

FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR *Katie Walsh Flanagan, EdD, LAT, ATC*



Hello Fellow MAATA Members,
Happy Fall everyone! I know it is a crazy time for everyone transitioning with the weather, sports and daylight, but I hope you find some time to browse this newsletter and read up on all the great stuff happening in athletic training today.

In June, **Marty Baker** finally 'retired' from his decades (?) of service to the MAATA, as with Pat Aronson rolling off the Director job she held so well, she assumed Marty's role of 'Past Director' and is still very busy in executive decisions within our district. Thank you, Marty, for your fine leadership and service to MAATA over the years. I hope you fill the space with something fun to do.

Also in June, **Pat Aronson** was given a fond 'thank you' by the NATA Board of Directors for her steady leadership over the past five years. She 'might' have more time now to do other things besides lead the membership, but I doubt it. Pat spearheaded the charge to take a workgroup into a full committee recently (no rest for her!) and she will tell you all about it in this newsletter. I am extremely proud that Pat saw a need in our profession, worked hard to get it in the front of the right folks, and is now leading the charge along with great ATs and with energy. Be certain to read her post.

June also saw **Jim Berry's** term as MAATA Secretary come to a close. Jim was definitely on-point with his dedication and energy he put into running a smooth operation, and I am so grateful for his careful training of **Lori Bristow** as she transitioned from running the Educational Programming for the District, to assuming the daunting task of filling Jim's shoes as she replaced him.

Thank you all for your solid vote of confidence to not only alter the Constitution and By-Laws, but keep **Ray Davis** as our District Treasurer for another year. Because Ray works behind the scenes, many do not fully understand how extremely valuable he is to us and our fiscal health to keep us functioning quite well as an organization. I am grateful for his continued tight fist on the budget.

Kim Pritchard jumped on board this summer as well, as she assumed the role of Educational Program Planner for the May meeting. I do hope you keep **May 18-20, 2018** on your radar, as Kim and her crew have a fantastic meeting in the works at the [Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City Maryland](#).

continued...

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The MAATA would like to thank these companies for supporting our profession and our association. You may visit their website by clicking on their logo.

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Director Flanagan's letter continued from Page 1.

Some MAATA Highlights:

- We have a new website! Re-mark your favorite bookmark with "MAATA.org"
- 15 District high schools (since July) have earned the Safe Schools Award. Check the new website (MAATA.org) to see the current list
- **Scott Cook (VA)** will step into the MAATA Symposium Planner role this coming summer. In the meantime, his schedule is full learning all he can from our amazing **Jason Mitchell (VA)** who has been running our Annual Symposiums flawlessly over the years.
- Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) training will be offered at Ocean City prior to the MAATA meeting. It will be a full day and a half training session. The NATA is sponsoring the speaker(s), but there will be a fee for materials. This is the training utilized by the ATs Care Committee that provides assistance handling the aftermath of critical incidents in athletics. Training is open to all, but space-limited. Keep an eye out for more information
- **We have been challenged!** District 8 Director, Carolyn Peters challenged each district to ask members to collectively donate \$6,000 towards the NATAPAC this year, as only 3% of the NATA membership donates to the Political Action Committee. For more information, see their site on the [NATAPAC webpage](#)
- We are looking for quality, professional photos showing athletic trainers performing athletic training services on patients. If you have any, consider sending them to our fabulous webmaster, Sharri Jackson at sharrijackson@gmail.com (Please be mindful of permissions to post the photos, and HIPAA)
- There was a Congressional Football Game for charity (Capitol Police Memorial Fund, Our Military Kids, A Advantage for Kids) last week in DC. The game was between the US Capitol Police vs. members of Congress and NFL Alumni. The NATA was asked to provide ATs for the game. Two DCATs volunteered and provided medical services. Pictured right, **Jennifer Rheeling** and **Jamila Watson** representing NATA at Congressional Football Game



Updates from the NATA:

- District 4's **Tory Lindley** was voted to be the NATA's 14th President. He will replace outgoing Scott Sailor in June in New Orleans
- Committee name change: The Professional Responsibility Committee changed its name to **Professional Responsibility in Athletic Training (PRAT)** to avoid confusion with the Public Relations Committee
- Our very own **Jay Hertel (VA)** was voted as the Editor in Chief to the Journal of Athletic Training, as well as Chair of the Journal of Athletic Training Committee, effective June 2018
- A new position statement was approved, and will be coming in print soon: Fluid Replacement for the Physically Active (just out this month)
- **The Legal Digest** published its first two quarterly publications. This on-line digest has current legal issues relevant to athletic training, that could affect daily practice, and inform about protecting against possible future liability. See it [HERE](#)
- Did you know the NATA has an **Athletic Training Glossary**? The list was compiled by members of the Strategic Alliance (NATA, BOC, CAATE, & NATA Foundation) and others. It is for all of us to use AT terms Appropriately. Read up on it in the [October NATA News](#)
- The **Professional Education Committee (PEC)** has developed Teaching Tips videos that are short, informative utube videos about specific strategies. They are 7-10 minutes in length and well worth a view. See the library [HERE](#)

Welcome aboard new MAATA representatives to NATA committee members-to-be. These members will shadow the current MAATA representative, and assume the role in June 2018:

- **John Bielawski (MD)** was chosen to shadow **Sharon Menegoni (VA)** this year on the NATA Hall of Fame Committee
- **John Lopez (SC)** was chosen to shadow **John Spiker (WV)** this year on the NATA Honors and Awards Committee – Special Considerations
- **Lindsey Schroeder (NC)** will shadow **Melissa Synder (NC)** on the Education Advancement Committee this year.
- **Sheila Gordon (SC)** will shadow **George Wham (SC)** this year on the Secondary Schools Athletic Training Committee

Yours in Health, Katie

From the District Treasurer

Ray Davis, MSS, LAT, ATC



As you read this message, please know that I continue to be thankful for the support of my colleagues in Athletic Training. I am in the final year of my 2nd term as your treasurer, and will continue as D-3 Treasurer for a 3rd two-year term beginning next June. I hope I can meet your expectations as we continue to move forward.

The past few months have been very busy finalizing paperwork for the District to gain a grasp of the expenses incurred at our 2017 Annual Meeting. Quite a bit of time goes into reviewing financial documents and preparing for change for the coming year.

I am happy to say that the MAATA D-3 financial accounts are in good standing as I presented at our District meeting in Houston. Furthermore, as of June, we remain in good standing with the IRS for the 2016 fiscal year.

This winter we will be looking at hotel sites for future 2020 and 2021 D-3 annual meetings. We will roll this information out sometime in early spring of 2018.

Once again, I extend special thanks to all the workers behind the scenes of our District meeting in Virginia Beach. I'm grateful for their assistance and countless hours of volunteer work. If you missed Virginia Beach, please make plans to attend our meeting in 2018 as we will be moving to a new venue in Ocean City Maryland. I'm sure the Princess Royale Hotel has many activities that will meet your needs as well as our educational programming. As always thank you for attending our Annual Meeting.

Stay Healthy!

Ray Davis, MSS, LAT, ATC
District 3 Treasurer, NATA

Congratulations!

NCATA Museum project was featured in [Training and Conditioning](#) magazine.

Safe School Winners:

1st Team

Hilton Head Island High School, SC.
St. Catherine's School, VA
Bullis School, MD
Conway High School, SC

To see a complete list of all Safe School Winners, click [HERE](#).

Last Call to Submit Proposals

for the

MAATA Annual Symposium

Deadline is November 5, 2017

The Educational Program Committee is currently accepting proposals for evidence-based practice presentations, feature presentations, learning labs, and special topics related to prevention, evaluation/diagnosis, immediate care, and treatment/rehabilitation of the lower extremity. Proposals outside of this topic may also be considered.

Please submit your proposal electronically [HERE](#).

Contact Educational Program Committee Chair, Kim Pritchard at kpritch@su.edu or 540-545-7376 with questions.

Save the Date!

MAATA Annual Symposium

May 18-20, 2018

Ocean City, Maryland

Join us for a weekend continuing education and networking event at the Princess Royale in Ocean City, MD and earn multiple EBP and Category A presentations. Foot Management, Inc. will be sponsoring a half-day of presentations focusing on Assessment, Treatment, and Orthotic Intervention for the Management of Sports-Related Injuries. More details will be published [HERE](#) as they become available.

Contact Educational Program Committee Chair, Kim Pritchard at kpritch@su.edu or 540-545-7376 with questions.

NEW MAATA.ORG!

Please check out the new website.
If you have the opportunity you should check it out.

The member's only password is:
MAATA



NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA
Scott Barringer, M.Ed., LAT, ATC, CAA
 President, NCATA

Save the Date for Spring 2018 NCATA Spring Symposium

Abstracts are currently being accepted for presentation at the 2018 NCATA

Spring Symposium being held at the Wilmington Sunspree March 2nd-4th, 2018. Abstracts for platform presentations, break out sessions, and free comm poster presentations are welcome. Deadline for abstract submissions is **Wednesday, November 15, 2017**. Decisions will be sent by January 15, 2018. Please direct questions to [Dr. Sharon Rogers Moore](#).

Congratulations to Jim Bazluki for being elected NCATA President & TJ Morgan Secretary. They will officially take office at the annual spring meeting.



NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Sean P. Dash, MS, ATC
 President, DCATA

We would like to extend congratulations to Ms. Donita Valentine, MS, LATC, FMS, SFMA, DAT Student for being appointed to the BOC Standards Committee.

We will be holding a breakfast business meeting in mid-December, time and location TBD please watch the DCATA website and email for further information.



NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA
Sheila Gordon, ATC
 President, SCATA

The South Carolina Athletic Trainers' Association held its annual meeting in Columbia SC in July. We had 422 athletic trainers in attendance this year forcing us to look at other venues. We are excited to say that we are moving locations to downtown Columbia to the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Matt Lyden and the program committee are already preparing a top-notch agenda for July 12-13, 2018. Please mark your calendars, as we would love to have you join us for our 2018 Annual Symposium.

We announced several annual awards presented by the association. The most prestigious award was the **Fred Hoover Award** presented to Mr. Scott Douglass. Scott has been an outstanding member of SCATA since 1985. He has served on the served on the SCATA High School All Star Selection Committee for 31 years. Scott has been an integral part of our association and a true credit to SCATA. Congrats Scott Douglass! The **Founders Award** was presented to Mrs. Sheila Romano. Sheila has been in our state since 1985 served as our SCATA Golf Tournament Coordinator for several years to raise funds for our SCATA student scholarships. Congratulations Sheila Romano. The **President's Award** was presented to Mrs. Mary Neely. Mary has been with DHEC for four years and has been responsible for processing athletic trainer certifications and acting as a liaison for athletic trainers across the state. Mary has been a tremendous advocate for the athletic training profession. Congratulations Mary.

Each year the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association awards a deserving individual of the "Athletic Trainer of the Year" Award. Nominated by his peers and selected as this year's Athletic Trainer of the Year Award goes to Ernie Drew of Goose Creek High School. The SCATA High School Committee would like to recognize the following individuals for being selected to participate in South Carolina High School All Star Football Events: Jason Kneece of Socastee High School will be representing South Carolina in the NC/SC Shrine Bowl Game. Kim Bressler of Clover High School will be representing the North in the North/South All Star Football Game. Todd Stewart of Bluffton High School will be representing the South in the North/South All Star Football Game.

Congratulations to all winners. We certainly appreciate your work in your communities and especially volunteering within our state association to advance athletic training within our state.



NEWS FROM VIRGINIA

Matt Gage, PhD, ATC

President, VATA

Fellow athletic trainers, it is hard to believe that is already October. I want to make you aware of a few projects that the VATA is currently working on. Over the past few months, the VATA has formed three different task forces: Leadership Restructuring, Leadership Institute, & Third Party Reimbursement.

The Leadership Restructuring Task Force has already presented the Executive Council with their recommendations. The VATA Executive Council is in the process of taking action on those recommendations as you're reading. Our second task force is the Leadership Institute/Academy. This task force is in the process of developing a leadership and mentorship program for the VATA membership. One of the goals of these programs is to develop future leads and provide mentorship opportunities for our membership.

The Third Party Reimbursement Task Force is being led by [Chris Young](#). It is collaborating with both the Clinical Emerging Practice & Governmental Affairs Committees to progress AT reimbursement within the Commonwealth. Athletic Trainers' are being reimbursed for the services they provide within the Commonwealth. If you are one of those being or trying to be reimbursed, please contact Chris Young. This task force is trying to identify the successes and struggles ATs are having with third party reimbursement.

Mark your calendars because the Virginia Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting and Symposium will be held at Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg, VA on January 6-7, 2018. Hopefully there will be no snow storms that weekend this year.

It is election/nomination season in the VATA. The following leadership positions will be up for election at the Virginia Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting and Symposium:

VATA Treasurer

Region 3 Representative

Region 5 Representative

Region 1 Representative

Region 4 Representative

Public Relations Committee Chair

The deadline for application is November 10. If you are interested in any of these positions, please refer to the [Nominations Committee website](#) for application details. If you have further questions please contact me at VATApresident@gmail.com.

Please bookmark the [VATA website](#), on your Internet browser so you can stay up to date on the recent happenings and upcoming events such as CEU opportunities in each region of the Commonwealth.

Young Professionals' Committee

Amy Hand, MA, SCAT, ATC - Chair



First of all, I would like to thank our outgoing committee members for their commitment the past several years to the Young Professionals' Committee. Lauren, Jessica, Kelley, and Danny, we wish you the best in your new endeavors. In addition, I am honored to continue to work with some outstanding athletic trainers. Thank you to Rachel Sharpe (South Carolina), Lauren Ey (Maryland), Julie Burton (North Carolina), and Hannah Harnar (West Virginia) for all your past and continuing efforts for this committee.

We were also excited to have 4 committee members join us since May. Since that time, they have been working hard to make strides for the YPs of their states and for the district. I am happy to introduce our new members:

Virginia Representative

Alessa Lennon, MA, ATC, PES
College of William and Mary
arlennon@wm.edu

Washington, DC Representative

Maggie Ward, MEd, ATC
St. John's College High School
maggiew@stjohnschs.org

Member-at-Large

Taylor Meier, MSAT, LAT, ATC
Norfolk State University
Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters
taylor.meier@chkd.org

Member-at-Large

Chris Poole, MS, LAT, ATC
Major League Athletic Trainer, Baltimore Orioles
wcpatc@aol.com

The YPC was designed to address the needs and concerns of certified athletic trainers within 12 years of their initial certification with the hope of providing opportunities and resources for us to be more successful and well-balanced athletic trainers. Our goal is to identify the needs of YPs in our district so that we can work as a committee to provide the programs and educational opportunities to address them. We also hope to increase YP involvement in volunteer and leadership positions while promoting professional interaction and annual meeting attendance. YPs are the future leaders of our profession, and this is our opportunity to start making a difference.

The National YPC awards one YP each year with the National Distinction Award. This honor is based on character, knowledge, and service and is awarded to a YP that has made a definitive impact across the profession of athletic training. Please consider

taking the time to nominate and support a deserving YP from our district. Eligibility and application requirements are available on the NATA website. **Nominations are due November 1.**

The committee members and I are enthusiastic about the projects and direction of the YPC at the national, district, and state levels, and we welcome ideas and support from the YPs of District 3. To stay up-to-date, please "like" the MAATA Facebook Page and look for information about the D3 YPC on the MAATA website. If you are interested in being involved in our current and future projects or just have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your state representative. We look forward to hearing from you.

Student Senate Update

Emily Hildebrand, PhD, LAT, ATC
MAATA Student Senate Co-Advisor



The Student Senate would like to introduce our new 2017-2018 junior senators. Claire Adkinson, MD (Towson University), Kristen Campbell, WV (West Virginia Wesleyan College), Jadeh Kerey, VA (George Mason University), Mary Catherine Avey, NC (University of North Carolina Wilmington), and Emily Meyer, SC (University of South Carolina) as well as welcome back our senior senators!

Michelle Yando, VA (Lynchburg College), has been elected the 2017-2018 MAATA Student Senate President. She returns her senior year eager to be an advocate for ATS across the District. Michelle is passionate about the profession and will be a positive mentor for our new members.

We are also excited to announce the return of Alison Mitchell (graduate assistant at University of South Carolina) as the Junior Faculty Advisor. Alison brings a unique perspective to the group as she was the 2016-2017 Student Senate President. She was an integral part of the Student Program at the annual MAATA Symposium last spring and we are thrilled to have her help as we continue to grow the student program.

The Student Senate has decided to make a committed effort to inform the DIII Students about the NATA Foundation, and promote the importance of giving back to the profession. This year we will be adding a District 3 Student Liaison to the NATA Foundation and we will be looking for student support in the District wide Service Project to support this organization in the upcoming months.

Look out for the monthly Student Senate newsletter, updates on this year's Student Program in OCMD, and follow us on social media so you know what's happening in the District III Student Senate. If you are not receiving the monthly newsletter please reach out to one of your state senators!



MAATA Scholarship Committee

Joseph A. Beckett, EdD, ATC - Chair



Happy Autumn 2017 Athletic Training Colleagues in District III!

The MAATA Scholarship Committee would like to encourage you to promote the various scholarships that are available to deserving Athletic Training students and young professionals in District III. Brief descriptions of these scholarships are provided below:

A.C. "Whitey" Gwynne Scholarship

The A.C. "Whitey" Gwynne Scholarship was developed to target candidates who are BOC-certified, who are in the final year of completion of or have recently received their post-professional master's degree, and who plan to pursue the profession of Athletic Training as their means of livelihood. A first place grant of \$1,500.00 and a second place grant of \$1,000.00 is awarded annually.

Larry Sutton Post-professional Scholarship

The Larry Sutton Scholarship was developed to target candidates who indicate an intention to continue academic work beyond the completion of the Professional Athletic Training Program level, and who plan to pursue the profession of Athletic Training as their means of livelihood. Candidates must be a graduating student or a graduate of a CAATE-accredited Professional Athletic Training program at the time of application. A first place grant of \$1,500.00 and a second place grant of \$1,000.00 is awarded annually.

Bobby Gunn Student Leadership Award

The Bobby Gunn Student Leadership Award was developed to target students who take leadership roles in the field of Athletic Training either on or off their campus who have never had the opportunity to experience a NATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposia. Applicants must also be enrolled in a CAATE-accredited Professional Athletic Training program at a college or university within District III. This award assists a student with \$1,000 in funding to attend the NATA Annual Meeting and Symposium.

Edward Block Undergraduate Scholarship

The Edward Block Scholarship was developed to target candidates currently enrolled in a District III CAATE-accredited Athletic Training Program (ATP) who have distinguished themselves academically and clinically while matriculating through the ATP, and who indicate an intention to continue academic work beyond the completion of the Professional Athletic Training Program level. The applicant must be enrolled in a CAATE-accredited Athletic Training Program, have distinguished himself/herself academically, and have performed with distinction as a member of the Athletic Training Program. A first place grant of \$1,500.00 and a second place grant of \$1,000.00 is awarded annually.

The 2018 scholarship application forms will be posted on the MAATA website by December 1, 2017. The deadline for these scholarship applications is March 1, 2018. The Scholarship Committee's goal is to have at least one student from every CAATE-accredited Athletic Training Program in District III apply for the Block, Gunn, or Sutton scholarships. Additional details along with the application forms for each of these scholarships can be located by going to the "Scholarship Information" tab on the [MAATA website](#).

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your state representative on the MAATA Scholarship Committee.

Joseph A. Beckett, EdD, ATC
MAATA Scholarship Committee Chair
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**NATA
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NATA Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee

George Wham, EdD, ATC, SCAT

Chair, MAATA Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee
District 3 Representative, NATA Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Association



DISTRICT NEWS

Welcome

As my term as NATA SSATC Representative and MAATA SSATC Chair enters it's last year, I would like to welcome Sheila Gordon of White Knoll High School in Lexington SC as my replacement. Sheila will be sitting in on meetings and conference calls in the months leading up

to this summer to insure a seamless transition. I am confident she will do an outstanding job.

ATLAS Project

ATLAS is a research project being conducted by KSI in collaboration with NATA SSATC to identify US high schools that have AT's and describe the services provided by the AT. **Please ANNUALLY update your school's information and complete the survey regarding the AT services provided at your school.** [Survey Here](#)

2018 MAATA Safe Sports School Grants

This winter MAATA will again offer funding to assist secondary schools with the cost of applying for the NATA Safe Sports School Award in the form of MAATA Safe Sports School Award Grants (including those schools who may be seeking Safe School Status for the 2nd time!). The grant application period will open Monday, January 22. We encourage secondary school AT's to review the NATA SSSA criteria this fall and be ready to apply when the grant period opens. Remember only schools ready to apply for the NATA SSSA should apply for a grant. When the grant period opens, go to www.maata.org and apply!

NATIONAL NEWS

Appropriate Medical Care for Secondary Schools Task Force 2.0

The NATA Board of Directors approved the formation of a task force to review and potentially revise the original recommendations from 2004. The group is currently at work with the goal of completion by June at the NATA Convention in New Orleans.

Electronic Newsletter

The NATA Secondary School Committee recently launched a quarterly electronic newsletter specifically designed for secondary school athletic trainers. If you work in the secondary school setting, you should be already receiving this newsletter through email. If not, please contact the NATA office at 214-637-6282. Current and archived editions can be found [HERE](#).

Secondary School Online Resources

Lots of great resources that have been developed by the NATASSATC for the [secondary setting](#).

- Welcome Packet for AT's Transitioning to the Secondary School Setting (*soon to be released!* – includes resources, checklists for AT and employer, and mentor program)
- Guidelines for Developing a Team Physician Services Agreement in the Secondary School (NEW in 2016)
- Emergency Action Plan Guidelines: Mental Health Emergency in Secondary School Athletes (NEW in 2016)
- Secondary School Sports Medicine Course Outline (NEW in 2016)
- Secondary School Position Proposal Guide
- Secondary School Position Improvement Guide
- Secondary School Value Model (SSVM)
- Secondary School Case Studies Workbook
- Parental Safety Checklist
- Strategies for Funding an AT in a Secondary School
- Proper Supervision of Secondary School Student Aides Official Statement

NOMINATE

Jack Cramer Scholarship

Encourage your deserving high school students to apply for the Jack Cramer Scholarship. The application can be found [HERE](#).

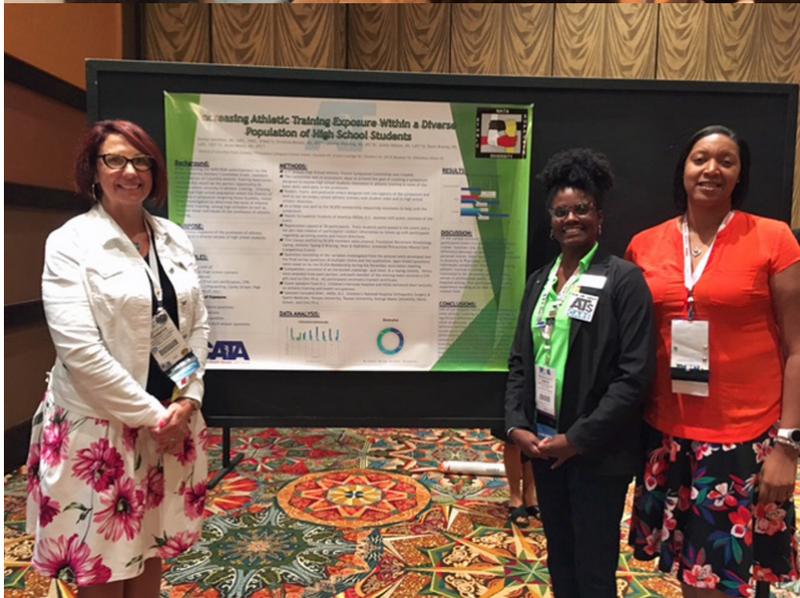
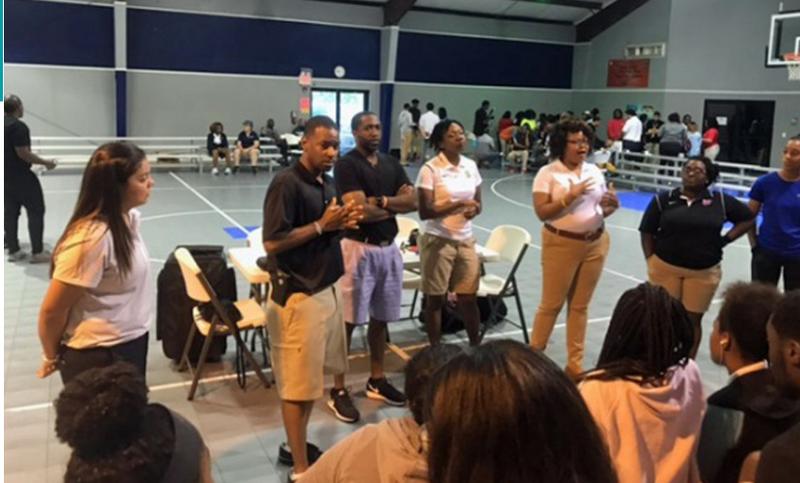
District III EDAC

Brittany Brown, ATC, VAT\L - Chair



We had a great turnout this year at NATA 2017 in Houston Texas. EDAC was able to partner with Victory Prep High school and explain to 80 students about the profession of Athletic Training. Four stations were set up which included taping, stretching, first aid and anatomy. We allowed them to stay at each station for five minutes in order to gain enough knowledge to take with them after the event was over. Also, our career day educational session was a success. Megan Hammonds, past EDAC chair, coordinated athletic trainers from Nike and PBATS to speak to 20 undergraduate and graduate students on different avenues within the profession.

We want to say congratulations to DCATA Jamila Watson, Jennifer Rheeling, and Donita Valentine on receiving grant money from EDAC (pictured right). They created a symposium that targeted ethnically diverse students and their level of interest in athletic training. During this symposium they taught high school students about taping and bracing, heat and hydration, and wound care. Lastly, they included a friendly competition among the students which consisted of an ice bucket challenge, quiz bowl, and a taping contest. Let's again congratulate these women on their impact at the district level.



We would also like to congratulate Veronica Ampey who received the Bill Chisolm Service award this year (pictured above). This award is given annually to recognize an individual who has contributed to the development and enhancement of ethnically diverse athletic trainers. We had much success this year and we look forward to next year.



Honors and Awards Committee

Bob Casmus, MS, ATC - Chair



The MAATA Honors and Awards are officially open now and the committee is accepting nominations at this time. The hard deadline for nominations is November 1st, 2017. Please consider nominating your fellow athletic trainers for MAATA Honors & Awards. All of us know at least one individual who is worthy and deserving of such recognition.

The MAATA Service Award is geared towards recognizing individuals who have done service at the local, state and district levels. The MAATA MDAT award is designed to recognize individuals for their service more so at the district and national levels. The MAATA Hall of Fame is focused on recognizing those individuals who have or had a lifetime of service and impact at the state, district and the national levels. Please understand that the District III Awards are not for recognizing the 'longevity' of athletic trainers in their places of employment.

The District III Honors & Awards application form/candidate profile for the three district awards is similar to what is completed by individuals nominated for NATA national awards. The document may seem daunting, but it gives the subcommittees' great information for the evaluation process and only benefits the candidates. In reality, the Honors and Awards application form is quite useful to help one maintain an up-to-date vita or resume.

The sub-committee chairs for the District III Honors & Awards are: John Bielawski, ATC - MAATA HOF Award, Nancy Burke, ATC - MAATA MDAT Award and Sherry Summers, ATC (retired) for MAATA Service Award. The award evaluation teams will remain anonymous and representation occurs with a member from each state, the District of Columbia as well as by gender and employment settings. Additionally, there is District III NATA Hall of Famers who rotates in the group to assist with evaluations.

Again, I urge everyone to submit nominations for the MAATA Honors & Awards -- all information can be found on the MAATA website under DIII Honors and Awards. ALL advocacy forms and/or letters of recommendation and the candidate profile/application information must be received by 11/30/17 to be considered for the award to which a nomination was made. Incomplete files will not be considered for the awards process. Reminder -- Past NATA Service Award recipients are not eligible at this time for MAATA Service Award and Past NATA MDAT recipients are not eligible at this time for MAATA MDAT. NATA HOF recipients are "recognized" as MAATA Hall of Fame members.

ALL MAATA Honors & Awards Information can be found at : www.maata.org. Once at the site, go to **Committees – Honors and Awards** – then to the **Honors and Awards page**.

NATA Approves LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee

Patricia Aronson, PhD, ATC



Greetings District III Members, If you read the October 2, 2017 edition of NATA Now, you will find that the NATA has established the LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee (LGBTQ+ AC). The LGBTQ+ AC is a new committee that seeks to promote an environment of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ Athletic Trainers and patients alike. As the appointed chair of the LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee, I would like emphasize the importance of advocating for all underserved populations, especially those who identify across the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer spectrum.

The mission of the LGBTQ+AC is to advocate for an environment of inclusion, respect, equity and appreciation of differences in both athletic trainers (ATs) and their diverse patient populations. The committee will identify, explore, address and provide educational resources regarding emerging topics and concerns relevant to diverse sexualities, gender identities and gender expressions within the profession and health care topics affecting patients in the LGBTQ+ community. Our major projects at this time focus on providing resources for and educating our membership, reviewing the current research, and supporting the LGBTQ+ community.

The Committee is from several districts and is diverse in membership. We will be adding members to the Committee from D1, D6, and D7 this spring to be completely district-based. Our District III representative is Ami Adams, MS, ATC (ami.matsumoto8@gmail.com).

At this time we are not seeking membership on the Committee from DIII, however we invite you to be involved in several ways:

- Follow us on Twitter at [@LGBTQNATA](https://twitter.com/LGBTQNATA)
- Attend our Committee meeting at the Convention in New Orleans this June
- Watch for openings on the Committee in the future
- Contact [Ami](#) or [me](#) with questions, concerns, or interest!

For more of the [NATA Now](#) article read Beth Sitzler's blog [HERE](#).

