



DISTRICT III NEWSLETTER

fall 2020



MID ATLANTIC ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

LETTER FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Katie Walsh Flanagan, EdD, LAT, ATC



Hello fellow Members,

Can you believe we have made it to fall? COVID first impacted us eight months ago, and we have all figured out a way to find our own footing in our new topsy-turvy world. Some of us are deep (deep) in sports, others are (not so) patiently waiting for sports to return, others have found themselves outside their usual role in the fall. Wherever you have landed, I am hoping health, peace, patience and a good attitude.

From the NATA office: We have continued to meet virtually all summer and into the fall, extending the VNATA experience into October, looking at cost-saving ways to continue to provide excellent member-benefits and ever-hopeful we will meet in person in Orlando next June at NATA. We had the closest Presential election ever (49.7% to 49.5%) and President-elect Kathy Dieringer will take office next summer. NATA Membership renewal season is upon us. Please look at all the options on the membership page to continue membership into 2021.

Congratulations to **Jason Mitchell** who will be entering his second term at MAATA Secretary.

It is VOTING Time!!! Our members voted last May to include a District President and District Vice President, so please make your voices heard! All eligible voters received an email (check your spam) on October first; and voting is only available via that email link. You will need your NATA and BOC numbers to vote.

VOTING CLOSES Thursday, October 15th

Candidates for our very first MAATA President are:

Jim Bazluki (NC)
Bob Cable (WV)
Steve Cole (VA)
Jenni Johnson (WV)

Candidates for the very first MAATA Vice President are:

Brittany Brown (VA)
Scott Cook (VA)
Donita Valentina (DC)

View the candidate information [HERE](#).

Stay safe and healthy,

Katie

Katie Walsh Flanagan, EdD, LAT, ATC

FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

Jason Mitchell, MEd, LAT, ATC



Greetings from Virginia-

I hope this newsletter finds you, and your loved ones, safe and healthy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. It is truly an honor to continue to serve this wonderful District! I also was to thank District Director Flanagan & Past Director Aronson for their leadership within the Executive Council. I would love to give an extra loud shot-out to Past Treasurer Davis for his service, and I look forward to working alongside our new District Treasurer Sedory.

I'd love to echo my comments earlier this year, in that I am continuously impressed with the collective AT response and efforts as we push forward in our current landscape. We are truly a tight-knit family, and I know that I certainly have leaned on many of my AT family through these trying months. We are truly stronger together! As the 2020 year is coming to a close, I would love to take this opportunity to remind everyone of their NATA membership renewals. All members who renew their 2021 membership will receive 10 few CEU credits (a \$250 value!) to use in the [NATA Professional Development Center](#) between February 1 to December 31, 2021. Due to the financial impact that COVID-19 on many of our members, NATA is offering an installment payment option to those who need it. For more information, please visit our [NATA membership site](#).

Again, I want to thank all of you for your support. In a landscape where there is so much divisiveness & exclusion, I have an extreme love for my AT family. I continue to strive to better myself as an AT & as a person, and I will continue to work my hardest to serve ALL of you. If there's anything I can do for you, please do NOT hesitate to contact me (d3sectry@gmail.com)

Jason

Jason Mitchell, MEd, LAT, ATC



FROM THE DISTRICT TREASURER

Jay Sedory, MEd, ATC, EMT-T



Greetings; it is my personal pleasure and professional privilege to greet you in the Fall Newsletter as your new District Treasurer!

First and foremost, I thank Ray Davis and all of the District Treasurers that have served before me. Each officer has continually improved organizational processes and the district itself. Upon assuming this position, I received a box of files containing tax statements, receipts, and invoices; however, the box provides something more than just fiscal information. It also contains the history and successes of our district and its members. From meetings at The Cavalier Hotel and our pledge to fully fund a master's level scholarship, to the inaugural MAATA Hall of Fame, this box of receipts can tell quite a story.

In my initial steps, I have met with the state treasurers, performed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis of the Treasurer position, researched insurance/bonding, met with the National District Secretaries Treasurers Committee, and distributed membership dues. In the future, I will outline our district financial goals and create a plan to achieve them.

I am so grateful the MAATA leadership was able to provide a district meeting that satisfied the professional needs of its members, while considering the financial position of its membership. The organization is financially stable, and we are confident in our ability to conduct business as expected in the coming fiscal year. Please feel free to contact me at d3maatacfo@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or concerns.

I remain at your service,

Jay Sedory

Treasurer Tip: Consider reviewing your credit report. You may request a free credit report once each year from each of the three major credit reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Requesting your free report from only one of the three bureaus every four months will allow you to extend your access to a free report throughout the course of the year. Reviewing your credit report will allow you to verify important credit information and learn how to improve your credit score. When reviewing multiple credit reports, please note that it is common to have different credit scores across all three bureaus.

District III Council

Katie Walsh Flanagan, District Director
Flanagank@ecu.edu

Jason Mitchell, District Secretary
d3sectry@gmail.com

Jay Sedory, District Treasurer
d3maatacfo@gmail.com

Patricia Aronson, Past District Director
aronson@lynchburg.edu

State Presidents

Michael Walker, District of Columbia
mwalker@stjohnschs.org

Gina Palermo, Maryland
ginarpalermo@gmail.com

Jim Bazluki, North Carolina
Jbazluki@gmail.com

Jeremy R. Searson, South Carolina
president@scata.org

Chris Jones, Virginia
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Zach Garrett, West Virginia
Garrett46@marshall.edu

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NEWS FROM MAATA COMMITTEES



ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE

Scott Cook

Save the Date!

The 2021 MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium is scheduled for May 14-16 at the Charlotte Hilton University Place, in Charlotte, NC. After going virtual for the 2020 meeting, make plans to attend to socialize, network and gain hands on experience with our workshops and presentations. Category A and EBP CEUs will be offered. It is a reporting year!!

The Charlotte Hilton University Place is set in a lake front setting, with plenty of dining options, and the City of Charlotte offers an incredible amount of opportunities for families to explore. Make plans to attend!!

Look for more information as the educational program is finalized, and we announce the opening of the Meeting registration.



HONORS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Bob Casmus

The MAATA Honors and Awards is currently open and the committee is still accepting nominations. The hard deadline for nominations is November 1st, 2020. Please consider nominating and

recognizing a worthy and deserving fellow athletic trainer for one of the MAATA Honors & Awards. The MAATA Service Award honors individuals who have done service at the local, state and district levels. The MAATA MDAT award recognizes individuals for their service more so at the district and national levels. The MAATA Hall of Fame is focused on those individuals who have or had a lifetime of service and impact at the state, district and the national levels. 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 or [CLICK HERE](#). ALL

advocacy forms and/or letters of recommendation and the candidate profile/application information must be received by 11/30/2020 to be considered. Incomplete files will not be considered for the awards process.

STUDENT SENATE COMMITTEE

Emily Hildebrand and Emily Meyerl



We are excited to announce Junior Senators who will be elected to join our team soon, but until the let's reintroduce you to your Senior Senators!

Maryland

Kaitlyn Whipp from Towson University

West Virginia

Kim Hill from Marshall University

Virginia

Janese Malone from Shenandoah University

North Carolina

Anthony Pereira from East Carolina University

South Carolina

Rachel Gordon from the University of South Carolina

The Student Senate is excited to welcome the new junior senators and begin planning on the annual MAATA student program and service project. Stay tuned for more updates on the Student Senate on social media!

Twitter: MAATA_Students

Instagram: maata_student_senate

Facebook: Mid Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association Student Senate

DISTRICT THREE





SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Adam Weyer

Greetings from Greenwood, SC and Lander University. Last year was a success for the Scholarship Committee as we made the transition to an online platform. I would like to thank Sharri Jackson

for all of her hard work and for answering the many questions I had about this. She was trying to teach an "old dog, new tricks". Unfortunately, this did not help see an increase in applications as we had hoped. While that makes the job of the committee easier, we would love to see more applications to make our decision harder. So, please, encourage your students to apply for these scholarships in the spring. Here are the four available scholarships.

Edward Block 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.

A.C. "Whitey" Gwynne Scholarship

The A.C. "Whitey" Gwynne Scholarship was developed to target candidates who are BOC-certified, and who are either currently enrolled in a post-professional master's program or will have completed their master's degree by the time this scholarship is presented, and who also plan on pursuing the profession of Athletic Training as their means of livelihood.

Larry Sutton 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 on pursuing the profession of Athletic Training as their means of livelihood.

William Prentice Scholarship

The William Prentice Scholarship was developed to target candidates who will be entering Post-Professional degree granting programs including Masters (until 2022), PhD, EdD, or DAT programs.

We currently have two vacancies on our committee – District of Columbia and South Carolina. If you have any interest in serving the district in this capacity, please contact me or feel free to apply [USING THIS FORM](#). My contact information is (864)388-8626 and my email address is aweyer@lander.edu. The contact information for your state representative is below should you have any questions.

I appreciate the Executive Council allowing me to serve the district in this capacity and I am looking forward to awarding these scholarships to well-deserving students next May. Thank you and Go Bearcats!

REPRESENTATIVES

West Virginia

Tracy McCallister-Gill, MS, ATC
tmccallister@concord.edu

Virginia

Sara Pittelkau, MA, ATC
syp0721@gmail.com

Maryland

Karla Schoenly, MS, ATC
kschoenly@frostburg.edu

District of Columbia
vacant

North Carolina

Sharon Rogers Moore, PhD, ATC
rogerssh@ecu.edu

South Carolina
vacant

NEWS FROM MAATA REPRESENTATIVES TO NATA COMMITTEES



COMMITTEE ON PRACTICE ADVANCEMENTS (COPA) Andy Carter

COPA has been busy during the pandemic, continuing to work on initiatives and projects to help our members. As a Council, we have had monthly conference calls via Zoom and a virtual Committee Day since we weren't able to meet face to face at the NATA meeting. Some of the council-wide initiatives include:

Education: Our education team continues to push the committees of COPA for content and you can expect to see a robust menu of educational material for members and students alike coming out of COPA moving forward. Several committees submitted proposals for presentations at NATA 2021.

Social Media: COPA's social media presence and engagement is and will continue to be strong. Our social media coordinator works with the NATA office to coordinate content on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Follow us at:

www.facebook.com/NATACOPA
www.instagram.com/NATA_COPA/
twitter.com/NATA_COPA

Likewise, each of the 10 committees holds monthly conference calls via Zoom as well. I serve as the Chair of the Community Outreach Committee. The following are a few of the projects and initiatives of those groups:

- **Analytics and Outcomes:** Developing surveys to analyze data collection and reporting trends and barriers in athletic training and athletic trainers'

perceptions of their value and worth and has plans for monthly videos on data analysis to be distributed through social media

- **Armed Forces:** Developing document with information for those seeking jobs in the military setting
- **Community Outreach:** Joined the Employment Fair Practices Workgroup to develop information for members on how to evaluate AT employment contracts
- **Performing Arts:** Exploring ways to get involved in research commissioned by NFHS on return to the studio during the COVID-19 pandemic
- **Private Practice/Emerging Settings:** Gathering information about opportunities and barriers to ATs in business ownership, working as an independent contractor, and working for an AT-owned business.
- **Public Safety:** Completed the Public Safety Value Model that was submitted to the NATA BOD and approval

I continued to be impressed by the resilience and perseverance of athletic trainers during these unprecedented times. Through my involvement with COPA, I have seen how ATs have worked tirelessly to find solutions to previously unimagined situations. Many of you have taken the lead at your institutions or employers to develop policies and procedures to allow safe return to activity or mitigate risk of transmission. Likewise, NATA President Lindley and NATA Board of Directors charged the committees with developing tools, educational materials, and other content to help members deal with the effects of the pandemic, both in the short term and long term. While many projects have been completed and posted on the NATA website, much of the work is still on-going. If you have ideas for tools, projects, surveys, or articles, please reach out to the appropriate committee chair and share your thoughts.



LGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ami Adams

2020 has been a surreal year of constant changes and challenges for everyone. There are many athletic trainers still facing uncertainties, and we want to help our members as much as we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us; we are here for you!!

We have expanded our social media platform. We now have Facebook group [NATA LGBTQ AC Group](#) and our Instagram account is [lgbtqnata](#). Keep following us on Twitter [@LGBTQNATA](#) and also subscribe to our newsletter via the Inclusion Page!



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ashley Thrasher

The Professional Education Committee has been busy working on many initiatives including preceptor development ideas, Master Preceptor Level 3, and ideas for post-pandemic opportunities. A large initiative the PEC has been working on is the clinical immersion project.

Clinical Immersion Project

Are you interested in being a preceptor and hosting a student for an immersion clinical experience? Are you a student looking for an immersive clinical experience? Check out the NATA Immersion Experience Host Submission! This is open to any athletic trainer who wants to host students.

The NATA Immersion Experience Program connects non-certified student members with exclusive, unique opportunities to further their AT experience and growth in clinical skills. This new member benefit also benefits the Professional Member who hosts immersion experiences, opening their ability to connect to a larger candidate pool.

Submit your experience on Gather!
[CLICK HERE](#)



PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Tina Carrillo

Happy Fall MAATA!

We are ramping back up with our MAATA Instagram Takeovers. If you are interested in showing what a day in a life looks like at your facility on our IG Stories, please contact me directly at ccarrillo@friendshipschools.org. We would love to feature the exceptional healthcare that you provide to your patients every day.

If you are not already, take a moment to follow us on our social media platforms. I try my best to keep you informed about everything that is happening at the state, district and national levels. Also don't forget to tag us in your posts on social media so we can share the amazing things you are doing.

Facebook: D3MAATA

Twitter: D3_MAATA

Instagram: d3athletictrainers

**Voting Closes
Thursday October 15th**



**Contact Pat Aronson if you are a certified member of D3 and didn't receive your ballot.
Check your JUNK MAIL first!
aronson@lynchburg.edu**



NATA FOUNDATION

Marty Baker

In these unique times, it always helps be able to rely on something constant and dependable.

In the ever changing, fast-paced world that is better known as all things COVID-19 the NATA Foundation is that dependable and constant resource that is always there when you need it.

Below are some important initiatives that are on the horizon and should be on your radar:

Need some motivation to get in some exercise? The Foundation has you covered. We are hosting a virtual 5k. The Race will be held between October 24-31, whether you are an elite runner or a foot shuffler it doesn't matter. Registration opens October 1st on the Foundation's [website](#). This event is a win/win. You get some exercise and fun while supporting the Foundation.

If you are a budding researcher or if you have a unique clinical case study the Foundation's Free Communications Program is right up your alley. The Free Communications Program provides a forum for both researchers and clinicians to share newly minted research and clinical case studies. Abstracts for the Summer 2021 edition are currently being accepted through November 1. More info can be found [HERE](#).

If you are a researcher looking for funding, then check out the Foundation's Research Grants. Pre-proposals for professional level grants will be accepted October 1 – November 15. Funding will be awarded in Summer 2021. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Calling all students! The Foundation's always-popular Student Writing Contest is now accepting submissions through February 1, 2021. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Hey athletic training students of the MAATA: our district has a proud tradition of taking home more than our share of NATA Foundation Scholarships. Let's make sure this year is no different. Scholarship applications for the 2021-2022 school year will be accepted starting in mid-November through mid-January.

More info on the submission process will be available on our [website](#) in early November.. Sit down now with your program director or faculty mentor to get their input and guidance. There is money out there to be had!

No matter if you are a student, an educator, a clinician or a researcher the Foundation has something you can sink your teeth into and benefit from. Be sure to follow us on Twitter @natafoundation. We will keep you updated.

Thank you to all the members of the MAATA that donate to the Foundation so graciously. Without your support our initiatives would not be possible.

Not a member of the Foundation? It's easy, safe and secure just go [HERE](#).



STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Victoria Simpson

In October, we will be hosting a virtual webinar related to how to be a Safe Space Ally, appropriate terminology when discussing the LGBTQ+ community, and how we as athletic training students can apply this information into our own practice.

In November, we will be hosting another virtual webinar pertaining to diversity and inclusion. This moderated event will have panelists ranging from students who are passionate about inclusion to established professionals who have become advocates for minority populations.

Towards the conclusion of the Fall 2020 semester we will be hosting another Student Kahoot Trivia competition. This event is open to all athletic training students whether they are a first-year, second-year, or in an undergraduate program. Prizes will be awarded to winners!

Finally, we want to encourage our students in D3 to follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with the SLC.

Instagram: @natasc

Twitter: @natascrcps

Facebook: @natasc

NEWS FROM OUR MAATA STATES

In our MAATA Newsletters (twice a year), we ask your state Presidents to update the rest of the District on what is happening in their state.



CHRIS JONES
PRESIDENT

The VATA 2021 Annual Meeting will be going virtual! Thank you to all the members who took the time to complete the survey about the VATA 2021 Annual Meeting. We have listened to you, and your safety is of utmost importance. More information regarding our upcoming virtual annual meeting will be coming soon! Please go to our website vata.us to learn more.

The VATA executive council will be attending a legislative boot camp run by the NATA staff. This boot camp will be geared towards improving communication with our legislators, as well as how to best advocate for the athletic training profession at Hit the Hill Day!