Position Statement for President- Elect Submitted by: Beverly Menninger, MA, OTR/L

I would like to announce my candidacy for ILOTA President-elect. I served as the ILOTA Secretary from 2018- 2020. I decided to become a member of the ILOTA Board in 2018 to increase my awareness of and involvement with the state organization as a practicing occupational therapist clinically and in academia. I also served as the Conference Co-chair for the 2020 state conference which was quite the challenge and learning experience. I am currently involved with the Website Ad-hoc Committee as I see our website as the first impression of our organization as well as the "hub" of resources and information for our membership as well as occupational therapists and the public across the country. I have also served on the Academic Fieldwork Consortium, most recently as the Chair.

The President of ILOTA plays a very important role. This person guides and facilitates growth, change and improvement within the organization and the profession. This person works closely with the Board of Directors knowing when to lead, when to participate and when to delegate making it a dynamic board of volunteer occupational therapy practitioners. I appreciate the role of President-Elect giving me time to apprentice with Anne Kiraly- Alvarez, the Executive Director, George Buckley and the current Board to smoothly move initiatives, projects and activities forward.

The action toward greater understanding and incorporation of diverse, equitable and inclusive practices, the work toward improved communication within the organization and with our membership and state occupational therapy practitioners, as well as growing the benefits we provide to members and the vision to incorporate more service activities through ILOTA is exciting to me. Advocacy is also an area that has developed and will need continued support and motivation so our membership continues to be aware of legislation, social and cultural issues that we need to be aware of and involved with moving forward. I embrace the identified core values of this organization – be dynamic, inclusive, dedicated and have integrity.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Menninger, MA, OTR/L