

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of several purple allium flowers. The flowers are spherical clusters of tiny individual blossoms, mounted on long, thin green stems. They are in various stages of focus, with some in sharp foreground and others blurred in the background, creating a sense of depth. The overall color palette is dominated by the vibrant purple of the flowers and the soft green of the stems and background foliage.

DISTRICT III NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025

MAATA
MID ATLANTIC ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

LETTER FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

L. Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC



Greetings, My Fellow, D3 AT's,

Another National Athletic Training Month has come and gone! I am hopeful each of you had the opportunity to share in this year's theme, "Champions in Health Care". Thank you for all who participated on social media and at your workplaces. As I have said before, always remember WE are the NATA!

Once again, I can't thank our volunteers who will be rolling off our NATA committees and at the same time, I welcome new volunteers and those who are in the process of fulfilling obligations in their committee expectations. As a reminder for those who have not updated your GATHER accounts, PLEASE do so! Your Volunteer portal on GATHER will be our pathway to accept and process volunteer applications for NATA committees in the future. Again, thank you for volunteering for NATA committee positions.

Congratulations to Secondary School Safety Award recipients. Again District 3 had many renewals and first-time recipients. Thank you for your commitment!

As a reminder, when you see surveys come across your email from the NATA, District 3 & State organizations, please take the time to complete them. Your input is needed!

We are in the midst of state and district annual symposiums. I encourage you to register and attend these very informative events. Additionally AT associations need your engagement. So please take the time to attend these meetings. Thank you to SCATA 2024, VATA 2025, NCATA 2025 & WVATA 2025 for allowing me to speak at your business meetings.

Reminders...

The District 3 MAATA Annual Symposium at The Founders Inn, Virginia Beach, May 2nd through 4th. Please attend! Your vote is important!

Currently, on social media, we are posting 10 NATA motions, 2 each week, as we will have a NATA By-Law vote on all 10 motions at the annual business meeting on May 4th. The power point slides are available on our District website. Lastly, please join me as I host a zoom presentation to introduce these motions, Thursday April 24th at 6:00 pm. It's important that we have your vote!

The 76th NATA Clinical Symposia & AT Expo, is in Orlando June 24th through 27th. Plans are being made for a big event there. Our District meeting will occur Tuesday evening after the NATA Happy Hour! Wednesday, we will induct a new Hall of Fame class in recognizing Katie Flanagan and Jennifer Rheeling. Congratulations to

both! There will be improved access to town halls, integrated student experience with student-focused events and enhanced professional access. For the first time there will be Convention Tracks with grouped Accessibility and Leadership topics. More information can be found on the [NATA convention website](#).

NATA Timely Topics and NATA Podcasts are ongoing; check out the conversations.

Again, thank you for your continued support to serve as your District Director. I look forward to representing you again in a second term beginning in July.

Best wishes in the remainder of your spring season!

Ray



FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Matt Gage, PhD, LAT, ATC, CES

Spring is in full swing, and I'm excited to see many of you at the 2025 MAATA Annual Clinical Symposium and Business Meeting, on May 2–4 at the Founders' Inn in Virginia Beach, VA. This event promises to be another outstanding weekend of professional development, networking, and organizational growth. If you haven't registered yet, there's still time to register via the MAATA website. I encourage all members to take advantage of this in-person continuing education opportunity.

Get Ready to Vote

The Annual Business Meeting will be on Sunday, May 4. Certified and retired members in attendance will vote on several proposed changes to the **MAATA Constitution and Bylaws**, as well as updates to the **NATA Bylaws**. Your voice matters—I **strongly encourage all attendees to review the proposed changes** and to bring any questions or concerns to the meeting or contact any member of the MAATA leadership. The proposed changes were distributed by eblast on March 28.

Here is a summary of the proposed MAATA Constitution & Bylaw changes that will be voted on:

1. Aligning the District Secretary term of office with NATA District Secretary and Treasurer terms
2. Updating language to allow the annual business meeting to be held either in person or virtually, separate from the annual symposium
3. Introducing a 14-month shadow period for the District Director-Elect
4. Adding the Student Senate to the bylaws
5. Allowing voting to occur both in-person and electronically
6. Formalizing the role of the parliamentarian
7. Clarifying how committee chairs and members are elected and approved
8. Fixing numbering and grammatical issues
9. Minimizing discrepancies and redundancies in verbiage

District III Council

Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC, District Director
maatad3dir@gmail.com

Matt Gage, District President
d3maatapresident@gmail.com

Scott Cook, District Vice President
cooks15@outlook.com

Erin Cash, District Secretary
d3sectry@gmail.com

Mat Lyden, District Treasurer
d3maatacfo@gmail.com

Katie Walsh Flanagan, Past District Director
Flanagank@ecu.edu

State Presidents

Shannon Fooks, District of Columbia
fookss@sidwell.edu

Rachel Moore, Maryland
marylandathletictraining@gmail.com

Nina Walker, North Carolina
president@ncata.net

Will Christman, South Carolina
president@scata.org

Michael Kotelnicki, Virginia
vatapresident@gmail.com

Samantha Scarneo-Miller, West Virginia
samatha.scarneomiller@hsc.wvu.edu

2025 MAATA EXHIBITORS

Visit the MAATA Sponsors at the Annual Meeting & Symposium, May 3, from 8:00AM - 3:00PM.



Children's
Hospital
of The King's
Daughters



Bob McCloskey
Insurance

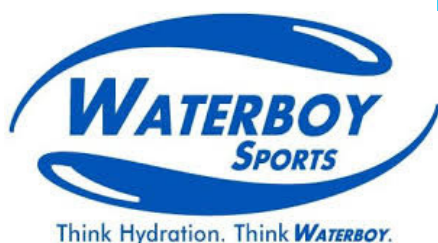


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FROM THE DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT

Scott Cook, MS, LAT, ATC

Early registration has closed, but late registration continues for the 2025 MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium. The Annual Meeting will take place May 2nd - 4th at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, VA. The educational program, registration and hotel links can be found [HERE](#).

We will be offering two pre-conference courses on Friday, May 2nd. "Assessment, Treatment, and Orthotic Intervention for the Management of Lower Extremity Sports-Related Injuries" and "Gymnastic Pit Extraction of the Spine Injured Athlete." These courses are being held concurrently with the Clinical Symposium but is offered separately if you are not able to attend the entire Symposium.

We are excited to announce that we will be able to offer professional headshots free of charge this year. A photographer will be present on Friday May 2nd, from 2-4 pm in VA Ballroom A. It is on a first come, first serve basis so if you need an updated professional headshot, please plan and dress accordingly.

We are also excited that Young Professionals (YP's) are eligible for reduced registration rates. See the registration page for more information.

We will be announcing the site of the 2026 MAATA Annual Meeting at the Business Meeting on Sunday, May 4th. Please plan to attend for this announcement!

Lastly, this will be my final Newsletter as I will be completing my term as your Vice President. It has been an honor to serve you. Ashley Thrasher will be assuming the role of Vice President at the Business Meeting. I know that she will do an awesome job for you all!

Any questions, please let me know maatameetingplanner@gmail.com. See you at the Beach!!



FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

Erin Cash, PhD, LAT, ATC

Hello District 3 and Happy Spring! I hope this newsletter finds you doing well and warming up as we head towards the summer. I want to thank the District 3 leadership who are rolling off for all they have done and sending a warm welcome to those taking over! I also want to thank our MAATA Symposium planning committee for all their hard work to make Virginia Beach a great weekend!

We are recognizing our D3 members on first year NATA memberships in this Newsletter. Please join me in congratulating our members in their respective state below! We are better together - thank you for supporting our profession at the national, district, and state levels!

If there's anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to contact me (d3sectry@gmail.com) or hopefully I will see many of you at the MAATA Symposium and/or NATA!



FROM THE DISTRICT TREASURER

Mat Lyden, MS, ATC

Happy Spring District 3 Athletic Trainers!

Hope this newsletter finds you all healthy and well. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting at the end of the month. Huge thanks to our planning committee for once again putting together a great weekend of education and social activities for all of our membership.

I am happy to report that we have successfully transitioned approximately 75% of the organization's financial assets over to Edward Jones Financial with the remainder of these funds earmarked to be moved by early May. We are very anxious to see the growth of these district assets over time, providing expanded and new opportunities for scholarship, grants, advocacy efforts, committee support, student aide, etc... I look forward to sharing this progress with all of you over the next year.

We finished the first quarter of our fiscal year on a positive note with a small uptick in membership dues compared to FY24. Still plenty of opportunity to promote membership and increase the support provided through these dues. On the expense side of the balance sheet, we typically stay waaaaaaaaaayyyy under budget until quarter 2, where a bulk of our expenses occur. But financially, we are still in a good place. Below you will see our first quarter actuals compared with our annual budget targets. Please feel free to reach out if you ever have questions or if I can be of any assistance.

MAATA FY25 Qtr 1 – Budget vs. Actuals

	Actual	Budget	over Budget	Variance (%)
Income				
Total 100 NATA	\$ 51,627.00	\$ 75,000.00	-\$ 23,373.00	68.84%
Total 200 Interest	\$ 530.72	\$ 6,000.00	-\$ 5,469.28	8.85%
Total 300 Annual Meeting	\$ 27,353.80	\$ 42,000.00	-\$ 14,646.20	65.13%
Total Income	\$ 79,511.52	\$ 123,000.00	-\$ 43,488.48	64.64%
Expenses				
Total 1000 Business	\$ 420.04	\$ 4,215.00	-\$ 3,794.96	9.97%
Total 2000 Communications	\$ 2,145.68	\$ 6,900.00	-\$ 4,754.32	31.10%
Total 3000 Travel	\$ 2,362.78	\$ 25,500.00	-\$ 23,137.22	9.27%
Total 4000 Annual Meeting	\$ 1,264.14	\$ 55,150.00	-\$ 53,885.86	2.29%
Total 5000 Student Program	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,000.00	-\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Total 6000 Advocacy	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 9,250.00	-\$ 8,250.00	10.81%
Total 7000 Committees	\$ 5,135.20	\$ 19,400.00	-\$ 14,264.80	26.47%
Total 8000 State Dues	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 12,327.84	\$ 123,415.00	-\$ 111,087.16	9.99%
Net Operating Margin	\$ 67,183.68	-\$ 415.00	\$ 67,598.68	-16188.84%

FREE COMMUNICATIONS

Tom Campbell, PhD, LAT, ATC

We are extremely excited about the 2025 Free Communications program at the upcoming MAATA Annual Meeting! This year has seen a record number of submissions, with over 40! Our program will showcase the incredible research efforts occurring across the district through both oral and poster presentations. All applicants have been notified of the committee's decisions, and we kindly request presentation acceptances by April 10th. The committee would also like to extend its gratitude to Dr. Emily Hildebrand, Dr. Luke Donovan, Dr. Meleesa Wohleber, and Dr. Renae Bomar for their assistance with this year's program! Any questions should be directed to Dr. Tom Campbell at maatad3freecomm@gmail.com.



HONORS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Bob Casmus, MS, LAT, ATC

It is my sincere hope that all of us will attend the Honors & Awards program during the MAATA 2025 Symposium this coming May. We will be honoring with the MAATA Service Award Jesse Shanks, Zach Garrett, Sharon Rogers Moore, and Taryn Strickland. The MAATA Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award recipients will be Greg Penczek and Jennifer Wheeler Johnson. Our 2025 MAATA Hall of Fame inductees are Mike Goforth, John Knaul, and Dave Pawlowski. In addition, we will also honor our MAATA scholarship winners for along with a variety of District 3 award winners for 2025 from the NATA and the NATA Foundation. Please join us as we celebrate these outstanding and most deserving award winners from District 3. I would also like to thank our sub-committee chairs for the Honors & Awards Committee of Scott Johnson, ATC (HOF), Jenn Rheeling, ATC (MDAT) and Sherry Summers, ATC (Service Award) for their time and efforts to make the Honors & Awards process a success each year. I especially want to thank the silent & anonymous scoring group members for their participation in this important activity.

LGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kirk Armstrong, EdD, ATC

Join the LGBTQ & EDAC Committees at the MAATA Annual Meeting on Saturday morning (May 3) at 8:00am for our Town Hall meeting. This is a CEU event! Our theme, emphasizing inclusivity, will provide opportunities for members to build connections to each other, the profession, and with your patients. We hope to see many of you in Virginia Beach!



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MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS & HISTORICAL COMMISSION COMMITTEES

Randy Meador, MS, ATC

"We Remember" / Memorial Resolutions Initiative

Please assist with identifying our District's deceased athletic training colleagues, for the purpose of remembering their lives, and their contributions to our District's rich history. My hope is that this initiative will serve to remember our departed colleagues, while at the same time, making our District's membership aware of those individuals who have been a part of our District's rich history.

Therefore, I am asking that you forward the following information on those deceased colleagues to your state representative (see the following names & emails):

- Full name of deceased
- Year he/she died
- His/her city & state of residency/work
- Obituary if available w/picture

Send your information to your state representative listed below:

The following individuals are the current members of the District III/MAATA Memorial Resolutions Committee (part of the Historical Commission):

District of Columbia – TBA (if no one is interested, please forward obit information to Sherry Summers)

Maryland - Samuel Thompson, Jr. – samthomp@lifebridgehealth.org

North Carolina – Randy Pridgen – rplatatc@gmail.com

South Carolina – James Berry – drjimberry@gmail.com

Virginia – Sherry Summers – sherrysummers57@gmail.com

West Virginia – Randall Meador – randy.meador@mail.wvu.edu



RESEARCH & GRANTS COMMITTEE

Bonnie Van Luen, PhD, ATC, FNATA, FNAP

We will be excited to see many of our past awardees at the upcoming meeting where they will be presenting the research findings associated with their research projects. Their work benefits those we serve, and we are sure that their presentations will be enlightening!

The MAATA Grants are **due on October 1, 2025** and you will have the opportunity to request up to \$5,000 for your proposal. We hope to have additional funds to award pending the influx of support we could receive through the MAATA Campaign for Research.

Our format for submissions will be changing for this coming year, and we will be adopting components that the NATA Foundation Professional Research Grant Program follows (the National Institutes of Health R03 application format). Please look for the specific requirements this summer on our website.

Thinking about how you can support your district and the researchers who are exploring important areas within athletic training? Please consider making a donation to the new MAATA Campaign for Research initiative ([MAATA Campaign for Research | maata](https://maata.org)).

The goal of this funding campaign is to increase the research funding for the members of District III in order for our membership to pursue projects that require larger amounts of funding. This campaign will be instrumental in supporting our membership and those who lead the way through the discovery, integration and application of scholarship within the discipline.

This fund will allow our team to add support to the \$5,000 annual amount that is already allotted for grant funding and will open up new doors for specialized calls throughout the year.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Sara Pittelkau, MA, LAT, ATC

Congratulations to the 2025 MAATA Scholarship winners:



Edward Block

1st place (left)
Meghan Bell
West Virginia University (WV)

2nd place
Justin May
Charleston Southern University (SC)



A.C. "Whitey" Gwynne

1st place (left)
Amanda Pendleton,
Liberty University (VA)

2nd place
Madison Dewar,
University of South Carolina (SC)



Larry Sutton

1st place
Victor Delgado
University of South Carolina (SC)

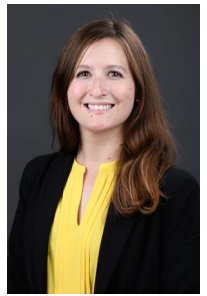


William Prentice

no applicants this year

SOCIAL MEDIA & YOUNG PROFESSIONALS' COMMITTEES

Kassy Mosley, MS, LAT, ATC



Young Professional Committee

Congratulations again to this year's MAATA Distinguished YP award winner Zachery Richards MS, LAT, ATC. Zach will be recognized during the honors and award ceremony during the MAATA symposium!

This March the YPC hosted a virtual round table talk to discuss transition to practice! During this engaging event, we had the pleasure of hearing about personal experiences and give professional advice. Early Professionals! It's still not too late to take advantage of reduced pricing!

- YP5: Young Professionals Member Certified 0-3 Year (After April 12) – \$150.00
- YP6: Young Professionals Member Certified 4-6 Year (After April 12) – \$180.00
- YP7: Young Professionals Non-Member Certified 0-3 Year (After April 12) – \$200.00
- YP8: Young Professionals Non-Member Certified 4-6 Year (After April 12) – \$250.00

We would love to have you at the MAATA symposium this year and encourage you to share this information with your fellow early professionals in District 3! We will also be having a YPC social/town hall on Friday May 2nd where our District executive committee and committee chairs will be present to have conversations and answer your questions!

[Sign up today!](#)

YPs! Want to get involved with the YP committee at the district level? We will be opening representative positions throughout the summers so be on the lookout and apply when those become available!

Be sure to check out our social media accounts, IG and X: @maata_ypc for the latest information on all things happening with our committee!!

Social Media Committee

Be sure to follow us on our District social media handles for the latest up to date information on happenings, events and volunteer openings throughout the district!

Instagram: d3athletictrainers

X: @D3_MAATA

Facebook: Mid Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association



NATA CONNECTION & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jennifer Johnson, MS, ATC

Happy Spring!!! I hope everyone is enjoying their spring so far! Convention registration is open! I can't wait to see everyone in Orlando. The CEC is sponsoring a scavenger hunt during the convention. There will be 12 items to locate and take a picture of during the convention, then upload it to the appropriate link on Gather. The winners will receive a \$25 gift card. Some examples of scavenger hunt items are posing with a NATA Hall of Fame member, attending an educational session (this can be a CEU-earning session or an Athletic

Training Student Seminar session, or taking a picture of your long-lost AT friend that you finally reconnect with at the convention.) On May 13th (11:00 am CST), the CEC is sponsoring a virtual talk titled "AI: Simplifying your Life." Please reach out if you have any questions about the benefits of being a NATA member or would like me to speak to your state, students, or any group. I would be happy to share how your NATA membership can benefit you. Please follow the CEC on Facebook, Instagram, and "X". I look forward to seeing everyone in Virginia Beach in May!

NATA CONVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Michael Higgins PhD, LAT, ATC, PT, CSCS

The CPC is hard at work making the upcoming NATA 2025 Clinical Symposium and AT Expo, which will be held in Orlando, Florida, from June 24th to 27th, a must attend event. The Two Themes for the 2025 meeting are: **Innovations in risk reduction** and **Advances in soft tissue injury management**. The [convention website](#) is open with information regarding registration, programming, events, and housing.



Please keep a look out for the call for proposals for next year's Clinical symposium and expo in Philadelphia.

If you have any questions regarding Convention Programming or have an idea for a presentation, please reach out and I will be happy to speak with you. I will be at the District meeting in May if you would like to speak with me in person.

As my term comes to an end as the District III rep on the CPC, I thank you for the opportunity of representing our great District. Gina Palermo will be our new CPC representative for our District.

Thank you for allowing me to represent District III on this committee.



STUDENT SENATE COMMITTEE

Emily Hildebrand, PhD, LAT, ATC

CLICK IMAGE TO READ

DISTRICT III STUDENT SENATE NEWSLETTER | April 2025



2025 MAATA Annual Symposium
May 2nd - 4th
Virginia Beach, VA
[Register Here](#)

Guide to the MAATA Student Program

Day 1 - Friday
May 2, 2025

Kick off the symposium with networking events to support you now and in your future.

Time: 2:00-4:30 PM | Location: VA Ballroom 1

MEET & GREET

Gather with students from all over District III and hear opening remarks from the Student Senate and learn a bit about each other and how to crush your entire conference experience!

Dress your best for a complimentary professional head shot.

Submit your resume in advance using the QR code and stop in at the YP Committee table to feedback on your resume!



Recruitment Event

The Founders Inn
Virginia Beach, VA
VA Ballroom 1

Friday, May 2, 2025
2:30-4:30 PM

Come **interact** with your **future** employer and **learn** about your professional **opportunities**:

Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters
Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System
Athletico/ Pivot
SOURCE
A.T. Still University

Free Communication Poster Presentations

Time: 4:30-6:00 PM | Location: Atrium



Stop by to listen to peers and athletic trainers present their research via a thematic presentation. Posters will include case studies, critically appraised topics, and original research endeavors for you to gain information to support your own clinical practice.

A thematic presentation means the author(s) will be with their displayed poster to elaborate on content and answer your questions.

Prizes will be awarded to the top poster presentations.



NATA COUNCIL ON PRACTICE ADVANCEMENT (COPA)

Andy Carter, MS, LAT, ATC

To begin, I would like to share some of the accomplishments and work still ongoing within the Council on Practice Advancement (COPA) and its 10 committees over the last few months. As a Council, we have monthly conference calls and had an in-person Joint Committee Meeting for committee chairs in January in Dallas. Likewise, each of the 10 committees holds monthly conference calls as well. I serve as the Chair of the Community Outreach Committee. A few of the highlights of our work include:

- The COPA Private and Emerging Practice Panel delivered a Timely Topic webinar entitled, "The AT and Business Ownership". Among the topics they discussed were their recently released Value Model—Athletic Training in Private Practice and Entrepreneurship, in which they give valuable tips and insights into starting and running a business.
- The COPA Occupational Panel contributed an article for NATA News entitled "Preventing Injuries in Occupational Settings."
- The COPA Community Outreach Panel released two tools for ATs to use when evaluating the terms of their employment. The Athletic Trainer Contract Tool provides a checklist of items that you should expect to find in your employment contract as well as some items that might be "red flags". The Outreach Agreement Tool can help those ATs who work in outreach to evaluate the agreement between their employer (i.e. a hospital system) and the client for whom they provide services (i.e. a school division).
- The COPA Health Care Administration Panel and the Private and Emerging Practice Panel collaborated to produce the Interviewee and Interviewer Checklists to help ATs prepare for interviews and for ATs involved in hiring to streamline the process.
- We have several tools, resources, and articles in production at this time to include:
 - A report on the COPA Community Outreach Per Diem Salary Survey
 - A documentation tool from the COPA Rehabilitation Clinic Panel
 - An infographic on navigating jobs in the military by the COPA Armed Forces Panel
 - COPA Physician Practice Panel is reviewing updating its Value Model

COPA will be well-represented at NATA 2025 in Orlando with several relevant presentations throughout the convention as well as our COPA Town Hall to be held on Thursday, June 26th. Please try to join us in Orlando.

We are a large council with over 40 positions. If you'd like to get involved, please take a look at the Gather portal for open positions in our council or within one of our panels. We're excited to announce the creation of a new Vice Chair position which will be posted soon as well.

If you have questions, concerns, or ideas about the work of one of our committees, please shoot me an email at andyatc@gmail.com. As you can see, the work of our council is very diverse in terms of setting. I'll work to get you connected with the COPA member best suited to address your concern or answer your question.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Xavion Santiago MS, LAT, ATC, FMT

NATA EDAC has been diligently supporting our profession on various platforms. On social media, #EDAC365 has been engaging the membership with posts highlighting AT accomplishments as well as promoting national health months and holidays. During March district 3 was featured as we highlighted a few students and early professionals.



EDAC's [Speakers Bureau](#) has also been developing well. individuals have been able to connect with subject matter experts with this platform for continuing education.

EDAC was also able to expand our awards from 1 to 5 this year! The new awards were inspired by [EDAC Pioneers](#). Please read more about it in the NATA article. I am so excited to honor the winners this year in Orlando.

This year in Virginia Beach, EDAC will be collaborating with the LGBTQ+ committee in our town hall on Emphasizing Inclusivity.

In Orlando, EDAC will be partnering with a local organization to introduce our profession with school aged scholars from the Orlando area. We will also be doing our annual clothing drive this year. This will be my last MAATA Spring newsletter as the MAATA EDAC representative and it has truly been an honor to serve this community. I am thrilled to see the new heights LaJoy Paige takes this committee!

Please check out our new instagram @MAATA_EDAC and as always feel free to reach out to D3EDACrep@gmail.com.

***We should all know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color."* - Maya Angelou**



NATA FOUNDATION

Marty Baker, LAT, ATC

Fellow members of the MAATA, I hope this Edition of the Spring Newsletter finds you doing well. I so enjoy this time of the year with our district's annual meeting in May in Virginia Beach and the NATA meeting in June in Orlando offering us the opportunity to gather and reconnect with each other.

One of the primary missions of your NATA Research & Education Foundation is the awarding of scholarships to the next generation of athletic trainers. This year the Foundation received 308 applications and awarded 67 scholarships to deserving students. Please join me in congratulating the following MAATA students on receiving a 2025 scholarship:

Brittany Braun, Moravian University. Gatorade Gail Weldon Scholarship sponsored by Gatorade

Isabel Chavis, University of South Carolina. Norm Mackie Memorial Scholarship sponsored by Professional Hockey Athletic Trainers' Society

Rollo Mulliner, University of South Carolina. Pete Demers Scholarship sponsored by Professional Hockey Athletic Trainers' Society

Landon Murray, University of South Carolina. Richard E. Vandervoort Memorial Scholarship sponsored by The Richard E. Vandervoort Foundation

Amanda Pendleton, Liberty University. William Prentice/MAATA (D3) Scholarship sponsored by NATA District 3, MAATA

Hannah Robison, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. NATA HOF Scholarship sponsored by NATA Hall of Fame

Since its launch, the scholarship program of your Foundation has awarded over \$4.35 million to 2,107 students. This year's recipients, funded through generous donations and our endowment program, represent the next generation of leaders in athletic training. We can't wait to see the incredible contributions they'll make to the profession of athletic training!

To see a full list of scholarship winners [Click Here](#)

Another meaningful program of your Foundation is the 2025 Free Communications Awards. These prestigious awards celebrate excellence in research, highlighting the best presentations from NATA Foundation Free Communications program abstracts. This year, winners will be featured as Rapid-Fire Presentations. As with our scholarship winners, the MAATA is well represented among the winners. Please join me in congratulating our recipients:

Pre-Professional/Professional Student:
Taisei Chiba
University of South Carolina

Abstract Title:

"Paget-Schroetter Syndrome in a Collegiate Male Football Athlete: A Type 3 CASE Study"

Clinical Take Home Message: Paget-Schroetter Syndrome is rare but seen in athlete populations. It is especially demanding for the movement of the upper extremities. It is critically important to manage this condition in a timely manner because of the severe consequences and complications that can occur.

Established Career:
Erik Wikstrom, PhD, LAT, ATC, FNATA
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

Abstract Title:

"Diagnosis and Rehabilitation of Hematogenous Calcaneal Osteomyelitis in a Competitive Adolescent Soccer Player: A Level 4 Case Report"

Clinical Take Home Message: The presentation of calcaneal osteomyelitis in adolescents is complex given the prevalence of growth-related pain in this age group.

For a full list of award recipients please [Click Here](#)

And to round out the awards, we would be remiss if we did not recognize this year's recipient of the NATA Foundation's Volunteer Service award; MAATA's own **Erik Wikstrom** was recognized for his exemplary service advancing the mission of the NATA Research & Education Foundation. Erik previously served as a committee member and currently serves as Chair of the Free Communications Committee. His commitment to advancing research and supporting the next generation of scholars has had a lasting impact on the NATA Foundation, the MAATA and the broader athletic training community. Congrats Erik!

Each year your Foundation hosts a fundraising event at our national meeting. This year's event is sold out BUT two additional tickets will be raffled off at this year's MAATA meeting in Virginia Beach. Be on the lookout for opportunities to purchase a raffle ticket with the winners joining everyone at what is sure to be an unforgettable night of food, drinks, and high-tech golf games – all while supporting a great cause!

Another way your Foundation impacts the athletic training community is the dissemination of pertinent & relevant research effecting clinical practice and now you can receive the latest Research to Clinical Practice Newsletter directly in your inbox. All you have to do is subscribe. Stay up to date with the latest evidence-based research, clinical insights, and resources like recent research, position statements, infographics, podcasts, and more. Designed for athletic trainers, educators, and students, this monthly newsletter delivers key, easy-

to-digest information to enhance your practice. Don't miss out—subscribe today and stay informed! [Click Here](#) to learn more.

[Research to Clinical Practice – NATA Research & Education Foundation](#)

Stay Current with Research to Clinical Practice. Created by the NATA Foundation Educational Resources Committee, Research to Clinical Practice is a must-have resource for athletic trainers looking to stay on top of the latest research and evidence-based practices. Each month, we dive into a new, timely topic, offering curated resources such as: www.natafoundation.org

My time on the NATA Research & Education BOD is coming to an end. It has been an honor to serve the members of the best district in the NATA. I have learned so much about the many programs of your Foundation. As you can no doubt see, your Foundation is making a huge difference in every aspect of the profession of Athletic Training; but it can't do it without our support. If the Foundation has made a difference in your athletic training journey: a scholarship during your educational experience, a research grant, helping to fund new inquiries or perhaps a resource when developing best practice policies & procedures, if the Foundation was there when it really counted, please consider paying it forward with your financial support. It can be a one-time gift or a small monthly contribution, no gift is too small. How about honoring a mentor with a gift in their honor. The single largest contributor to the Foundation is you...the athletic trainer. Why not you? Why not now? [Please consider supporting](#) the Foundation...you will be glad you did.



NATA GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Ed Strapp, FP-C/TP-C, NRP, LAT, ATC

Strengthening Our Voice, Empowering Our States

The MAATA Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) is thrilled to share exciting developments from this spring as we continue our mission to advocate for the athletic training profession and support our state associations in meaningful ways.

Introducing the MAATA Government Affairs Grant Program

New for 2025, MAATA has launched the **District Legislative Grant Program**, a funding initiative designed to support state-level legislative efforts across the district. With an annual allocation of \$6,000, this grant is available to help states take proactive or reactive steps in their advocacy work—whether addressing scope of practice issues, athlete safety, regulatory concerns, or other legislative challenges.

Funds can be used for vital advocacy tools such as lobbyist fees, grassroots organizing, legal support, and state lobby days. Note: Funds may not be used for federal-level efforts such as NATA Hill Day or campaign donations.

Applications are accepted now for 2025 funding, with a second cycle starting in January for 2026 funding. Emergency funding is also available on a rolling basis. For details, reach out to MAATA GAC Chair Ed Strapp or, after June 30, incoming chair Zach Richards.

This is a monumental step in empowering our states to tackle legislative challenges head-on with MAATA's support at their backs.

Pictures Right: Zach & Ed Represent MAATA at NATA Capitol Hill Fly-In



MAATA was proudly represented by **Zach Richards and Ed Strapp** during the recent **NATA Capitol Hill Fly-In**, held March 31–April 1 in Washington, D.C. The event brought together 26 athletic trainers and NATA leaders from across the country to advocate directly with legislators and share the impact of our profession.

During the fly-in, Zach and Ed joined meetings with legislative offices, sharing stories of their work and educating decision-makers about the diverse settings and expertise of athletic trainers. Over 100 Congressional offices were engaged, thanks to this coordinated grassroots effort.

"This is how real change happens—through personal connections and sustained advocacy," said NATA Senior Manager of Government Affairs Deanna Kuykendall. "Zach, Ed, and our members were the voice of athletic trainers on Capitol Hill."

Their participation not only strengthened relationships at the federal level but also laid the groundwork for continued collaboration and support through local legislator visits, which are already being planned for the coming months.

MAATA GAC UPDATE – LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

The MAATA Governmental Affairs Committee would like to extend our deepest thanks to **Ed Strapp** as he concludes his term as the District GAC Representative to NATA. Ed's dedication, leadership, and tireless advocacy have been instrumental in advancing legislative efforts across the district. From guiding states through challenging legislative landscapes to launching the inaugural MAATA Grant Program, Ed's impact will be felt for years to come.

As we look ahead, we are excited to welcome **Zach Richards, MS, LAT, ATC** as the new MAATA GAC Representative to NATA, effective **July 1, 2025**. Zach brings fresh energy, extensive experience in athletic training, and a strong background in advocacy. A passionate voice for the profession, Zach is well-positioned to continue pushing forward our national legislative agenda while supporting the needs of MAATA states.

Thank you, Ed, and welcome, Zach!

GAC State Updates Coming to MAATA District Meeting

We're excited to share **all State Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) updates** during the upcoming **MAATA District Meeting in Virginia Beach!**

This session will provide a brief look at the legislative efforts happening across the district, highlight advocacy successes and challenges, and offer an opportunity to collaborate and share strategies as we work to advance the profession at the state level.

Be sure to attend and stay informed about the vital work your GAC representatives are doing to protect and promote athletic training in your state.

We look forward to seeing you in Virginia Beach!

As always, MAATA GAC is here to support your advocacy work. Let's continue to build on this momentum and make 2025 a landmark year for athletic trainers across the district.

For more information about the grant program or to get involved in advocacy efforts, contact Ed Strapp at strappatc@gmail.com.



NATA ICSM

Jennifer O'Donoghue, PhD, ATC, CSCS

As the DI Chair and your representative on the NATA-ICSM, greetings, and I hope the first quarter of 2025 is going well! The information below provides reminders of basic information, in addition to our work-group tasks that have been completed (**direct links are highlighted in blue- use your NATA member login to access**). Please don't hesitate to reach out if you

would like further details or have questions.



NATA INTERCOLLEGIATE
COUNCIL *for* SPORTS MEDICINE

Jennifer O'Donoghue, PhD, ATC, CSCS

ICSM Division I Chair

District 3 MAATA Representative

NCATA College/University Board Representative

North Carolina State University

Email: jaodonog@ncsu.edu

Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine

The NATA Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine (ICSM) is an athletic conference-based committee comprised of members from the college/university setting, including ATs working in DI, DII, DIII, 2-Year Institutions, and NAIA institutions.

The ICSM will address issues affecting student-athletes and athletic trainers at the collegiate level. It will identify relevant, timely issues in athletic training and collaborate with various organizing bodies of collegiate and intercollegiate athletics to improve student-athlete safety, well-being, and healthcare by influencing policy and providing resources.

Council Roster and interest in serving

This athletic conference-based committee comprises members from the college/university setting, including ATs working in DI, DII, DIII, Junior College, and NAIA institutions. Last month, representatives and associates of the ICSM completed interviews with all candidates who submitted their applications for our open ICSM positions. However, representative positions open sporadically, based on term ending dates and individuals vacating their employment positions. If you are interested in serving on a NATA Committee, please use your NATA login and visit the [NATA Volunteer Committees](#) page to review the purpose/description for each committee and find the *Volunteer Opportunities List* on [Gather](#).

Current Projects/Initiatives

The NATA held its 2025 Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) on January 24th-26th. The JCM is designed to provide committee leaders with key insights into what's happening across the NATA while actively engaging representative attendees in meaningful discussions about where the NATA needs to go as an organization.

The NATA-ICSM held its winter meeting with representative members via Zoom in February. Updates associated with work-group projects and initiatives include the following information that was shared at the March NCATA's 2025 Annual Symposium:

Updates from the NATA Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine including:

Pressing Issues in Collegiate Athletics:

Resources for understanding challenges of the transfer portal and Exchange of PHI, NIL, Sports Science, and Mental Health Best Practice

Additional NATA-ICSM Specific Resources

As a reminder of the resources available to all NATA members, please utilize the links provided below.

Use your NATA membership login and click the [link](#) for the [Resources to help advance college/university ATs](#)

The NATA and its Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine offer various helpful resources for the college/university setting, including presentations, sample protocols, and studies.

>If you have questions or an initiative, project, plan, question, and/or issue that you would like ICSM members to address, please use the [roster](#) to contact the indicated representative

An abbreviated list of resources with [links](#) can be found below (further description of each resource is provided on the [NATA-ICSM Resource Page](#)).

Inter-Association Collegiate Standard of Care Toolkit

[Access the toolkit here](#)

[Access the community here](#)

Collegiate AT Labor Crisis

[The Collegiate Athletic Trainer Labor Crisis: A Data-Driven Guide Outlining the Current Collegiate Workplace Environment and Strategies to Improve Workplace Engagement](#)

[Athletic Training Employer Checklist \(pdf\)](#)

[ICSM Compensation Task Force Survey Results \(pdf\)](#)

[Timely Topics Series On-Demand Event](#)

Body Image Resources and Relationship with Nutritional Supplements and Name, Image and Likeness

[Body Image and Mental Health](#)

[Student Athlete and Coach Resources Surrounding Body Image](#)

[Supplements & Sponsorship](#)

[Relationships Between Body Image and Nutritional Supplement Use](#)

[Evaluating Supplements](#)

[NEDC Body Image Fact Sheet](#)

[ICSM Town Hall Discussion on Body Image](#)

Resources Related to Transgender Student Athletes

[NCAA Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Policy](#)

[Phase One Implementation of 2022 Updates to the NCAA Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Policy](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[NCAA Board of Governors Updates Transgender Participation Policy](#)

[NCAA Inclusion of Transgender Student-Athletes](#)

[NCAA Gender Identity and Student-Athlete Participation Summit Meeting Summary](#)

[2010 NCAA Policy on Transgender Student-Athlete Participation](#)

[IOC Framework on Fairness, Inclusion and Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity and Sex Variations](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Sport Activity Participation: Considerations When Removing a Student Athlete From Participation](#)

[Professional Management and Advancement Best Practices for the Collegiate Athletic Trainer](#)

[Best Practices for Development of a Bias Action Plan](#)

[Medical Care Guidance for Away Competition](#)

[Reminders and Recommendations for Sport Following Transition Periods](#)

[Inter-association Recommendations: Best Practices in Strength and Conditioning](#)

[Preparing for Heat Illness: Athletic Trainer Checklist](#)

[What ATs Should Know About the Cures Act](#)

[Mandatory Reporting FAQ](#)

[ICSM Transition to Practice Guide](#)

[Best Practices in the Implementation and Structure of Medical Care for College Athletes \(pdf\)](#)

[NATA ICSM Mental Health Toolkit \(pdf\)](#)

[ICSM Guidance on the Interassociation Recommendations: Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletics \(pdf\)](#)

[ICSM Appropriate Contact with Minors Document](#)

[Collegiate Billing and Reimbursement Best Practice Considerations \(pdf\)](#)

[10 for 10 Presentations on Common Collegiate Health and Safety Issues](#)

[Appropriate Medical Coverage of Intercollegiate Athletics \(AMCIA\) Recommendations and Guidelines](#)

An ongoing multiple-year project of updating and rebranding the decade-old plus AMCIA and College Value Model documents. The information available through the link is not current with the project.

COVID-19 Resources

[Care of the Patient in Prevention of Transmission of Infection](#)

[COVID-19 Related Athletic Training Infection Control: Prevention of Infectious Disease](#)

[Infection Control in Athletic Training Facilities Post COVID-19 Facility Standards](#)

[NATA Infection Control Infographic](#)

[ICSM Town Hall: The Evolving Impact of COVID-19 on Collegiate Athletics](#)

[Fully Vaccinated Calculator](#)

[ICSM Vaccine Infographic](#)

[ICSM Vaccine Myth vs. Facts Infographic](#)

[How mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Work - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Update](#)

[ICSM Return-To-Campus Recommendations \(pdf, Members Only\)](#)

[ICSM Return-To-Campus Recommendations 2 \(pdf, Members Only\)](#)

[The Essential Role of the Athletic Trainer](#)

[Monkeypox Factsheet](#)

Other useful links:

[EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN-2024 Updated Position Statement from the NATA](#)

[National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Emergency Action Plan Development and Implementation in Sport](#)

For key updates, takeaways and resources, visit the following NATA links:

[Interdisciplinary Group of Health Care Experts Shed Light on Updated Guidelines](#)

[Emergency Action Plan Development and Implementation in Sport](#)

[Link for living documents:](#)

[Interdisciplinary Group of Health Care Experts Shed Light on Updated Guidelines](#)

The following resources may be freely downloaded and adapted using [the tab for Patient Care](#). Questions related to these should be directed via [email](#) to [Samantha Scarneo-Miller, PhD, ATC](#), Assistant Professor of Athletic Training and MSAT Program Director.

1. [NATA Position Statement: Emergency Action Plan Development and Implementation in Sport](#)
 2. [Emergency Action Plan Template](#)
 3. [EAP Checklist](#)
 4. [Risk Analysis](#)
 5. [Pre-Event Medical Meeting](#)
 6. [Emergency Equipment List](#)
 7. [Incident Report Template](#)
 8. [After Action Debriefing](#)
 9. [Rehearsal Scenario Considerations](#)
 10. [Rehearsal Scenario – AT Present](#)
 11. [Rehearsal Scenario – AT Not Present, Cardiac](#)
 12. [Rehearsal Scenario – AT Not Present, Exertional Heat Stroke](#)
- To review the full NATA recording, please click [here](#).

Mental Health Best Practices: to review a summary and access resources, please click [here](#).

Mental health is a vital part of overall health. As such, the [NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports](#) developed the [Mental Health Best Practices: Understanding and Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Health](#). The Mental Health Best Practices provide evidence- and consensus-based recommendations to member schools for supporting and promoting student-athlete mental health.

NATA Forward Motion is a quarterly discussion with NATA President A.J. Duffy III, MS, ATC, PT, during which he will provide updates on strategic initiatives. The goal of NATA Forward Motion, an exclusive, members-only event, is to provide attendees a peek behind the curtain. Not only will members hear directly from Duffy, but they will also have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. NATA Forward Motion is limited to 300 attendees and is first come, first served.

Future Dates

May 8, 2025

August 7, 2025

November 13, 2025

[NATA Forward Motion Resources](#) (*NATA members only. Must be logged in to view.)

Did you know?

NEW NATA Member Benefit for 2025!

Starting in 2025, the entire [NATA EducATe](#) On-Demand Course Catalog - more than 150 courses covering various disciplines you encounter daily in your practice - will be included with your membership! That's more than 225 CEUs/hours of content! Access to certain NATA conferences, virtual events, and specialized content, such as micro-credentials, will require additional fees at the lower, discounted NATA member rate. This member benefit is nontransferable and lasts as long as the member is in good standing and fully paid. [Read these FAQs](#) to learn

more about this new member benefit and what it means for you.

[NCAA Best Practices and Recommendations Endorsed by NATA](#)

[Sidelined USA](#) provides support and resources for athletes who have been permanently sidelined due to career-ending injury, health condition, or repeat concussion and inspires them to find a meaningful way forward.

[NATA Resource Library](#)

The National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) Member Resource Library is a virtual hub of open-source resources for NATA members. The library includes E-learning modules, consensus papers, and guidelines. Members can filter searches by keyword, resource type, topic, or year.

[NATA opportunities to serve as a Volunteer/Committee/Council/Commission Member](#)

NATA has a thriving volunteer program with more than 400 appointed positions available and many opportunities to serve on a temporary basis.

[CAATE Certified College Athletic Training Programs by State](#)

From the BOC: The [Athletic Trainer Interstate Compact Draft](#) is Ready for Review

The Council of State Governments (CSG), through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense (DoD), is partnering with the BOC to support the need for mobility of licensed Athletic Trainers (ATs) through the development of a new interstate compact. An interstate compact will allow ATs to practice across state lines both physically and remotely (e.g. digital health) improving continuity of care.

Development of an AT interstate compact has been launched through the CSG's National Center for Interstate Compacts.

Current Status

An initial draft of the Athletic Trainer Interstate Compact is [now available for public review](#). CSG and their project partners are [seeking feedback](#) by April 25, 2025, on the initial draft to ensure the compact's model legislation works for stakeholders in the athletic training profession.





SHANNON FOOKS, MS, ATC, CSCS
PRESIDENT

Open positions

- Young professional committee chair
- DC EDAC Representative

Election results will be coming out this week and new Executive Council will be starting June 1 with new

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Student Symposium

- Date: Saturday, April 26, 2025
- Location: Friendship Tech Prep Academy
- Time: 8:30-1:00

Summer CE event

- Planning a hybrid CE event in early June.
- Looking for local speakers
- Volunteer at World Pride
- Parade June 7th
- Festival June 8th

Contact Breyah Jones if interested jnspws@gmail.com

Congratulations to the DCATA members on first time membership to the NATA!

Joshua Lucas
Amber Roundtree



RACHEL MOORE, MED, LAT, ATC
PRESIDENT

Hello from Maryland!

It has been a busy and exciting season for the Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association (MATA) as we promoted National Athletic Training Month (NATM) across the state.

MATA leadership has been actively engaged in testifying before school boards throughout Maryland, emphasizing the critical role of Athletic Trainers (ATCs) in ensuring the safety and well-being of student-athletes. We've also been working closely with state athletic directors to advocate for the expanded hiring and support of ATCs within school systems and athletic programs.

On March 23, we had the pleasure of partnering with our colleagues at the District of Columbia Athletic Trainers' Association (DCATA) for a fantastic joint social event. It was a great opportunity to connect with fellow professionals, strengthen regional relationships, and celebrate the athletic training profession. A heartfelt

thank you to everyone who contributed to making it such a success!

We are currently collecting responses for our Annual Salary Survey, and your input is vital. The data we gather will help us advocate more effectively for competitive compensation, equitable benefits, and improved working conditions for ATs across Maryland. If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey yet, we encourage you to do so.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce our Annual Business Meeting and Symposium, scheduled for June 6th and 7th. This event will offer valuable CEU opportunities, networking, and the latest updates impacting athletic training in our state. Be sure to stay tuned for registration details and the full event agenda, coming soon!

Thank you for your continued dedication to the profession and to the athletes we serve.

See list of new MATA/NATA members, next page.

Congratulations to the MATA members on first time membership to the NATA!

Kiersten Brown
Dayna Carson
Nnamdi Chikere
Emily Clapsaddle
Danyelle Cole
Doreen Dzansi
Jessica Franco
Cathal Garvey
Sydney Hash
Kristen Herraiz
Clara Janush
Leah Johnson
Justus LePrevost
Stephen Lowery

Kayla Mallory
Ajalon Mercer
Olivia Scheiner
Chad Scott
George Siarkas
Naila Smith
Donica Tedros
Mitchell Thornton
Tyler Tillery
Mackenzie Tillman
Aidan Wilbur
Lauren Yi
Linden Yuan



NINA WALKER, MA, LAT, ATC
PRESIDENT

The NCATA is committed to increasing awareness and understanding of the athletic training profession among young people. As part of this initiative, we have recently engaged with key educational groups across the state and beyond:

December: We hosted a well-attended webinar for the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA), titled *Exploring Careers in Athletic Training: Opportunities, Education, and Professional Pathways*. This session provided valuable insights into the profession and was recorded for future use by IECA members.

February: We presented to high school Career Development Coordinators in the Wake County Public School System, equipping them with information to guide students interested in athletic training. Moving forward, we plan to expand these efforts to other large school districts across North Carolina.

March: The PR Committee delivered a presentation at the North Carolina Career Development Association's annual conference, focusing on *The Role and Pathway of Athletic Training in Career Counseling*. This session emphasized how career advisors can

introduce students to the diverse opportunities within the field.

At the NCHOSA State Leadership Conference in March, a presentation titled *Management of the Spine-Injured Athlete* was delivered to high school students with an interest in healthcare careers. In an engaging, interactive component, students received hands-on experience practicing key emergency response techniques such as immobilization, supine log roll, and multi-person lift, providing them with valuable, practical insights into managing spine injuries. This immersive learning opportunity was particularly beneficial for those considering careers in athletic training or related fields, inspiring them to explore the dynamic world of sports medicine.

May: Looking ahead, the PR Committee will travel to Atlanta for the Southeastern Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (SAAHP) annual conference. There, we will present on this topic and distribute materials to pre-health college advisors, further promoting awareness of athletic training as a career option for students pursuing health professions. By fostering these connections and providing valuable resources, we aim to inspire and support the next generation of athletic trainers. Stay tuned for more

updates as we continue this important work!

Athletic Trainers Honored at NC Courage Home Opener for National Athletic Training Month

On March 22, during the NC Courage home opener, Wake County Public Schools' Certified Athletic Trainers were recognized for their dedication and commitment to student-athlete health and safety. As part of National Athletic Training Month (NATM), the halftime ceremony celebrated these healthcare professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide injury prevention, emergency care, treatment, and rehabilitation.

Adding to the night's recognition of athletic trainers, Brandi Schwane, athletic trainer for UNC Women's

Soccer, performed the opening coin toss in honor of NATM. Schwane's presence was especially fitting, as UNC Women's Soccer recently secured the 2024 National Championship, further showcasing the impact of dedicated sports medicine professionals in collegiate athletics.

With this year's NATM theme, "*Champions in Healthcare*," the recognition highlighted the vital role athletic trainers play in keeping student-athletes safe and performing at their best. The NC Courage crowd showed their appreciation with a resounding ovation as these unsung heroes took center stage.

The NCATA is proud to see these dedicated professionals honored for their invaluable contributions to athletics and healthcare in our community!



Wake County Public School Athletic Trainers before being recognized on the field at halftime.

Wake County Public School Athletic Trainers being recognized on the field at halftime.



Brandi Schwane (UNC women's soccer AT) and Graduate Assistants Charlie Runstrom and Tyler Skoniecki before taking the field to do the opening coin toss



Left, students during the NCHOSA State Leadership Conference practicing spine boarding techniques

Below, Athletic Trainers after presenting at NCHOSA on Emergency Management of the Spine Injured Athlete



Congratulations to the NCATA members on first time membership to the NATA!

Sierra Agnew
 Jansen Alt
 Jordan Bailey
 Cameron Barnhardt
 Sundae Battleson
 Jessica Baxley
 Morgan Bohemier
 Kaylee Breckenridge
 Satara Cain
 Ben Chamberlain
 Sophia DelBene
 Jessica Dowless
 Cailyn Duncan
 Elizabeth Dwyer
 Alison Faulkenberry
 Robert Fisch
 Kenleigh Golder
 Alex Gorsky
 Jackson Grant
 Aiden Halvorsen
 Kristin Hogan
 Tatum Hubbard
 Makai Jacobs
 Victor Jurkiewicz
 Sara King

Seth Krolus
 Zoe Larson
 Bradley Latchford
 Daniel Martin
 McKenzie Martin
 Madison McCluney
 Malaya McFadyen
 Justin McMahon
 Lisa Pegram
 Gene Perle-Jones
 Mary Catherine Price
 K'Shayla Richardson
 Spencer Rojas
 Kamy Rose
 Rachel Schultz
 Bethany Sigmon
 Jasmine Spears
 Holly Stark
 Samantha Tansey
 Emma Ventura
 Lillian Vo
 Cassidy Wilson
 Samanth Wolchesky
 Courtney Worrell
 Breanna Yoakum



MICHAEL KOTELNICKI, EDS, LAT, ATC
 PRESIDENT

Congratulations to the VATA members on first time membership to the NATA!

Kayleigh Adam
 Dakari Branch
 Ryan Breedlove
 Bretton Butler
 Aleasha Checo
 Haley Chisum
 Karli Conti
 Joshua Diggins
 Joshua Fretwell
 Victoria Glaspell
 Spencer Guthrie
 Bailee Jenkins
 Ashley Johnson
 Brynne Jones
 Adrieana Kirby
 Stephen Lencz

Savanna Martin
 Alyssa McNeill
 Skylar Miles
 Meghan Mutter
 Megan Nachison
 Skyler Naves
 Brooke Pataky
 Kaia Preston
 Claudia Putman
 Rachel Rosenthal
 Melissa Scheetz
 Theresa Sherrill
 Jo Shufelt
 Gregory Stryk
 Taylor Swartz
 Da'Shea Taylor
 Chris Zhao



WILL CHRISTMAN, MS, LAT, ATC
PRESIDENT

SCATA's Annual Symposium will be held July 9-11 and early bird registration opens May 1st. We will have Pre Con on July 9th "The Athletic Trainer on Trial: A Mock Courtroom Experience". All information can be reviewed on the [symposium website](#).



"THE ATHLETIC TRAINER ON TRIAL: A MOCK COURTROOM EXPERIENCE"

Step into the courtroom for a one-of-a-kind immersive learning experience. This dynamic mock trial will present a fictional legal case of a student-athlete and their family vs. an athletic trainer and the school district, focusing on key issues such as concussion management, emergency action planning, and state law compliance. Our very own Sheila Gordon, Past-President of the South Carolina Athletic Trainers' Association, has agreed to act in the role as our fictional athletic trainer on trial. Hosted in collaboration with the USC Law School Mock Trial Club and presided over by The Honorable James F. Fraley, Jr., the session will take place in the authentic setting of the USC Law School courtroom. Presenters will bring the case to life by portraying the roles of the athletic trainer, family members, and legal counsel.

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how NATA Position Statements and state laws intersect with clinical practice. Using the mock trial as a framework, this session will highlight best practices in return-to-learn and return-to-play protocols, legal risk management, and emergency planning across athletic training settings.

Come for the drama—leave with practical strategies and legal insights that can shape your real-world decision-making as an athletic trainer.

Event Highlights

BOC Approved ◀

2 Category A CEUs

Presented By ◀

Amy L. Fraley, PhD, LAT, ATC, CSCS
Jim M. Mensch, PhD, LAT, ATC
USC Law School Mock Trial Club

Date and Time ◀

July 9th 2025
3:00-5:00 pm
USC Law School



REGISTER AT
WWW.SCATA.ORG

Congratulations to the SCATA members on first time membership to the NATA!

William Barfield
Madicyn Barnes
Ryein Bennett
Celina Burles
Lane Burnett
Samuel Byrne
Sydney Cade
Isabel Chavis
Serenity Collier
Shawn Daniel
Beth Davis
Madison Dewar
John English
Allie Farmer
Brandon Fierro
Taylor Fox
Charles Grant
Christopher Gresham
Taylor Hash
Alaina Hauber
Emily Hoffman
Kaitlyn Holland
Caroline Holter
Payton Horton
Aaliyah Jordan
Samantha Juda

Emily LaFrance
Tanasia Lemon
Rebecca Martin
Megan Matsil
Justin May
E'Mya Morant
Triston Morgan
Rollo Mulliner
Cassandra Nevarez
Shannon Preston
Alexandra Rabinowitch
Brandon Rackley
Julian Roberts
Lonnie Roberts III
Kaleigh Robinson
Molly Roth
Jared Sanford
Jessia Smith
Mackenzie Sontz
JaNay Thompson
Amanda Trujillo
Dylan Truslow
Sarah Walden
Hannah Weinstock
Cameron Werme
Zariel Yeargin



SAMANTHA SCARNEO-MILLER, PHD, LAT,ATC
PRESIDENT

2024 – 2025 Major Accomplishments

Hiring Bowles Rice as our new lobbyist, Kendra Amick is an incredible advocate for us and we are so grateful for her and the team at Bowles Rice. We have also made a concerted effort to improve transparency and regular communication with our members. Fundraising has been an incredible feat taken on by Laura Wamsley who has raised \$15,000 for the association so far.

Committee Updates

Governmental Affairs – HB 2172 (add an AT to the WVBOPT) passed both chambers and is at the Governor's desk for approval/veto. Please send letters to the Governor's office asking for his support! HB 585 (Cohen Craddock bill, sometimes known as guardian cap), did not complete the legislative action in the 2025 regular session. Additional bills were introduced related to the AT profession (SB 866 for the WVBOPT to regulate concussions; SB 470 for athletic freedom, SB 755 to require ATs in high schools by 2030, etc.) and did not complete legislative processes.

Secondary Schools – Continuing to give CEUs for the SSAC day.

LGBTQ – Needs members! Continued involvement with MAATA and waiting on guidance for committee name change in the future.

Connection & Engagement – nearly 1000% increase in engagement on our social media platforms; committee has a concerted plan for content to push out each month. Huge thank you to Meleesa for her efforts on this committee!!

Young Professionals Committee – Don't forget to join the discord group!

2025 WVATA Sports Medicine Conference/Symposium sponsored by WVU Medicine: Great turn out with over 60 ATs and AT students in attendance either in person or virtually. Thank you to Director Davis, President Gage and Vice-President Cook for coming all the way to Morgantown to attend our meeting. We are grateful for your leadership!

Congratulations to the following students:

Student Poster Presentation Winners: 1st – Maguire Dinnan (WVU), 2nd - Emir Acikgoz (WVU), 3rd - Meghan Bell (WVU)

Student Oral Presentation Winners: 1st – Bre'ya Clopper & Allison Cook (Wheeling), 2nd – Olivia Newhouse (Marshall), 3rd – Katelyn Scott (WVU)

Quiz Bowl Winners – WV Wesleyan

Congratulations to the following award winners:

Service Award – Laura Wamsley

Co-Athletic Trainers of the Year – Grace Gwinn & Tammie Moody

Educator of the Year – Kevin Burton

Student of the Year – Olivia Newhouse

Congratulations to the WVATA members on first time membership to the NATA!

Faith Auvil
Regan Carpenter
Nicholas Gerosa
Tanner Hale
Brittney Hooper
Emma Jenkins

Patrick Kilga
Kendal Mader
Justin McDaniel
Hannah Murphy
Courtney Rice
Lindsey Saxton