



NOVEMBER 2023

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

NATA NEWS

- Remember this is a reporting year; I encourage all members to submit CEU's soon!
- We are in the middle of our Membership Drive. Please update yours and encourage other ATs to do the same. The NATA has links for you to use as background information #ForwardTogether #BeNATA
- The 2023 Salary Survey is out, please take the time to complete this. It is important to get our information out. It ends Nov 15th!
- Don't forget The Foundation and NATA PAC needs your support. There are many ways you can help.
- This is AWARDS season, please remember to nominate a deserving AT
- *The NATA Needs YOU!!!* PLEASE login to GATher, update your profile, & check for volunteer updates/opportunities
- Please share NATA posts on social media. There are quite a few postings happening! You never know who may be following you and not following the NATA, D3 or even our states.
- Lastly, we have many things happening on our NATA.org website that are member benefits, ie. Blogs, Town Halls, Advocacy, etc.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Ray Davis, Jr

District President– Steve Cole, MEd, LAT, ATC

I hope everyone had a healthy and productive Fall and is ready to transition into the Holiday season and Winter.

Congratulations: I would like to congratulate Matt Gage as the next MAATA President. I look forward to working with Matt as he transitions into the office in May.

Strong Leadership at Work: I want to assure each of you that your State Presidents are working very hard to advance our profession. On a monthly basis I host a Zoom call with the District Council consisting of each State President and the MAATA Executive Board. In addition, during

each call I invite MAATA Committee Chairs to provide updates on their committee activities. Every call leaves me with excitement for the future of our profession and admiration for our colleagues who have chosen to serve!

NATA Salary Survey: Please encourage EVERYONE, NATA members and non-member athletic trainers to complete the salary survey. The greater the participation, the more accurate the data; this is an example of what the NATA is doing to support every athletic trainer. Here is the shareable link: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7582938/NATA-2023-Salary-Survey-Refer>

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

Mark your calendars!! The 2024 MAATA Annual Meeting will be held May 17-19, 2024 at the Founders Inn, in Virginia Beach. Make plans to attend and earn CEU's, enjoy social activities, fellowship, and network with your fellow Athletic Trainers. Look for registration to begin January 15, 2024. Further information will be forthcoming in future E-blasts and newsletters.

We are happy to announce that we are still accepting abstract proposals for the 2024 MAATA Symposium, which will be hosted at Virginia Beach, VA, from May 17th to May 19th. The deadline for submission is Friday, December 8, 2023. We strongly encourage our D3 Members to submit proposals related to all athletic training topics. Decisions on submissions will be made within 4 weeks after the deadline. You may submit proposals for both the professional and student program by clicking [HERE](#).

If you have any questions regarding this form or presentation requirements, please contact: maatad3education@gmail.com. Decisions on submissions will be made within 4 weeks after the deadline. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me!

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

Thank you to all of the MAATA members who voted in the Presidential elections during the past month. I'm excited to begin working with the district council and all of you to strengthen athletic training in each of our states and across the district.

I want to encourage each of you to begin or continue advocating for our profession. Advocating for the profession is not just the job of those in leadership positions, every athletic trainer needs to be an advocate. Our profession is at a crossroads, thus we need to advocate for it now more than ever.

I look forward to serving all of you and working with each of you to make athletic training the best it can be in District III.

District Treasurer – Mat Lyden, MS, ATC

Greetings from the treasury!

Hope all of my AT family has been enjoying the beautiful fall weather we have had, at least down here in South Carolina.

The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) has been working to assemble the district's 2024 budget and the work is just about finished. Once we have made our last few adjustments and recommendations, the proposed budget will be presented to the District Council for final approval. I am proud to say we have a healthy budget and worked hard to create more funding in our annual budget for committee efforts, research grants, flexibility to support the PAC and Governmental Affairs initiatives among the member states, student programming, along with our usual business affairs. It was also a goal of the FAC to ensure our budget stays in the black to provide reserves for the unforeseen that may show up...

Additionally, I would like to make a plea to all of you to go ahead and renew your annual NATA membership now. This will ensure no disruption to the services afforded to you through national, district, and state organizations. Additionally, our PR committee is coordinating prizes for those folks who renew before January so take advantage of those opportunities.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for the support you have provided to our district in 2023. It is only through your membership and engagement that we are able to do so much amazing work that benefits and supports all of the athletic training activity across our organization. Most Appreciated!

Hope of you have a blessed Thanksgiving holiday and please reach out if I can ever be of any assistance to you all.

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

We currently have two vacancies in the education committee: [Free Communication Chair](#) and [SC representative](#). Submissions are accepted until November 10th. If you are interested in applying for either of these positions or have any questions, please direct them to Claire Adkinson (maata3education@gmail.com)

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

The MAATA Honors and Awards open window for nominations closed on November 1, 2023. Thank you to everyone who submitted a nomination. All supporting materials for the nominees must be in by 11/30/23. The list includes Candidate MAATA profile form; current resume/vita; One Candidate Advocacy Form or Letter of Recommendation from a colleague or supervisor with whom the nominee has directly worked for a minimum of 5 years in the recent past; 2 each - Candidate Advocacy Forms or Letters of Recommendation from a certified athletic trainer within District III; and lastly a JPEG Photo received (head shot/bust style). All information can be found on the MAATA website: <https://www.maata.org/honorsandawards>. The 2024 Honors and Award recipients will be announced in the January 2024 e-blast and Spring 2024 Newsletter. The Honors & Awards Ceremony will be held in VA Beach at the District III Meeting in May 2024.

LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee – Kirk Armstrong, EdD, ATC

NATA LGBTQ Inclusive Excellence Award Nominations

Do you know an Athletic Trainer that has made an impact on inclusion for LGBTQ colleagues or patients with their organization? Nominations are being accepted for individuals that have made an impact at the local or state level. The application deadline is November 15.

Submissions can be made at: <https://www.nata.org/lgbtq-award-nomination-form>

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

Fall 2023 Award

Several proposals were received for the Research and Grants Committee to review for the October 1, 2023 deadline. Congratulations to Dr. Ryan McCann and Dr. Leryn Reynolds from Old Dominion University who received support for their proposal entitled "Joint Health and Physical Activity in Young and Middle-Aged Adults with Ankle Sprain History". We look forward to having the investigators present the findings at an upcoming meeting!

Spring 2024 funding

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

The MAATA Secondary School Committee are still searching for ATLAS Ambassadors to help assist with the KSI ATLAS project. We need volunteers from the following states: North Carolina (3 positions vacant), Maryland (2 positions vacant), Virginia (1 position vacant), South Carolina (2 positions vacant). If you're interested in being an ATLAS ambassador, please email awall3@wcpss.net for more information about the application process.

Nominations for the NATA Secondary School Servant's Heart and Athletic Trainer of the Year Award are now open until November 30th. Please visit the NATA Honors and Awards website to review the qualification and nomination process for these awards. One winner from district three will be selected for both awards and recognized at the 2024 NATA meeting in June.

Scholarship Committee – Sara Pittelkau, MA, LAT, ATC

The MAATA Scholarship Committee is still looking for someone to fill the Maryland representative position. Anyone interested should send a letter of interest and resume to Sara Pittelkau @ maata.scholarships@gmail.com ASAP.

Attention students!!! Please view [this link](#) on what scholarships you could apply for. Scholarships will open in January 2024, be on the lookout for more information in coming ebcasts. Also, please visit the [scholarship page](#) for information.

Social Media & Young Professionals' Committee – Kassy Mosley, MS, LAT, ATC

Young Professional Committee

Nominations are open for the inaugural MAATA YP Distinguished award! The MAATA Distinguished Young Professionals Award is to honor and recognize high quality young professionals (YPs) that have made an immediate and definitive impact on the local, District (3), and/or national level of the athletic training profession. Be sure to check out <https://www.maata.org/youngprofessionals> under the 'The MAATA Distinguished YP award' tab for more information and nomination form. Nominations are due November 30th! 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 including upcoming chats, socials and symposium events!!

We have committee openings for our District of Columbia Representative and our Career Advancement Member at Large Representative. These positions are a one year, twice renewable term.

Candidates should be:

- Within 0-12 years of certification for DC rep and 7-12 years for Career Advancement Member at large
- Able to attend monthly video conference calls
- Collaborate with other members to create YPC events at the annual district symposium.
- State representative: serve as liaison between the district and state YPC

Interested applicants should email an updated resume and letter of interest to d3sectry@gmail.com. Deadline is November 20th. Please reach out to Chair, Kassy Mosley at mosleyk18@ecu.edu with any questions regarding the position.

Social Media Committee

It's that time of year again!! Our District 3 NATA Renewal giveaway is here!! This year we have multiple ways to enter and earn extra entries!

How to enter:

- 1) Renew or enroll your NATA membership by 12/31/23
- 2) take a picture of your membership enroll/renewal
- 3A) for 1 entry complete the form at: <https://forms.gle/X19q8KL31HBKikBz7>
- 3B) for 2 entries share your picture on social media, tag us and use hashtag #D3renews

For extra entry: share our post about the contest to your story or retweet it and tag us! Must complete step 3A or 3B to gain the extra entry!

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

Student Senate – Emily Hildebrand, PhD, LAT, ATC

NEW SENATOR ALERT!!! The MAATA Student Senate is happy to announce the addition of 5 new first-year senators representing each state of District III. Along with completing an application about their character and personalities, being an NATA member, and having an NPI number, letters of reference were obtained to share strengths, weaknesses, and capabilities of taking on this volunteer endeavor. Thank you to all who applied and were involved in the application process. Congratulations to our new student leaders and check out the Student Senate page on the website to learn more about them:

Maryland/DC: **Kelsey Powers**, Towson University
Virginia: **Jasmine Ellis**, University of Lynchburg
West Virginia: **Danielle Samsury**, Marshall University
North Carolina: **Samiyah Muhammad**, UNC Greensboro
South Carolina: **Landon Murray**, University of South Carolina

Check out what the NATA Research and Education Foundation can do for you as NATA members! The organization's scholarships and student writing contest are live. These programs are a way to recognize students for their hard work and academic achievements. **The deadline for scholarship application submissions is January 15, 2024, at 11:59 PM CT and information can be found [here](#). All writing submissions for the Student Writing Contest are due February 1st, 2024 can be found [here](#).**

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

Membership renewal season is upon us!

Join or renew your NATA membership and win prizes! Post on social media a picture of your membership renewal proof or first-time member proof and tag MAATA by 1/1/24. All of the names will go into a "hat" for a random drawing of the prizes.

Prizes:

- Grand prize – Membership dues reimbursement (national, District & State)
- 1st place – MAATA Registration Fee

2nd - 5th place - \$25 Amazon Gift Card

**First-time member - \$100 Gift Card (Ray Davis donation)

All prizes will be awarded by January 31st except for the Grand Prize which will be awarded at the Annual Symposium.

Items to consider when renewing or joining the NATA:

What does NATA do for me? Answer: [Visit nata.org/membership-benefits](https://nata.org/membership-benefits).

- Membership with NATA covers your national, district, and state dues
- Renew before Dec. 31 to keep your member benefits intact
- In order to renew with payment installments, sign up before Nov. 30
- If you want to set up auto-renewal with monthly installments, select “Sign me up” when renewing
- If you or someone you know is experiencing financial hardship, contact Member Services to see how they can help
- All members who join/renew by Dec. 31 will receive a \$150 credit to use in the new “NATA EducATe” platform on Feb. 5, 2024

Join in the Fun

Members are starting to get in on the action on social media and we encourage you to join!

1. Download a Zoom background that highlights a professional interest you have a particular affinity for. Remember you can pick any color you like, and you can even swap them out as often as you like! [Visit this link to select a background](#).
 - Click the graphic(s) you prefer
 - Select download
 - Save to your computer
 - Open up Zoom/Sign in
 - Select Settings / Background & Effects / Virtual Backgrounds, select the “+” icon
 - Upload your graphic(s)
 - Select the new graphic
2. Post a graphic and make a statement as a proud member of NATA. [Visit this link to select a graphic of your choice](#).
 - Click the graphic(s) you prefer
 - Select download
 - Save to your computer
 - Sign on to your favorite social media platform
 - Follow the instructions on how to upload a picture to your social media account.
 - Post and enjoy! (Be sure to tag @NATA1950 and give it the hashtag #BeNATA)
 - Challenge your colleagues and friends by tagging them in your posts.

**Also, there will be a Career Advancement Meet & Greet on Wednesday, November 15th, at 11:00 a.m. CST. Please join us!

NATA Foundation Research Committee – Johna Mihalik

Foundation Research Committee: The committee recently reviewed pre-proposals and is planning for the full proposal review process that takes place in the Spring!

NATA Foundation – Marty Baker, LAT, ATC

I just love the autumn; both the leaves and the temperature are dropping. Your NATA Foundation has so many initiatives and opportunities for everyone in the MAATA...the best district in the NATA!

Apply For NATA Foundation Scholarships

Applications are now open for the NATA Research & Education Foundation 2024 scholarship award cycle. Scholarships will be awarded to undergraduate, master's and doctoral students. All candidates must be members of NATA to submit an application. For more information, including FAQs and eligibility requirements, visit the NATA Foundation website. The deadline for applications and supporting documents is Jan. 15, 2024.

<https://www.natafoundation.org/education/scholarships/apply/>

Apply to Serve on an NATA Foundation Committee

Consider volunteering with the NATA Research & Education Foundation. There are currently vacancies on these committees: Athletic Training Research Agenda, Faculty Mentor, Free Communications, Pronouncements and Research. Applications will be accepted through Dec. 1 and the terms for these positions will begin June 2024. <https://www.natafoundation.org/who-we-are/fdtn-committees/>

Student Writing Contest Accepting Submissions

The NATA Research & Education Foundation Athletic Training Student Writing Contest is accepting submissions for the 2024 contest. The competition awards a total of \$1,000 in three different contest divisions: Original Research (\$500), Summary Evidence Research (\$250) and Clinical Practice Research (\$250). Athletic training students enrolled in professional programs are eligible to participate. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 1, 2024.

<https://www.natafoundation.org/education/writing-contest/>

I would like for everyone in the MAATA to stop and consider how much The Foundation means to you. If you are not a member of [The Circle of Champions](#), please consider a \$5 or \$10 monthly contribution. If we all get behind Our Foundation there is no limit to what we can accomplish together: <https://www.natafoundation.org/support/ways-to-give/>

My best wishes for a safe and family based Thanksgiving.

NATA Professional Development Committee – Lisa Custer, PhD, LAT, ATC

Hello from your PDC district representative. A couple of quick reminders from the PDC:

1. NATA membership renewal season is upon us.

- What does NATA do for me? Answer: [Visit nata.org/membership-benefits](https://nata.org/membership-benefits).
 - Membership with NATA covers your national, district and state dues
 - [Calculate your membership dues here](#)
 - Renew before Dec. 31 to keep your member benefits intact
 - In order to renew with payment installments, sign up before Nov. 30
 - If you want to setup auto renewal with monthly installments, select “Sign me up” when renewing
 - If you or someone you know is experiencing a financial hardship, contact Member Services to see how we can help
 - All members who join/renew by Dec. 31 will receive \$150 credit to use in the new “NATA EducATe” platform on Feb. 5, 2024
2. CEUs are due Dec. 31, 2023. ATs certified before 2021 must complete 50 CEUs. ATs certified in 2022 must complete 25 CEUs. If you are looking for CEU credits. The NATA Professional Development Center has access to a large array of on-demand content and NATA members are eligible for 10 free CE credits. Log onto the NATA account and check out the Professional Development Center.

South Carolina

Amy Fraley

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.wildapricot.org/page-18285>

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.

We invite you to come attend this workshop and see all of the activities the students are engaging in and learning.

VATA – Danny Carroll, MEd, LAT, ATC

Registration is open for the VATA Annual Meeting January 5-7, 2024 in Hampton Roads, VA.

Please register here: <https://www.vata.us/2024-annual-meeting>