



JANUARY 2025

**District Director– L. Ray Davis, Jr, MSS, LAT, ATC**

***Hello from Bone Chillin NC***

Recently, I attended the VATA meeting in Hampton, VA. I enjoyed many conversations with fellow colleagues. Thank you to the VATA leadership for allowing me a few minutes to give recent NATA updates.

On January 24<sup>th</sup> I will be traveling to our NATA JCM in Dallas, TX. This year's meeting will have a different look as much has changed with our organization's leadership and structure. The NATA staff at the NATA Headquarters hosted NATA BOD & Committee Chairs. I expect a lot of business will be accomplished over the weekend in the boardroom. There will be more information in the coming months.

For now, here are my updates...

NATAM 2025 Theme is 'Champions in Health Care'

Membership registration is still open until January 31<sup>st</sup> Please encourage colleagues who are not members to join us, We Need You!!!!

Student Writing Contest Submissions, the deadline for NATA Research & Education Foundation Athletic Training Student Writing Contest submissions is Feb 1<sup>st</sup>

The Bobby Gunn Student Leadership Award application is open, applications are due by February 15<sup>th</sup> more info on the D3 website

The NATA 76<sup>th</sup> Clinical Annual Symposia & Expo is June 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> in Orlando! Housing is Open! Registration information is coming soon!

***There will be a future eblast pertaining to NATA By-Law changes. A member vote will take place at our May meeting. Please make every effort to attend so your voice is heard.***

I have scheduled several upcoming State meetings, NCATA in March, WVATA in April and our district meeting in May. I look forward to seeing you!

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve you.

Stay Warm My Friends!

## **District President– Matt Gage, PhD, LAT, ATC, CES**

Happy New Year! I want to congratulate those who were selected as the 2025 MAATA Award Winners. Your hard work and dedication inspire us all, and we are proud to celebrate your achievements.

I want to invite you to attend the 2025 MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium in Virginia Beach this May! This event promises valuable educational sessions, networking opportunities, and much more. Don't miss the chance to connect with colleagues and advance your knowledge. I look forward to seeing you there!

Matt Gage [d3maatapresident@gmail.com](mailto:d3maatapresident@gmail.com)

## **District Vice-President – Scott Cook, MS, LAT, ATC**

Registration is now open for the 2025 MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium. The Annual Meeting will place May 2nd – May 4th at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, VA. The educational program is being finalized and will be announced soon. We will be offering a pre-conference course on Friday May 2nd. "Assessment, Treatment, and Orthotic Intervention for the Management of Lower Extremity Sports-Related injuries."

This course is being held concurrently with the Clinical Symposium, but is offered separately if you are not able to attend the entire Symposium.

Register Now, as Early Registration ends April 12th, and registration prices increase after that. The Annual Meeting registration link, including hotel information can be found at the MAATA website found [HERE](#).

Any questions, please let me know, [maatameetingplanner@gmail.com](mailto:maatameetingplanner@gmail.com).  
See you at the Beach!!

## **District Secretary – Erin Cash, PhD, LAT, ATC**

Hello District 3 and Cheers to 2025! As a reminder the ENTIRE [NATA EducATe](#) On-Demand Course Catalog (more than 150 courses!) covering a host of topics you encounter daily in your practice - is now included in your membership! Renew your NATA membership today and earn CEUs at your own pace to take advantage of this awesome perk!

Members have until January 31<sup>st</sup> to renew their membership before losing access to all benefits. NATA has options in place to assist members who may be going through an economic hardship. Contact Member Services at [membership@nata.org](mailto:membership@nata.org) or 972-532-8897 to discuss how they can help.

If there's anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to contact me at [d3sectry@gmail.com](mailto:d3sectry@gmail.com).

## **District Treasurer – Mat Lyden, MS, ATC**

Hello D3 AT's!

From the desk of the treasurer, I would like to start by letting our membership know that we finished the 2024 fiscal year with a positive operating margin. Even though we did not meet our budgeted revenue goal, our expenses were well under our expectations which kept us on the plus side. The organization has been able to successfully manage our funds in this fashion for many years.

With the growth of our balance sheet, the leadership team has started exploring options to invest some of these funds, allowing opportunities to offer more support back to the members, states, and students within our district. Very exciting!

Some other reminders to pass along; Our annual meeting attendee registration and sponsorship opportunities are live, hope to see as many of you as possible in VA Beach on May 2. Also, our MAATA annual scholarships are open for application. Be sure to review information on submissions at [MAATA.org](http://MAATA.org). And last, we have several volunteer opportunities on both district committees as well as NATA reps. Please consider putting your talents and skills to work by giving back to the AT profession.

To close, I want to wish you all a safe winter sports season. If there is anything I could do for you or questions I can answer, feel free to reach out anytime, [D3maataCFO@gmail.com](mailto:D3maataCFO@gmail.com).

Warmest Regards!

## **Free Communications – Tom Campbell, PhD, LAT, ATC**

The 2025 scholarship application cycle is OPEN! Please see the [MAATA Scholarship website](#) for more information. Scholarships are open to NATA/MAATA members who are attending an institution within DIII (MAATA) and are a current member. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2025 11:59pm.

## **Scholarship Committee – Sara Pittelkau, MA, LAT, ATC**

The MAATA Free Communications program is excited to continue our success from the 2024 MAATA Free Communications sessions! Please consider submitting an abstract to this year's programming! All formatting information can be found in this [document](#). To encourage quality presentations, the MAATA Free Communications program is happy to announce that there will be prizes for the top presenters! Any questions should be directed to Tom Campbell, MAATA Free Communications Chair, at [maatad3freecomm@gmail.com](mailto:maatad3freecomm@gmail.com).

Please note, the Bobby Gunn Scholarship has a different deadline - February 15, 2025 11:59pm.

## **Honors & Awards Committee – Bob Casmus, MS, LAT, ATC**

We hope that you will attend the MAATA Honors & Awards session this coming May 2025. We will be inducting Mike Goforth, a long-time Virginia Tech Athletic Trainer, Dave Pawlowski, a long-time leader in Virginia, and John Knaul who has served District III in various capacities. These are three most-worthy candidates for our Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Greg Penczek and Jennifer Wheeler-Johnson as our District III Most Distinguished Athletic Trainers for 2025. The District III Service Award recipients for 2025 are Sharon Rogers Moore, Jessie Shanks, Zach Garrett, and Taryn Strickland. Please mark the Honors & Awards session to attend on your calendar for May 3rd, 2025 at our MAATA Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA.



**Mike Goforth, Hall of Fame**



**Dave Pawlowski, Hall of Fame**



**John Knaul, Hall of Fame**



**Greg Penczek, Most Distinguished ATC**



**Jennifer Wheeler-Johnson, Most Distinguished ATC**



**Zach Garrett, Service Award**



**Sharon Rogers Moore, Service Award**



**Jessie Shanks, Service Award**



**Taryn Strickland, Service Award**

### **Secondary Schools AT Committee – Adam Wall, MS, LAT, ATC**

The NATA Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee (SSATC) conducted a survey among ATs in the secondary school setting to determine job satisfaction. The results can be found in the white paper: [Secondary School Athletic Trainers: A Data-Centric Overview of Job Satisfaction and Strategies for Risk Reduction, Recruitment and Retention](#).

The purpose of this white paper was to indicate to Athletic directors and school administrator's things that can be done or utilized in order to retain athletic trainers at the secondary school level. We are highly recommending that our members in this setting read and share this report with their school administrators. The committee created this report as a tool to open the dialogue with school administrators and create a positive and healthy working environment for secondary school ATCs.

Nominations for the AT Advocate Award will open in spring 2025. The AT Advocate Award recognizes an individual, organization, corporation or company that has been a champion in securing athletic trainers in the secondary school setting, improving public awareness of the

profession and sports safety. If you would like to nominate an individual, business or organization to represent district 3 please contact your district SSATC representative Adam Wall ([awall3@wcpss.net](mailto:awall3@wcpss.net)).

Lastly, applications for the district grant towards to the Safe Sports School Award will open in March 2025 though April. More information will be forthcoming about the application process. For any questions, please contact your district representative Adam Wall.

**Student Senate – Emily Hildebrand, PhD, LAT, ATC**

# Recruitment Event



**The Founders Inn**  
Virginia Beach, VA  
Virginia Ballroom 1



**Friday, May 2, 2025**  
2:00 PM - following  
Student Meet & Greet

## **Employers, Residency and DAT Programs:**

Come **interact** with athletic training **students** and **share** your professional **opportunities**.

## **Event Registration:**

Click the **events page** on [www.maata.org](http://www.maata.org) and select **exhibitor registration** to review sponsorship levels “S” and “T”.

## **Athletic Training Student Attendance:**

Register for the MAATA Annual Meeting on the **events page** at [www.maata.org](http://www.maata.org).

## **Questions:**

Contact Emily Hildebrand; [ehildebrand@towson.edu](mailto:ehildebrand@towson.edu)

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## **NATA Connection & Engagement Committee – Jennifer Johnson, MS, ATC**

I hope everyone had a great holiday and had a few opportunities to celebrate and destress. This is just a quick reminder that there is still time to renew your NATA membership! If you renew before January 31st, you will not lose any of the member benefits, including access to CEUs on EducATe! Also, keep a look out for the CEC Meet & Greet platforms this year. Have a great winter season!

## **NATA Convention Program Committee – Michael Higgins**

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 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 (<https://convention.nata.org/>) with information regarding registration, programming, events, and housing.

### **Moderators always welcome!**

If you would like to be a moderator in Orlando, please let me know.

Michael Higgins email: [Mjh7s@virginia.edu](mailto:Mjh7s@virginia.edu)

If you have any questions regarding Convention Programming or have an idea for a presentation, please reach and I will be happy to speak with you. Thank you for allowing me to represent District III on this committee.

## **NATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee – Xavion Santiago, MS, LAT, ATC, FMT**

Happy New Year MAATA!

Happy Blood Donor month! There is a critical need for blood donors. Check out <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> for a chance to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LIX if you donate blood between now and January 26. You can also sign up for the National Marrow Donor Program (formerly Be the Match) on <https://www.nmdp.org/>. By joining the program, you can potentially help those diagnosed with blood cancer and disorders through bone marrow donation.

Have you read this month's NATA News? check out the advocacy calendar developed by NATA government affairs.

Thank you all who nominated a deserving candidate for one of our NATA EDAC awards. The selection committee received several nominations for each award which is phenomenal for the first year of all but 1 award.

Lastly, please welcome the incoming NATA EDAC representative, LaJoy Paige! She steps into this new role after years of service to her states, districts and the NATA. LaJoy will take over this role in Orlando this June. You can read more about this phenomenal leader at <https://www.nata.org/nata-now/articles/2023/02/inspiring-success-through-service>.

If you have any plans or needs celebrating any events in February please email [D3EDACrep@gmail.com](mailto:D3EDACrep@gmail.com) and let me know if NATA EDAC can assist in any way.

Be GreAT!

## NATA Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine – Jennifer O’Donoghue, PhD, ATC, CSCS



NATA INTERCOLLEGIATE  
COUNCIL *for* SPORTS MEDICINE

As the DI Chair and your representative on the NATA-ICSM, greetings and I hope that the start 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.

### **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](mailto: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 the student-athlete and athletic trainers at the collegiate level. The ICSM will identify relevant, timely issues in the field of 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](#)

This athletic conference-based committee is comprised of members from the college/university setting, including ATs working in DI, DII, DIII, Junior College and NAIA institutions. Currently, representatives and associates of the ICSM are interviewing all candidates who submitted their applications for our open ICSM positions by the November due date. However, representative positions do open sporadically, based on term ending dates and individuals vacating their employment positions. If you are interested in serving on an 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 will hold its 2025 Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) January 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. 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 will hold its winter meeting with representative members via zoom in February. Updates associated with work-group projects and initiatives will be provided in the next *MAATA Eblast*.

### Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine Awards

The Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine has established several awards to recognize collegiate athletic trainers who have demonstrated exceptional performance in their setting.

#### **Award Eligibility**

- NATA member in good standing
- Current BOC certification
- At least 75% of current job responsibility must involve primary coverage and care of collegiate athletes
- Additional award-specific criteria

Nominate NATA members may nominate a candidate by downloading and completing the nomination form below and submitting it to the Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine by March 1.

### 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 a variety of 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*).**

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**Inter-Association Collegiate Standard of Care Toolkit**

[Access the toolkit here](#)

[Access the community here](#)

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**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](#)

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**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](#)

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**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

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

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

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

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[Medical Care Guidance for Away Competition](#)

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

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

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

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

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[Mandatory Reporting FAQ](#)

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[ICSM Transition to Practice Guide](#)

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

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

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

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[ICSM Appropriate Contact with Minors Document](#)

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

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

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[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.

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**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](#)

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[Monkeypox Factsheet](#)

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***Other useful links:***

The NATA's College and University Athletic Trainers' Committee has developed the [NCAA Division II Summer Football Workout Checklist](#) (pdf) for the NCAA Division II athletic trainer to utilize for planning and preparation prior to the implementation of these conditioning sessions.

[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](#)

## **NATA Political Action Committee – Steve Cole, MEd, LAT, ATC**

THANK YOU for your support! District 3 closed out 2024 strong with the support of the NATAPAC. During the membership renewal period 45 members of District 3 contributed to the NATAPAC in addition to their NATA membership renewal. In addition, there are numerous members that continue to support the NATAPAC with an automatic recurring contribution each month. I would encourage each of you to consider a recurring donation to the NATAPAC by visiting the web site at [Contribute to NATAPAC | NATA](#) .

For the latest updates on the legislative process, please visit [NATA Beat](#), a quarterly eblast, is dedicated to these government affairs efforts, ensuring members have the latest insight into the work being done to advocate for the profession. Accompanying NATA Beat, NATA Now will provide further highlights each quarter in a quick, easy-to-digest format.

## **NATA Student Leadership Committee – Emi Reindle**

The NATA Student Leadership Committee is hosting their last two annual BOC Prep Kahoot Nights on February 21st, 2025 at 7PM CST and March 7th, 2025 at 7PM CST. The winner of each event will receive a free BOC Prep Workshop Prize and the district with the most attendees for each event will receive access to the NATA Exam Study Guide, which are both sponsored by ACES Preparatory Workshop. If you are interested in attending or know someone who would be interested, please use this link to register for the event: <https://www.nata.org/nata-slc-boc-prep-kahoot-night>

For any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact the SLC Outreach Committee at [slcoutreachcom@gmail.com](mailto:slcoutreachcom@gmail.com)

The Chuck Kimmel First-Time Attendee Award is now accepting applications to assist students in attending their first annual NATA convention. This award will provide a total of \$2,000 for up to four athletic training students. Applications are due on April 1st, 2025. For more information about award criteria, selection criteria and to apply, please visit this link:

<https://www.nata.org/membership/honors-and-awards/chuck-kimmel-first-time-attendee-award>

### [Chuck Kimmel First-Time Attendee Award | NATA](#)

The NATA Student Leadership Committee (SLC) is offering the Chuck Kimmel First-Time Attendee Award to help students attend the NATA Clinical Symposia & AT Expo. To assist students with the financial obligation of attending, this award is designated to enable athletic training students to attend their first annual NATA convention. Athletic training students who have not

[www.nata.org](http://www.nata.org)

## **DCATA – Shannon Fooks, MS, ATC, CSCS**

### **Rock N Roll Race – Volunteer Opportunity**

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we need your support. As a volunteer, your help the race participants have a smooth registration. Every DCATA member that shows up we gain money for the DCATA association.

#### **Event Details**

Date: Friday, March 14, 2025

Time: 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Location: Convention Center

### **2025 DC CTSO – HOSA Competition**

Join us March 11, 2025 for the DC Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) State Leadership Conference (SLC), hosted by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE).

This year's conference will unite over 700 CTE students and staff for workshops, skill-based competitions, and career exploration opportunities. Students from DC CTSOs—FBLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and TSA—will showcase their talents with support from industry, government, and education leaders. Lunch and parking are provided!

- **HOSA- Health Science Judges** – Evaluate student presentations, projects, and competitions. There are two timeslots available 8:30am to 12:30pm and 12:30pm to 5:00pm. We would love to have you for one or both time slots.

### **Open positions**

Are you, or is there someone you know, interested in one of the upcoming open positions on the DCATA Executive Council? Nominations for vice president, secretary, and treasurer will commence on March 1st.

#### **Timeline:**

**Nomination Period:** March 1st- March 21st

**Nominee Submit Bios/ Headshots:** March 22nd- March 30th

**Elections:** April 1st- April 15th

**Shadow Period:** April 16th- May 31st

**Start Position:** June 1<sup>st</sup>

## **WVATA – Samantha Scarneo-Miller, PhD, LAT, ATC**

The West Virginia Athletic Trainers Association has a lot going on! Please see below for upcoming events, deadlines and opportunities!

- WVATA State Meeting – April 12, Morgantown, WV
  - Call for Proposals – Due January 31
  - Call for student abstracts – Due February 12
  - If you would like to help plan the state meeting, please contact Samm ([samantha.scarneomiller@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:samantha.scarneomiller@hsc.wvu.edu))!
- WVATA Hit the Hill Day – February 18 (9am arrival)
- Connection and Engagement committee – we are looking for volunteers to help with the Connection and Engagement Committee (formerly social media – please reach out to Samm and/or Meleesa with your interest!)
- Looking for Corporate Sponsors! If you know or have a company that would be interested in sponsoring the WVATA, please reach out to us! We are actively soliciting new sponsors for the association.