

HIGH POINT
UNIVERSITY

The High Point University Athletic Training Faculty and Students

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Board of Directors

2020 Executive Committee

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James M. Bazluki, MAEd, LAT, ATC, EMT

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Committee Chairs

Please click [HERE](#) for a complete list of NCATA Committee Chairs.

Since 1974, the NCATA has served to support athletic trainers, to promote and advance the profession of athletic training in North Carolina. The NCATA is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association (District 3) and the National Athletic Trainers' Association.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim Bazluki, MAEd, LAT, ATC, EMT

Greetings fellow ATs

I would like to start off with my fall message giving thanks. I am thankful to be your president and have the opportunity to represent you in many ways over the year. I could not do this without a great leadership team around me. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to both Nina Walker and Jason Brafford for their service to the NCATA having served on the executive council for the past 4 years. They have been outstanding advocates for the profession and our association. Their impact has been tremendous, yet their work goes mostly unseen by the membership.

I would like to welcome to the board our newly elected Vice-President - Meredith Petschauer and Treasurer - Jarrett Friday. Both will take office in March 2021. Both individuals come with a great deal of experience and knowledge and will be huge assets to the NCATA in their new roles. I am thankful our membership is deeply talented, and we have members who are willing to step forward and serve others.

I am thankful to see the restart of sports, even if its not the way we envisioned it happening. That being said, I would like to thank the athletic trainers for their new roles in helping to prevent the spread of the virus in keeping your students, faculty and staff safe during these unusual times. That being said, please make sure you are keeping yourself safe. Realize that as the athletic trainer, you are the one person who has the most contact with every team and staff member. If you were to become ill, contact tracing might take out the entire athletic department. Your absence could also be a major issue if you were forced to quarantine for 14 days. So as much as we missed our athletes, please be safe in your interactions.

I am thankful to have been surrounded by seasoned athletic trainers throughout my career that have taken the time to take me under their wings and share their knowledge and wisdom with me. They have told me when they thought I was wrong, cheered me on when I was doing well and encouraged me when I was down. One of those long-time members I highly respect is Rick Proctor. I worked with Rick during our legislative efforts in the late 1990s. His efforts during that time led to the single greatest accomplishment of our association, our state licensure act. Currently Rick is experiencing some health challenges. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers as I am a firm believer in the power of prayer especially during the holiday season.

Covid-19 has certainly caused us all some complications in our lives. But I am hopeful that a solution is progressing with improvements in treatments, vaccine developments, and individual responsibility with wearing masks, etc. I am thankful that I am in a position to make an impact in my circle of influence and am working my hardest to keep my circles safe.

Please be safe.

Sincerely,
Jim Bazluki, MAEd, LAT, ATC, EMT
NCATA President



Vice President's Message

Nina Walker MA, LAT, ATC

Hello Colleagues,

Wow, the call was sent and you all answered!! I can't believe all of the things that were asked of us as schools went from closed to open to online to asynchronous to who knows. It has been a challenge each day but athletic trainers have provided safe and stable environments to all of our patient populations. We have shared our knowledge with each other, and administrators and proved that we belong at every table.

I would like to welcome our newly elected executive board members, Meredith Petschauer incoming Vice President and Jarrett Friday our incoming Treasurer. WE are so grateful that they have offered their talents to the NCATA. They will be mentored by current board members and take office in March.

We are all aware that finances are tough and many school are not offering the CEU funding or NATA dues. It is important that we continue to support our national organization with renewal of dues to continue supporting the profession and receiving great member benefits like the ones mention on this website. [NATA BENEFITS of MEMBERSHIP](#) If you decide not to renew please apply to be a member of the NCATA as this is the only other way to be an NCATA member if you are not an NATA member. These dues are vital in continuing the great programing and advocacy that we do. ([NCATA membership application](#))

There is also a great CEU opportunity hosted by the [VATA Secondary School Committee](#), click on the Symposium Flyer to see more information. They symposium is giving 8 CAT A CEUS for \$10. I am a little partial since I had the tremendous opportunity to present on mental health and the sports medicine provider. The theme of the symposium is mental health and the content will be available from December 2-7, in a prerecorded format. Great opportunity for quality, inexpensive continuing education.

I would also like to take a chance to thank all of our Veterans, active military and those that provide care to our nation's most valuable patients, our military. Thank you for your service and all of the sacrifices you have made for us all.

As we head into the holidays take time to really refresh, it may not look the same but please use this time to recharge and get ready for a fun filled packed spring!!

Thanks for all you do!! Take care and be well.

Nina Walker

Be Well and Take Care,

Nina



Vice President-Elect Message

Meredith Petschauer, PhD, ATC, LAT

I am excited to have the opportunity to serve the athletic training profession as the next Vice President of the NCATA. I hope to work with the current board members in supporting athletic trainers and moving our profession forward. I will do my very best to follow in the path that Nina Walker has already begun to pave for the NCATA. Please feel free to communicate with me at any point if you have ideas for how to improve athletic training in NC. Thank you for all of the work you do every day to make our profession great!



Secretary's Message

Nancy Groh, EdD, LAT, ATC

It's hard to believe that the 2020 year is coming to an end. Again thanks to all of you who have been faced with taking on new roles or challenges as a result of the pandemic. We have all confronted this unexpected change in our reality and come together as a community of healthcare providers to continue to provide the highest level of care for our patients. Let's continue to find the drive and passion within ourselves to serve our patients and profession with the hope that a transition to a perhaps slightly altered normal of which we were once accustomed. In final commentary, I would like to salute all of the athletic trainers who are US Veterans along with those who either still serve in the military and/or provide service to the military population. We thank you for helping to protect our great nation!



Treasurer-Elect Message

Jarrett C. Friday, MAEd, LAT, ATC, CSCS

I am beyond blessed and excited to be able to serve our membership as Treasurer and on the Board of Directors. I will strive to do my very best to continue to keep North Carolina as a national leader in advocating for our patients, our members, and our profession. As we continue to navigate through this pandemic it is imperative, we each do our due diligence to learn as much as we can to educate those in our care. I trust we will come out of this a stronger, more prepared, and more respected profession with new skills and knowledge to shape our future. I look forward to collaborating & working with leadership to continue to build athletic training in our state & region and to cultivate new ideas and pathways for growth. I wish to thank Jason for his time & service and look forward to my service to you as Treasurer.

Thank You

NCATA Program Development Committee

The NCATA program development committee has decided to do a monthly virtual presentation via **Zoom** during the months of January, February and April in 2021. These will be pre-recorded and made available through our website. For the annual March meeting we will have a synchronous presentation on the 13th followed by a **Zoom** networking session for those who wish to reconnect during these challenging virtual times.

We are looking for individuals who may be interested in doing the pre-recorded sessions. Please submit an abstract [HERE](#) by **December 4th**.

Thank you for all that you do for our profession!

Sincerely,

The program development committee:

Meredith Petschauer, Brian Wheeler, Ashley Thrasher, Craig Eilbacher,
Shelley Linens, Erica Thornton, Lindsay Smith

Greetings from the Committee on Practice Advancement (COPA)

As you are aware, 2020 was an election year. We are including a link posted from the North Carolina General Assembly Website for election results. The NC General Assembly has posted an unofficial list of the results which you can view [HERE](#). You can find your legislators using your zip code [HERE](#).

We encourage you to reach out in the near future and thank both your state Senators and Representatives for their service as a constituent and offer congratulations to our elected legislators. Please include a brief summary about yourself as an athletic trainer in the community. Please contact Dan Duffy or Ashley Long if you would like any assistance.

danduffyatc@aol.com

ashleylong111@gmail.com

The NCATA License Plate Dream is Still Alive

Kevin King has led the campaign to accrue enough interested applicants to secure the option of NCATA specialty license plates. What a fantastic public relations and professional advocacy idea this is! So, why aren't they available yet? It's sad to say, but we are still not close to the 300 applicants needed for these specialty plates. This is quite surprising as our membership is quite large. If you have not completed an application, please strongly consider doing so; there is no upfront cost to you, and your application doesn't secure you to a guaranteed commitment when we meet our goal and the license plates are made as an option. Just have your car registration and driver's license with you to fill out the application. [Click Here](#) for more information and directions on how you can complete your application!



NCBATE

If you have any questions or need any information regarding state licensure, practice act, statute, rules & regulations or the athletic trainer/physician protocol; please contact the state licensure board at www.ncbate.org or email [Paola Learoyd](mailto:Paola.Learoyd@ncbate.org), Executive Director.

NCBATE BOARD MEMBERS

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Appointed by Senate Pro-Temp
Board Seat Expires 7/31/2021

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Appointed by the Senate Pro-Temp
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Seat Expires 7/31/2020

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Appointed by the Governor
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Jeffrey Carley, DO
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Appointed by the Speaker of the House
Board Seat Expires 7/31/2020

David Ferrell, Attorney
dferrell@vanblacklaw.com

The High Point University Athletic Training Faculty and students volunteered to provide COVID Screening and provide medical coverage for the GO FAR Great Pumpkin 5K Trail Run.



NCATA SCHOLARSHIPS

It's that time of year again to submit applications for Scholarships.

The NCATA offers three College scholarships (@ \$1,500 per) for current athletic training students enrolled at a college or university in North Carolina.

To be eligible for consideration of an NCATA scholarship, the applicant must:

1. Be a current member of the NCATA, applicant must provide a copy of current NATA membership card
2. Be currently enrolled in a CAATE accredited professional athletic training education program (ATEP) in North Carolina
3. Must have earned a minimum of 2.5 overall GPA, and a 3.0 in ATEP courses
4. Three letters of recommendation from the following sources:
 - ATEP Director
 - LAT, ATC clinical supervisor (must be different from program director)
 - one additional letter from: MD, instructor or Athletic Trainer
5. An official sealed transcript
6. An unofficial transcript with ATEP classes highlighted
7. An essay that must be typed, 10-point minimum, addressing future plans and goals for achievement.

The application is completed online. All other supporting documentation must be emailed together and received by February 1st, except for the Official Sealed Transcript, which should be postmarked by February 1st. Please provide this email address, ncatascholarships@gmail.com, to those submitting a Letter of Recommendation. The Subject Line should contain your Full Name.

NCATA on [FACEBOOK](#)

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It's Never Too Early to NOMINATE

We have so many Certified Athletic Trainers' and other Healthcare Providers/Organizations that are well deserving of honors and awards especially during these times that Certified Athletic Trainers' and Healthcare Providers have assumed other roles to help keep not only our athletes safe but also our communities...Don't Delay...Nominate early.

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE ON JANUARY 1ST, 2021

For more information on nomination criteria, [CLICK HERE](#).

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

Stay up to date on Twitter as we highlight each nomination category throughout the months of November and December.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Erica P. Thornton, DAT, ATC



Erica Thornton, assistant professor at High Point University, was fortunate to have found her professional calling early in her life and as such has been an athletic trainer for 24 years. Most of that time was spent in clinical practice at the collegiate level providing patient care and serving as a preceptor for students completing clinical education requirements. "Those years were transformative to developing my clinical practice patterns as I worked with some stellar individuals. Andy Massey, at Appalachian State University, took a huge leap of faith hiring me straight out of graduate school to fill a prominent position on his staff. However, his confidence in me and the opportunity allowed me to grow exponentially."

Five years ago, Thornton transitioned into a teaching role in higher education. Her courses focus on teaching students how to work as part of an effective interprofessional team and to make sound patient-centered clinical decisions, both at the heart of being a strong clinician, in her opinion. Thornton is a 2021 graduate of the ATSU DAT program and is a huge proponent of the degree for all ATs, regardless of practice setting or job title. "Pursuing the DAT was a transformative professional experience. Being well into my career, I was inspired, motivated and pushed in ways that I had never experienced. Dr. Eric Sauers suggested that every AT is a clinician, researcher, and educator and this has forever changed the way I see myself and all others who choose to pursue athletic training." At HPU, Erica remains clinically active by providing limited athletic training services to HPU students who play on club sports teams. Her professional interests reside in every AT seeing themselves as a key in producing impactful research and using data to inform decisions.

Despite a tenured career, Erica reflects that her professional service has not kept pace as she would have liked. Erica's first dip into the athletic training service pool was as a BOC model, when the BOC exam still had a practical component. "Volunteering was always an interest, but I was unsure of the first step, how to join a committee plus I was always so busy....But in reality, I was no more busy than any of the other people in our state who volunteer and hearing how my DAT classmates and faculty were involved, I decided there were no more excuses."

Erica indicates she is a new(ish) member of the NC Program Development Committee and worked with other committee members to plan the 2020 Spring Symposium. "A quick email to Meredith Petschauer and I was on the committee." As a new voice she knows she has a lot to learn and is hopeful to grow the interest and attendance with contemporary topics and brainstorming different conference format ideas, despite the presence of Covid-19.

After NCATA VP Nina Walker's call for volunteers in the spring of 2020, Thornton recognized another opportunity to get involved. "Nancy Groh, Nina Walker, and Kevin King have been the brain trust of the NCATA PR Committee and have done an outstanding job. With their respective full-time jobs and responsibilities, I felt like there was no reason I could not be doing more." Thornton had previously volunteered at the NCATA Booth at the NC School Board Association Conference to raise awareness to these stakeholders and is excited to do more. "I have heard time and time again that most people are called to service because of impactful mentors. I may be late getting here, but I am hopeful to have an impact on the future generation of ATs about the importance of giving back to the profession."

Well and Safe Wishes

The NCATA DEI sends you "Well and Safe Wishes" as we approach the holiday season and an increase in positive COVID-19 cases. As part of this committee's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, we encourage you to search your head & heart to extend: *understanding + love = empathy* toward others with identities different from ourselves as we strive for a justice society, as we invite others to a seat at our table.

The committee would also like to introduce Ethan Williams as the new NCATA DEI Co-Chair. Ethan has been a member of the committee since its inception. North Carolina Athletic Trainers please join me in congratulating and thanking Ethan for stepping into this role.



Members Wanted!

The NCATA is seeking members for its newly formed Young Professionals' Committee! Any NCATA member who is in their first 8 years of certification is eligible to serve. This committee will be focused on service projects, young professional networking opportunities, and assisting with the state meeting. This is a great opportunity for YP's to get involved in leadership! Interested members should send their resume and a letter of interest to Mikaela Joseph, YP committee chair, at josephm@uncw.edu.



DRY NEEDLING COURSE SERIES 2021



COURSE 1: MAR 13-14
COURSE 2: MAY 15-16
FAYETTEVILLE, NC



COURSE 1: JUN 5-6
COURSE 2: JUL 24-25
ELON, NC



COURSE 1: SEP 18-19
COURSE 2: OCT 23-24
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Please contact Eric Hall for additional information.

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