



JANUARY 2024

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

Hello from JCM 2024 in Dallas, Texas

This weekend has been enlightening and engaging. The NATA staff at the NATA Headquarters hosted NATA BOD & Committee Chairs. I believe ALL attendees experienced many conversations throughout the weekend; some were intense, heartwarming, frustrating and truly uplifting. A lot of business was accomplished over the past 2 days in the boardroom. There will be more information in the coming months. For now, here's what you need to be aware of...

- President Dieringer will present updates in the Feb 15th Forward Motion, register soon!
- NATAM 2024 Theme is 'From Head to Toe'
- ICSM is hosting a Town Hall on Women's Health Feb 5th, register soon!
- Membership registration is still open until January 31st. Please encourage colleagues who are not members to join us, We Need You!!!!
- GATher is our friend. Please login to see what Volunteer positions are open.
- Student Writing Contest Submissions, the deadline for NATA Research & Education Foundation Athletic Training Student Writing Contest submissions is Feb 1st.
- The Bobby Gunn Student Leadership Award application is open, more info on the D3 website.
- The Chuck Kimmel First-Time Attendee Award applications will be accepted between Feb 15th and April 20th.
- The recent NATA Podcast featured your District 3 Director; I provided interesting tips for Young Professionals and Students. Please take a moment to listen.
- The NATA 75th Clinical Annual Symposia & Expo is June 25th-28th in New Orleans! Housing is Open!

I plan to attend several State meetings and our district meeting this spring. I look forward to seeing you! Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve you. Stay Well My Friends!

Ray Davis, Jr

District President– Steve Cole, MEd, LAT, ATC

Well, the Spring semester and Winter sports are in full swing for me with Spring sports in pre-season conditioning, which makes me appreciate the "downtime" over the Holiday season. Next thing we know the MAATA Educational symposium May 17-19, 2024 at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach will be upon us! The planning committee has been hard at work and the Executive Board continues to look towards the future to sustain and grow the MAATA.

District President-Elect – Matt Gage, PhD, LAT, ATC, CES

A task force has been formed to evaluate the effectiveness of the MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium. This task force will evaluate:

- 1) How to make the MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium more financially efficient
- 2) How to increase young professionals' involvement at the MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium
- 3) How to increase professional educational program involvement at the MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium

Thank you to Scott Cook, Renee Cork, John Knaul, Claire Adkinson, Emily Hildebrand, Kassy Mosley, Sara Pittelkau, Jason Mitchell, and Jeremy Searson for serving on this task force.

The task force is currently developing a survey that will be sent to the entire MAATA membership. Please respond to the survey when you receive it, your feedback will be used to determine the future of the MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium. If you want to provide input prior to the survey, please contact Matt Gage at mjgage@liberty.edu or 434-592-3763.

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

Registration is now open for the 2024 MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium to be held May 17-19 at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, VA. Early registration will continue until April 27, 2024. Make plans to attend to earn CEU's, network, meet with vendors, cheer on your team at the Quiz Bowl and renew old friendships. Look for the educational education program to be finalized and announced in early February. More information is on the MAATA website, or you can use the following link found [HERE](#)

As an incentive to attend, the first 50 attendees that have registered and that have booked at the Founders Inn will be entered into a drawing for the following:

1. First Place – one free night at Founders for the 2024 Meeting
2. Second Place – free registration for the 2025 Meeting
3. Third Place – one free night at the 2025 Meeting

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Cook MAATA Vice President at maatameetingplanner@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support of the MAATA and see you at the Beach!!

District Secretary – Erin Cash, PhD, LAT, ATC

Hello District 3, I hope you have had a wonderful 2024 so far! NATA Membership registration is still open until January 31st!

The NATA Athletic Training and Public Health Taskforce requests your participation in the Engagement in Essential Public Health Practices: A Survey of Certified Athletic Trainers. This study aims to understand how athletic trainers engage with essential public health practices. Participation involves completing a one-time anonymous questionnaire. Participation is voluntary and will take no more than 10 minutes to complete. All BOC certified athletic trainers are eligible to participate if they are 18 years or older, are in good standing with the BOC, and work in the United States.

The Louisiana State University Institutional Review Board has approved this study. If you have any questions regarding participation, please contact Rebecca Hirschhorn at rhirschhorn@lsu.edu or 225-578-0065. To complete the questionnaire, click the link below or scan the QR code with your mobile device.

https://nata.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3TY7WKyJeoclwjA

Thank you,

From the members of the NATA Athletic Training & Public Health Taskforce

Engagement in Essential Public Health Practices
A Survey of Certified Athletic Trainers

- ✓ Are you a certified athletic trainer in good standing with the BOC?
- ✓ Do you work in the United States?
- ✓ Are you at least 18 years old?

You are invited to participate in a research study conducted by the **NATA Public Health Task Force!**

Participation is voluntary
Complete a one-time questionnaire
Takes less than 10-minutes

Copy and paste the link into your web browser or scan the QR code with your mobile device!

https://nata.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3TY7WKyJeoclwjA

For more information, please contact Rebecca Hirschhorn at rhirschhorn@lsu.edu.

Educational Program Committee – Claire Adkinson, MS, LAT, ATC

The Education Committee is currently engaged in a comprehensive review of the abstract proposals submitted for the education program that will be presented during the 2024 MAATA Symposium. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all the participants who have submitted their proposals for consideration. We are pleased to announce that the schedule will be released by early February, and we look forward to sharing the finalized program with all the attendees. If you have any inquiries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via maatad3education@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support and participation.

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

We hope that you will attend the MAATA Honors & Awards session this coming May 2024. We will be inducting long-time Fairfax County Public Schools Athletic Trainer - John Reynolds, ATC into our MAATA Hall of Fame. As many of you know John has served the VATA in numerous capacities. Also being inducted into the MAATA Hall of Fame is Sherry Summers, ATC-Retired. Sherry was a long-time athletic trainer at James Madison University and served both the VATA and the MAATA on various committees. These are two most worthy candidates of Hall of Fame recognition.

The MAATA District 3 Service award recipient is Scott Powers, ATC of Harrisonburg, VA. The District 3 Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer for 2024 is Paul Rupp, ATC from Vienna, VA. Please mark the Honors & Awards session on your calendar for May 18, 2024, at our MAATA Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA.



John Reynolds, Hall of Fame



Sherry Summers, Hall of Fame



Scott Powers, Service Award



Paul Rupp, Most Distinguished ATC

Free Communications Committee – Tom Campbell, PhD, LAT, ATC

The MAATA is now accepting submissions for the 2024 Free Communication Presentations at the Annual Symposium. Professionals and Students are encouraged to submit using the Call for Submissions document [HERE!](#) Any questions should be directed to Tom Campbell, MAATA Free Communication Chair, at maatad3freecomm@gmail.com

LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee – Kirk Armstrong, EdD, ATC

Inclusive Healthcare Expertise Wanted

The LGBTQ Advisory committee is curating a database of athletic training professionals within District 3 that have expertise in the inclusive LGBTQIA+ healthcare (including clinicians and educators). If you would like to be included in the database, please send the following to Kirk Armstrong, Committee Chair at armst2kj@jmu.edu:

- Name
- Contact Information
- Area(s) of Expertise

Research and Grant Committee – Bonnie Van Lunen, PhD, ATC, FNATA, FNAP

The Research and Grants Committee is excited to announce Spring 2024 funding for \$3,000.

- The funding is available for all District III members and these awards must be spent by the end of the 2024 calendar year (December 31st).
- No requests for extensions can be made.
- No salaries can be included.
- Travel related to the application must take place by the end of the 2024 calendar year.
- Expectations include presentation of the findings at the 2025 District III meeting.
- Applications are due March 15th following the current format found on the District III website.
- Funding to be awarded by April 15th.

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

Nominate a deserving Athletic Trainer practicing in the secondary school setting TODAY for the NATA Secondary School Athletic Trainer of the Year award! The award platform has been re-opened. Nominations are being accepted through January 31st, and material submissions will be accepted through February 15th. Please take the time to nominate a deserving ATC working in the secondary school setting within district 3. Our district winner will be formally recognized at the NATA symposium this summer in New Orleans. If you have any questions please contact Adam Wall awall3@wcpss.net or Jennifer Rheeling Jennifer.rheeling@gmail.com.

Scholarship Committee – Sara Pittelkau, MA, LAT, ATC

The MAATA Scholarship Committee would like to welcome Lisa Custer, PhD, LAT, ATC as the Maryland Representative. Dr. Custer is currently an associate professor in the athletic training program at Towson University and has an extensive background as an athletic trainer. We are excited to have her as part of our team!

The 2024 scholarship applications are OPEN! The deadline for application submissions is March 15, 2024 11:59pm. Please visit <https://www.maata.org/maata-scholarships> for more information.

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

Winners of the Social Media Membership Renewal Contest:

- Grand prize – Membership dues reimbursement (National, District & State)-Katie Rovtar
- 1st place – MAATA Registration Fee - Christina Carillo
- 2nd - 5th place - \$25 Amazon Gift Card - Eric Rogers, Zach Nahmias, Zoe Gholson Taryn Strickland

Congratulations to our winners!! Thank you to everyone who renewed their NATA membership!!! Together we are stronger!

NATA Convention Program Committee – Michael Higgins, PhD, LAT, ATC, PT, CSCS

The CPC is excited about the upcoming NATA Clinical Symposium and AT Expo in New Orleans, June 25-28. The convention website is open with all the information that you need to register, explore educational content, find housing and much more. (<https://convention.nata.org>) Plan on joining your colleagues for a great conference in a fun filled city. If you have any topics that you would be interested in presenting or like to see at next year's conference in Orlando, please reach out to me. Michael Higgins email: Mjh7s@virginia.edu

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

Happy new year MAATA! I hope your year 2024 is off to a great start. EDAC has lots of news from all over the district! West Virginia EDAC is looking to collaborate with other committees. Please reach out if your committee is interested MASUDA_H@wwwc.edu.

In Maryland there are two exciting events coming up! First we have the minority women in sports medicine anniversary event on February 24 [RSVP here!](#) Maryland also has the third annual Baltimore Area Sports Health Initiative – BASH BALL is Friday, May 3 2024, [Get tickets here!](#)

Washington DC now has licensure and is looking forward to hosting their annual EDC/HOSA student symposium in March.

In Virginia, St. Paul University is looking to start a pre-AT.

Be on the lookout for some possible mentorship opportunities and the return of the "Can We Talk" series. Follow NCATADEIA on social media for more details.

In South Carolina, they are hosting their high school Sport Medicine workshop on Friday 1/27. Check out their [website](#) for more details or how you can be a sponsor. There will be 100 students from all over the state attending and college representation from USC, Limestone, Winthrop and CSU.

Lastly, the [NATA EDAC Bill Chisolm Award](#) is open and will be accepting nominations until April 1. The Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee presents the Bill Chisolm Professional Service Award annually since 1994 to recognize an individual who has contributed to the development and enhancement of ethnically diverse athletic trainers. *"Everybody can be greAT because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love."* Martin Luther King Jr

NATA Foundation – Marty Baker, LAT, ATC

If you are looking for a great New Year's Resolution that is easy to keep how about joining Your Foundation's *Circle of Champions*. Your monthly donation is critical to helping Your Foundation accomplish its mission. [JOIN HERE TODAY!](#)

Hey Students, don't miss Your Foundation's Student Writing Contest. Deadline for submissions is February 1st. Information can be found [HERE](#)

For the Researchers, Doctoral grant proposals and Full proposals (for invited pre-proposal) will be accepted until February 15th. More information found [HERE](#)

Interested in helping Your Foundation? You can volunteer [HERE](#)

NATA Governmental Affairs Committee – Ed Strapp, FP-C/TP-C, NRP, LAT, ATC

As many legislative sessions begin around our district just want to remind all to engage your legislators in any way possible to allow them to better understand Athletic Training and what the capabilities of Athletic Trainers area. The NATA GAC continues to provide a wide variety of resources for every aspect of your legislative efforts so feel free to reach out if you have any questions or requests for resources, we may be able to provide.

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

As the DI Chair and your representative on the NATA-ICSM, greetings and I hope that your winter/spring season has started well. Information below provides reminders of basic information, in addition to our work-group tasks that have been completed recently (**[direct links are highlighted in blue](#)**-***some links require 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, ACC Representative
NCATA College/University Board
Representative District 3 MAATA DI
Representative
North Carolina State University
Email: jaodonog@ncsu.edu

[Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine](#)

The NATA Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine (ICSM), formerly known as the College/University Athletic Trainers' Committee (CUATC), 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.

>If you have 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.

2023-2024 NATA-ICSM Current Initiatives and Workgroup Completed Tasks

Click the **[link for the Resources to help advance college/university ATs](#)**

The weekend of January 19-21, the 2024 NATA Joint Committee Meeting was held in Carrollton, Texas. Attendees reviewed, discussed, and worked on initiatives associated with the **[NATA Strategic Plan](#)**, Committee opportunities and outcomes, burnout and the impact on volunteerism, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and future planning.

From previous updates provided throughout 2023, you can review all the resources, projects, initiatives and collaborative efforts completed by member representatives of the NATA-ICSM. In the chart below, you can find areas we are currently focused on for 2024 and beyond.

Projects continuing/pending	Expected date of completion:	Objective of this initiative/outcome:	Summary comments:
Collegiate Athletic Trainer Labor Crisis	Ongoing	Advocacy	<p>Work with multiple organizations such as NCAA, NJCAA, ACSM, URIMA, CUPA HR which led to articles from each of these parties</p> <p>Representative served as panelist on this topic at the January 2024 NCAA Convention</p> <p>NATA Timely Topic Series associated with this topic during summer 2023.</p>
EPC-CAC-ICSM Collaboration	2024/2025	Advocacy	Collaborating amongst committees based upon the ICSM's <i>Collegiate AT Labor Crisis White Paper</i> and <i>EPC/CAC Covid</i> and its effects on Athletic Training Profession paper. A lot of similar findings between the two projects. The ICSM hopes to perform a focus survey to delve into more depth from each of the original projects
AMCIA/College Value Model Re-brand	2025	Advocacy	An ongoing multiple year project of updating and rebranding the decade old plus AMCIA and College Value Model documents.
ICSM DI: Pressing Issues/Project Development	2024/2025	Advocacy	Addressing issues and concerns brought forward by ICSM Representatives that are identified as impacting Conference Sports Medicine/Healthcare Advisory Groups, State and District members, and associated stakeholders.

NATA Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee – Jennifer Rheeling, MS, LAT, ATC

Attention!! Nominate a deserving AT practicing in the secondary school setting TODAY! The award platform has been re-opened. Nominations are being accepted through January 31st and material submissions will be accepted through February 15th. Please nominate [HERE!](#)



DCATA – Shannon Fooks, MS, ATC, CSCS

2024 DCATA Honors

Nominations are OPEN for the 2024 DCATA Honors until **January 31, 2024**.

Volunteer Opening

We are currently searching for a **DCATA Young Professionals Committee Chair**. If you are interested, please reach out to Shannon Fooks at fookss@sidwell.edu

Renew

You may have received an email on January 2nd asking you to manually renew your DCATA membership and to update your information. If you have not done already, please do so before the month is up. On February 1st we will be adjusting our membership list with the updated list from NATA.

2024 DCATA Student Athletic Training Symposium

We are in the beginning stages of planning our 2024 DCATA Student Athletic Training Symposium and are currently seeking volunteers.

Winter CEU Event

The DCATA is accepting proposals for virtual presentations for the 2024 Virtual Symposium in June. If anyone is interested in presenting for our meeting with a virtual video, please contact Mike Walker at mwalker@stjohnschs.org with the topic(s) of choice by the end of March. Our membership was polled, and the results showed that these topics were among the most requested. However, topics are not restricted just to this list and we will welcome any subjects of discussion.

- Cupping
- Joint dislocations and management
- Manual Therapy topics
- Emergency Response
- Mental Health Resources

MATA – Jean Perez, MS, LAT, ATC

The Maryland Athletic Trainer's Association would like to welcome our newest elected officials, who will take office at the business meeting in May:

Vice President - Caroline Siebens

Treasurer - Karie Johnson

Our incumbent Secretary, Jaime Harris, will serve another term

The MATA Business Meeting will be held on **May 31, 2024** and the Annual Symposium will be held on **June 1, 2024** at Towson University in Towson, MD. More information will be provided via email as we get closer to the events.

The MATA is interested in qualified athletic trainers and other healthcare professionals to present at our Annual Symposium. If you are interested in presenting, please complete the

following form by **February 2, 2024** for consideration: [MATA Annual Symposium 2024: Call for Proposals](#). If you have any questions about the application process, would like to suggest a speaker, or would like to serve on the Symposium Committee, please contact Ashley Santo (mataedandresearch@gmail.com or asanto@towson.edu)

The MATA hosted an Advocacy Day in Annapolis on Thursday, January 11 where they were recognized by the State House and Senate for their legislative efforts and their 40 year anniversary. A huge thank you to Jane Miraglia, the GAC chair, for her work to organize this event and move our state forward! Thank you to everyone who attended the event and advocated for athletic trainers in the state of Maryland!



NCATA – Nina Walker, MA, LAT, ATC

Registration is open for our annual symposium March 8-10 in Wrightsville Beach, NC which will include 12-15 CEUs. Hotel and registration information can be found [here](#).

We will also be celebrating a remarkable milestone as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the North Carolina Athletic Trainers Association on March 9th. This formal event promises an evening filled with elegance, nostalgia, and camaraderie. Enjoy the enchanting atmosphere accompanied by a live band, ensuring a night of music and entertainment and an array of food and drinks while socializing with fellow members and guests. Secure your spot for this memorable occasion, and let's make this celebration a testament to the incredible journey of the North Carolina Athletic Trainers Association over the past 50 years! Guests are welcome for a fee of \$25. Your attendance is included in your registration fee.

We also want your help in capturing the essence of the past five decades by sharing your athletic training memories through photographs. Whether it's snapshots from events, candid moments, or milestones in your North Carolina athletic training journey, your pictures will play a pivotal role in creating a visual timeline of our collective achievements. Please email photographs to ncatapr@ncata.net.

Lastly, our annual silent auction will be held this weekend which benefits our NCATPAC. Item donations can be made by individuals for this event. Please visit [our website](#) for more information.

SCATA – Amy Fraley, PhD, SCAT, ATC, CSCS

SCATA has a New Website!

We are excited to launch our new South Carolina Athletic Trainers' Association website. Executive Council has been working hard to transition to an updated system to all more functionality and ease of use for our members.

SCATA members, please take the time to explore the new site at <https://scata.org/>. To login to the website, please use your primary email address. Once you login, you will have access to member only information, the ability to update your member profile, register for meetings, and much more. **All members' expiration dates are currently set for December 31, 2023. As we receive updated membership information from the NATA, we will update member profiles accordingly. We anticipate a timeline of February.**

If you are receiving an error message from our old website, please clear all browser history including cached, cookies, and website URLs. After this is complete, close browser and retype scata.org. If you have any questions, please contact Executive Council via email at secretary@scata.org.

SCATA Secondary School Student Workshop

The annual South Carolina Athletic Trainers' Association Secondary School Student Workshop for secondary school student aides will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at Pelion High School in Pelion, SC.

There will be a variety of hands-on sessions with a focus on exploring some of the skills and knowledge needed for a career in athletic training. We encourage all secondary school student aides (Sports Medicine Work-Based Learning) to attend, as well as any students in the CTE Sports Medicine Pathway interested in becoming an athletic trainer.

Registration is open on the SCATA website: <https://scata.org/meetinginfo.php>

Interested in becoming a sponsor for 2024?

SCATA sponsors have done a tremendous job supporting current athletic trainers in the various job settings we serve. SCATA sees this workshop as your way to invest in the future of these students that attend this workshop. We hope that with your help, we can make this workshop innovative, educational, and provide insight as these high school students grow and develop into potential health care providers.

Registration is also open for sponsors for the 2024 SCATA Annual Symposium, to be held July 10-12 in Columbia, SC. Thank you in advance! You can register here:

<https://scata.org/meetinginfo.php>

WVATA – Tom Belmaggio, MS, LAT, ATC, CSCS

Secondary School Level Athletic Trainers: We are thrilled to announce that Delegate Hornbuckle is sponsoring a bill that mandates the presence of athletic trainers at the secondary school level. This initiative is a major step forward in ensuring the safety and well-being of student-athletes across West Virginia. Although this bill has major hurdles, we encourage our members to support this bill by reaching out to their local legislatures.

Representation of the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy: Another essential bill in the works involves securing a position for an athletic trainer on the West Virginia Board of Physical Therapy. While we are currently in the process of securing sponsorship for this bill, we are confident that it will be presented on the floor soon. This representation is crucial in advocating for the unique needs and perspectives of athletic trainers within the regulatory framework.

WVATA Annual Meeting: Save the date for our annual meeting on April 6th, 2024 in Huntington, WV. Dr. Zach Garrett is the Chair of our Annual Symposium and this year's meeting will offer a hybrid format to accommodate both in-person and virtual attendance. Whether you prefer to join us physically in Huntington or participate from the comfort of your home or office, we've got you covered!