



## NATA

**Katie Walsh Flanagan**  
**District Director**

**Reunited!** – Save the Date for the NATA Annual Symposium in Philadelphia: Wednesday, June 29 – Friday, July 1. Look for information coming soon

**NATA renewal** grace period is ending soon – Monday, January 31. This is the last District communication you will receive unless your NATA membership is renewed. Join or renew [HERE](#).

**Searching for Volunteer:** The Council on Practice Advancement is seeking an athletic trainer who is practicing in a clinic/hospital and is billing/able to bill for services. Please apply by following the instructions [HERE](#).

This is not a district-based Council, but practice-based. More information on the Council can be found [HERE](#) or by contacting me ([Flanagank@ecu.edu](mailto:Flanagank@ecu.edu))

**NATA President meeting with the MAATA Presidents** In January, President Dieringer has met individually with each of our Presidents via zoom. Along with the Presidents, Director Flanagan and Director-elect Davis participated in the calls and heard of the challenges, goals and bragging points each President had over his/her jurisdiction. I am proud of all we have done, and glad the President got to hear about all the amazing things we are doing from our very own Presidents

The NATA has been working hard on **Diversity-Equity-Inclusion- Access** (DEIA) initiatives for nine months, are excited about the work we have done so far. It is still a big project, and work in progress. As a District, we will be looking how we can better in these areas to align with our national initiatives

**Strategic Planning** - The Board of Directors has been working on a SWOT (Strengths-Weaknesses- Opportunities-Threats) analysis for the last several months, and is meeting in Dallas to finalize our goals for the organization's future directions, goals and plans at the end of January. Look for this information in coming months

**Congratulations** to the **Students of District 3!** We are the District Champion of the NATA Student Leadership Committee BOC Prep Kahoot; and our District Leader in the Battle of the District is **Kelly Koenig** (SC, Charleston Southern University). Well Done all !!!

Please welcome **Omar Perez-Vega** (MD, Towson) as the incoming MAATA representative to the NATA Student Leadership Committee. Omar will shadow our current representative **Anthony Corona** (NC, UNC-Wilmington) until his term ends in June at the NATA Annual Symposium

***I am looking forward to (finally!) seeing you in person at our MAATA Annual Symposium in Charlotte, NC, May 13-15, 2022. Registration and programming is coming soon!***

**NATAPAC**  
**Mark White**

The NATAPAC would like to thank all those MAATA members that have contributed during the NATA Membership renewal cycle. If you have not renewed your NATA membership yet please do so soon and at the same time make a NATAPAC contribution at the same time.

If you have already renewed your membership but forgot to contribute you can do so when you register for the MAATA meeting to be held in May.

The NATAPAC also has a website ([www.natapac.org](http://www.natapac.org)) and a link for contributions as well. Thanks as always for supporting the Federal NATA Political Action Committee.

# MAATA

## **MAATA President Steve Cole**

I want to pass along a big shout out to the Planning Committee and Executive Council of the Virginia Athletic Trainers Association for producing a very successful In-Person annual meeting and educational program the weekend of January 7-9 in Harrisonburg. With over 160 attendees, the energy of a live, in-person meeting was remarkable! It was great to reconnect with new and old colleagues as well as rekindle relationships.

The Annual Meeting planning committee is making good progress and we are all very excited to get together in Charlotte, May 13-15, 2022. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

## **LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee Kirk Armstrong**

We want to hear from you. Let the committee know what resources you need or areas where you want to see professional development. Complete this [question survey](#) to provide feedback to the Committee.

We hope to see you at MAATA in Charlotte. We are planning a table with information and resources to allow members to provide inclusive patient-centered care.

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

We are pleased to announce that the MAATA Hall of Fame class for 2022 includes two outstanding athletic trainers. The MAATA HOF inductees for May 2022 are Jim Bazluki and Ray Davis. The MAATA Most Distinguished Athletic Training Award recipients for 2022 are Debbie Bradney, John Knaul, and Nina Walker. The MAATA Service Award recipient for 2022 is Scott Cook.

Please congratulate these outstanding award winners as they are most deserving of their recognition. We hope you will attend the MAATA Honors and Awards session and ceremony in May 2022 in Charlotte, NC. A special thank

you goes out to John Bielawski (HOF sub-committee chair), Nancy Burke (MDAT sub-committee chair) and Sherry Summers (Service Award sub-committee chair) for their work on behalf of District III. I also want to say thank you to the anonymous members of the scoring groups for their participation in the awards process.

## **Student Senate**

### **Emily Hildebrand**

District III athletic training students - thanks for participating in the recent BOC prep Kahoot competition and CONGRATULATIONS on the win! 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, District III quiz bowl, and the free communications program. All the upcoming information will be advertised in our monthly newsletter found here: <https://www.maata.org/students> along with updates on our social media pages. We hope to see you in Charlotte!

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

# States

## VATA Tom Mitchell VATA Secretary



The VATA hosted a successful in-person state meeting on January 7-9 in Harrisonburg, VA. We were able to recognize our state award winners from the last two years, including the induction of 6 members to our Hall of Fame: George Borden '21, Stephen Suttmiller '21, Scott Johnson '21, Paul Rupp '22, John Reynolds '22, Tom Kuster '22.

The VATA Governmental Affairs Committee is gearing up for a virtual Hit the Hill Day on January 18th. The VATA has two bills moving forward in the 2022 General Assembly that will significantly impact AT practice in Virginia.

The VATA Secondary School Committee is planning to host a virtual conference this Spring. Look for details soon!

## WVATA President Zach Garrett

The legislative session has kicked off in WV and we were excited to have a couple of bills forth coming as it relates to heat illness safety and requiring athletic trainers in secondary schools. We recently held a virtual legislative town where we hosted members of the legislature and WV Secondary Schools Athletic Commission and gave them a chance to speak about the upcoming session and interact with members. The event was a great success and we were looking forward to the upcoming session.