherapist and gained valuable experience of the Canadian health care system before moving to the UK in 2015.

I am currently on a 12-month secondment as the 2024-25 Clinical Fellow to the Chief Allied Health Professions Officer for NHS England, following a highly competitive recruitment process. In my substantive role, I am a Senior Commissioning Manager for Rehab and Clinical Lead Therapist at an National Health Service (NHS) Integrated Care Board.

I have loved all my jobs and continue to enjoy the work I do. However, the experience that gives me the most satisfaction is the volunteer work I do. This wonderful profession has given me so much and I have always strived to give back as many volunteer hours I can.

As an elected Council member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in the UK (2022-26), along with my colleagues on council, for the last 2 years I have gained valuable board level experience providing strategic leadership for the profession. I recently joined as a Council nominee on the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee of the CSP. I have also served on the Professional committee of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy and as a workplace steward in the past.

I am also an elected public governor of the Oxford Health NHS Foundation trust (2022-2025). As a member of the council of governors, we bring the views and interests of the public, patients, carers, staff, and other stakeholders into the heart of our governance of the trust. I am currently the Deputy Lead Governor and also Chair the Council of Governors Safety & Clinical Effectiveness Group and am a member of the staff experience group and Nominations and Remuneration Committee.

I also volunteered as the Deputy-Chair of the Chief AHP Officers BAME Strategic Advisory Group which strategically advises the Chief AHP officer of NHS England on EDI matters.

As you can see, while providing volunteer leadership, I also draw significant transferable skills and experience from these roles.

You may rightly think what has all the above got to do with me contesting for a position as a board member of World Physiotherapy from Europe and me requesting for your vote.

Physiotherapy, while respecting local needs and legislations, is inherently global. Workforce mobility allows many physiotherapists to practice abroad, and I've experienced and supported this journey.

The profession has grown globally, presenting opportunities to shape its future. The WHO's "Rehabilitation 2030" initiative highlights Physiotherapists as key leaders in its implementation. Yet, challenges persist, requiring bold, compassionate leadership, especially in developing regions.

Having worked in three countries, I bring adaptability, cultural sensitivity, and governance expertise, offering a fresh perspective to the World Physiotherapy board. Collaborating with physiotherapists worldwide has deepened my understanding of the profession's standing and revealed the need for futureproofing to address local needs and global mobility.

My diverse roles in clinical, research, teaching, operations, and governance equip me to approach challenges holistically. Voting for me ensures global experience, approachability, and a passion rooted in gratitude to physiotherapy. While respecting governance structures, I will advocate for innovative, forward-thinking leadership to tackle member organisations' unique challenges.

At home, my wife, also a physiotherapist, and I care for our adult son with autism and learning disabilities. We face challenges boldly, and I apply this resilience to all aspects of my life.

Thank you for your consideration, and best wishes to all candidates.