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## NEWS FROM THE NATA

### Director Katie Walsh Flanagan

Welcome back members! If you are receiving this Eblast, it means you renewed your NATA (and therefore MAATA and State) membership – thank you! Please visit our website ([www.maata.org](http://www.maata.org)) often for updates. The **Members** section has our past Business Meeting Minutes, Committee Reports, Constitution, By-Laws and other relevant materials. The password for this section is **MAATA2022**

**NATA Honors MAATA Members:** Please help me congratulate the following MAATA members who will be honored in person at the NATA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia this May:

- **Brian Ebel** (MD) Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award
- **Matthew Gage** (VA) Athletic Training Service Award
- **Johna Register-Mihalik** (NC) NATA Fellow
- **Tom Bowman** (VA) NATA Fellow

**More representation on the BOD:** The two NATA Advisory Committees (LGBTQ and EDAC – Ethnic Diversity) now each has representative sit in on the NATA Board of Director (BOD) meetings to advise the Board when appropriate



### NATA in Philadelphia

We are moving closer to this years NATA Annual Symposium (Face to Face) Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. We are hopeful you will attend, as we are having a MAATA meeting on **Thursday, June 30**. Registration is up and running on the NATA website (see the CPC report from Dr. Higgins, below). Join us there for fellowship and up to 20 CEU opportunities.

**Board of Certification** Still confused about the proposed changes for maintaining our BOC credential? The BOC has provided information here <http://www.bocatc.org/CPC-overview> Please note the BOC is also looking for volunteers to serve on their CPC task force (information on that site)

Coming up please remember to advocate and support March's National Athletic Training Month **#NATAM** *Athletic Trainers Are Everywhere!*



### **Convention Planning Committee (CPC)- Michael Higgins**

The CPC is working hard on putting the final touches on one educational programming for NATA 2022 in Philadelphia. Please see the [73rd NATA Clinical Symposia & AT Expo website](#) which has been updated with information to help you plan your convention experience. There you'll find a schedule at a glance as well as a list of benefits and features for NATA 2022 attendees. The website also includes information on registration fees and this year's three convention themes: diversity, equity, inclusion and access; emerging concepts in injury prevention; and general medical. Registration and housing opened Feb. 9. Visit the convention website to see these updates and more. Also, the committee is always looking for membership input and feedback on programming. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact me at [mjh7s@virginia.edu](mailto:mjh7s@virginia.edu).

### **Education Advancement Committee (EAC)- Lindsey H. Schroeder**

The EAC will be offering "The Educator's Toolkit". Be on the lookout for more information coming soon!

### **Ethnic Diversity Advisory Council (EDAC) - Xavion S. Santiago**

Hello MAATA Family,

EDAC has kicked off a year long social media campaign across all 3 major social media platforms: #EDAC365! This is an opportunity for athletic trainers worldwide to celebrate ethnic diversity within our profession on a daily basis rather than just on specific holidays and/or heritage days / months. EDAC will use the vast reach of its social media channels to recognize and support the community of ethnically diverse athletic trainers; promote service, advocacy, & unity within healthcare as a whole and specifically the NATA; and provide education on various topics that routinely affect ethnically diverse individuals whom we serve (e.g. diabetes, sickle cell trait, hypertension, etc.). Individuals and/or groups with content ideas should submit ideas, themes, pictures, etc. to [EDAC365campaign@gmail.com](mailto:EDAC365campaign@gmail.com).

Please don't forget to follow EDAC on Facebook (NATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee), Twitter (@EDACNATA), and Instagram (NATAEDAC) and look for our daily posts. If your DEI committees post anything or repost any of the EDAC post please use the hashtags: #EDAC365 #EDAC4ALL.

I look forward to seeing all of our diversity celebrated this year!

## **Intercollegiate Council on Sports Medicine (ICSM) - Jennifer O'Donoghue**

A report communicating the completed and current projects for the ICSM, including links to all levels of the ICSM and links for the resources we have developed.

## **LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee - Kirk J. Armstrong**

Interesting in Serving the MAATA? The LGBTQ Advisory Committee has openings for state representatives from North Carolina and Washington, D.C. If you are from either NC or DC and interested in serving on the LGBTQ Advisor Committee, please submit the following to MAATA Secretary Jason Mitchell ([d3sectry@gmail.com](mailto:d3sectry@gmail.com)):

1. Letter of Interest in Serving on the LGBTQ Advisory Committee
2. Current Resume/CV
3. BOC certification number, State practice credential number, NPI number

## **Connection & Engagement Committee (CEC) - Jenni Johnson**

Hi Everyone!

As membership renewal season comes to a close, I would like to take a minute to welcome new members as well as members renewing after a gap in membership. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions regarding the benefits of being a member as well as assistance in navigating resources needed. As Athletic Training month quickly approaches, please remember to share your pictures and shout outs on your state and district websites!! I hope everyone gives themselves a big hug or pat on their back during NATAM! You are all doing fabulous work!!

## **Council On Practice Advancement (COPA) - Andy Carter**

Save the Date for COPA Con 2022: Driving Advancement Through Data; April 8-9, 2022

The NATA Council on Practice Advancement (COPA) is hosting its second conference with educational content and programming that focuses on developing stronger leaders, increasing return on investment, and advancing those in the emerged settings through data and documentation outcomes. COPA Con 2022 will be a virtual event and will feature live and on-demand access, along with networking opportunities for peer-to-peer discussion.

COPA Con will feature targeted content covering:

- Private and Emerging Practice
- Physician Practice
- Health Care Administration
- Occupational Health
- Data Collection

Programming, schedule, and access to registration will be released in early 2022.

Pricing	Early-Ends 3/18	Advance
Member	\$155	\$230
Non-member	\$455	\$530

### **Student Leadership Committee - Anthony Corona**

"Be on the lookout for the registration link to join the NATA SLC on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00PM CST as we host a panel discussion on work-life balance in Athletic Training. Come learn about developing strategies for setting healthy boundaries as you transition into your career as early professionals!

Also, be sure to check out the last COPA-EPC-SLC webinar on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM CST. Brandy Jewett, DAT, LAT, ATC will have a discussion on entrepreneurship in Athletic Training.

Lastly, entries are being accepted for the 2022 Student Video Contest celebrating National Athletic Training Month! This year's video will be based around the 2022 slogan, "Providing Health Care Everywhere." The contest will close at 11:59PM CST on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. "

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## **DISTRICT NEWS**

### **President Steve Cole**

The weekend of February 10-12 I participated in the In-Person Southeast Athletic Trainers Association (SEATA) annual Student Symposium in Atlanta. The energy and engagement of the students was very energizing. The students seemed to enjoy the interaction with the students and faculty from the other programs in attendance. However, it also reinforced to me the importance of how we in the MAATA combine our student program into our annual meeting, thus providing our students enhanced networking and mentoring opportunities with the certified members.

Emily Hildebrand, Zach Garrett and the Annual Meeting planning committee are making good progress with the Student Program for our annual meeting in Charlotte, May 13-15, 2022. I look forward to seeing our students, the future leaders of our profession and many of you there!

### **Annual Symposium – Vice President Donita Valentine**

Greetings District 3 Athletic Trainers!

HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH!!

Spring is just around the corner and so is our Annual Educational Symposium and Business Meeting! Be on the lookout for registration opening day on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Please follow MAATA on social media for symposium updates, speaker bios, and information regarding special events and activities taking place during the symposium.

- IG: @d3athletictrainers
- Twitter: D3\_MAATA

- Facebook: @D3MAATA

Exhibitor Registration is live! Please use the following link if you or someone you know is interested in exhibitor/sponsor information: [MAATA Exhibits/Sponsors 2022](#). Please contact our Exhibits Coordinator, **Mr. John Knaul** for more information.

MAATA Call for Professional Free Communications Abstracts is live! Deadline for submission is March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 11:59 PM. Abstracts related to original research, clinical case study levels 1-4, or critically appraised topics are currently being accepted for the 2022 Professional Free Communication Presentations. All athletic trainers who are certified at the time of abstract submission are eligible to submit (stay tuned for a separate free communications call for students). Please use the following link for more information: [MAATA Call for Professional Free Communication Abstracts 2022](#).

### **District Scholarships – Adam Weyer**

Attention program directors! Scholarship season is here again. Please encourage your students to apply for them. Information and application instructions are available here:

<https://www.maata.org/maata-scholarships>. If you have any questions about how to apply, please contact me at [aweyer@lander.edu](mailto:aweyer@lander.edu). Deadline to apply is **March 1st**

Thank you for spreading the word about our scholarships. I pray that you all stay safe.

### **MAATA Honors & Awards - Bob Casmus**

We hope that you will attend the MAATA Honors & Awards session this coming May 2022. We will be inducting **Ray Davis** and **Jim Bazluki** into our MAATA Hall of Fame. We will be honoring our MAATA 2022 Most Distinguished Athletic Training Award recipients that includes **Debbie Bradney, John Knaul, and Nina Walker**. The MAATA Service Award recipient to be recognized for 2022 is **Scott Cook**. Please mark the Honors & Awards session on your calendar for May 14, 2022, at our MAATA Annual Meeting in Charlotte

### **Student Senate – Emily Hildebrand**

The Student Senate is finalizing this year's student program held in Charlotte, NC, May 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. We have some exciting presenters and some long-time favorite events such as the AT Olympics and District III quiz bowl. Registration is coming soon!

Another enjoyable event at the student program is the student free communication presentations. Abstracts are now being accepted for athletic training students who have work in the following categories: original research, survey research, qualitative research, mixed method research, clinical CASE studies levels 1-4, and critically appraised topics. Submissions will be accepted until March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm with decisions made by early April. The call for abstracts is posted on the student section of the website: <https://www.maata.org/students>.

Stay tuned for all other conference information advertised in the Senate's monthly newsletter also found on the student section of the website along with updates on our social media pages. We hope to see you in Charlotte!

## **Young Professionals 'Committee - Kelley Crowe**

The Young Professionals' Committee would like to officially welcome our newest committee members: **Devon Serrano** representing Virginia, and **Jay Dillon** representing North Carolina. We are extremely excited to have them on board!

The YPC will again be hosting a virtual career workshop for all students and Young Professionals interested in brushing up on career advancement skills! The workshop will consist of virtual mock interviews and resume review with a certified athletic trainer in the district.

**This is where we need membership help:** We are looking for athletic trainers throughout the district to help us with this workshop. You may either volunteer to conduct one of the virtual mock interviews, be available to look over and edit resumes, or both. We will ask for your availability on a weekend prior to the MAATA Symposium (official dates TBD) which we will then send out to students and YPs in the district who can then sign up for an interview with you. Interviews are expected to be 30-40 minutes long followed by constructive feedback. Resume review can either be discussed after the interview or through email via a word/google document.

If you are interested in helping out or have questions, please email YPC Chair Kelley Crowe at [KelleyElizabeth3@gmail.com](mailto:KelleyElizabeth3@gmail.com).

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## **NEWS FROM THE STATES**

### **South Carolina - President Jeremy Searson**

Join the SCATA in celebrating National Athletic Training Month by participating in the 4th Annual 5K! Interested parties can join the race by [CLICK HERE](#)

### **Fred Hoover Induction Ceremony for South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame's induction class of 2022**

The South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame has selected Fred Hoover as an inductee for the 2022 class. This event will be held on Monday the 23 of May 2022 at the Columbia Convention Center. The SCAHOF Banquet is the largest annual celebration of Palmetto State sports stars under one roof. The traditional introduction of past inductees, the "Walk of Legends", is one of the event's highlights. The affair, which includes a reception and dinner, begins at 5:30 p.m.

Members interested in helping celebrate Fred Hoover's Induction can join us in a SCATA block of tables at the event. Members and Guest can purchase a seat for \$100.00. Registration for the event will remain open through Monday the 14th of January 2022. After that the SCATA will secure tables for all interested parties.

Even if you cannot join us in Columbia to celebrate Fred, please send him a quick message congratulating him on another accomplishment in his career of serving athletic training across South Carolina and the Nation. We will definitely celebrate him again in July!!

RESERVE A SEAT AT THE INDUCTION CEREMONY – [CLICK HERE](#)

**Virginia** - Lauryn Hunter, VATA PR Chair and Danny Carroll VATA President  
Big news coming from Virginia this month - VATA is supporting two bills that would require health insurers and health service plan providers whose policies cover services that may be legally performed by a licensed athletic trainer to provide equal coverage for such services when rendered by a licensed athletic trainer. We have commonly referred to these bills as our third-party reimbursement (TPR) bills.

In 2021, the HIRC directed the Virginia Bureau of Insurance to determine whether mandating the services of licensed ATs would impact the essential health benefits. The Bureau found that the mandate would have no impact on the essential health benefits.  
As a result of this positive finding, Delegate Lee Ware and Senator George Barker introduced HB 45 and SB 525, respectively. Both bills advanced in their respective houses, passing out of the House of Delegates on a vote of 86-13 and the Senate on a vote of 38-1. On Tuesday, February 15, these bills will start the process of committee deliberation and floor voting all over again, with the House bill being heard in the Senate, and the Senate bill being heard in the House. This is a huge win for not only the state of Virginia but also Athletic Trainers across the country! The VATA would like to thank the membership for advocating for this piece of legislation as well as the legislators who supported us!

Additionally, two VATA members are being honored by the NATA in 2022 - Dr. Matthew J. Gage, PhD, LAT, ATC has been awarded an Athletic Trainer Service Award and Dr. Thomas Bowman, PhD, ATC will be named a Fellow of the NATA. Please help us in congratulating these outstanding Athletic Trainers!