**State Leaders Newsletter Content: September 2021**

**State Leadership Forum 2021 Recap**

The State Association Advisory Committee would like to thank everyone who was able to participate in this year’s State Leadership Forum. Even with it being an entirely virtual event for the second year in a row and a change in dates, we had great attendance of more than 200 registrants for the live event.

If you were unable to attend the 2021 State Leadership Forum but would still like to view the presentations delivered, they are available for download [HERE](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ac7u0505pmohkf0/AADieSHn-uqTBwjse2yVsff0a?dl=0).

**Welcome to the Newest Member of the Committee**

With the recent conclusion of the Division IV election to fill the open position left by in-coming SAAC Chair, Christina Emrich, the committee would like to take the opportunity to welcome the newest representative to the SAAC, Nina Walker, MA, LAT, AT of North Carolina.

Connect with SAAC to learn more about how the unique division structure represents your state. [READ MORE.](https://www.nata.org/professional-interests/state-leaders/connect)

**At Your Own Risk Needs Your Help**

As you may know, the At Your Own Risk team is working hard to rebuild their website. The new site will feature an interactive map with state specific landing pages to support your state association. Our hope is for this landing page to be a resource for you when advocating for the profession at the state level.

We need your help populating your state’s page! If you haven’t already, we kindly ask that you fill out the following Google Form: <https://forms.gle/i8Sdh3295GZQkRU38> . We need all 50 states (+DC) to fill out their information to ensure we have every state’s information.

**SAAC Award Winners Have Been Selected**

The State Association Advisory Committee is pleased to announce that recipients of the Excellence in Leadership Award and Emerging Leader Award were awarded during vSLF 2021. The winners of these awards are listed below:

Excellence in Leadership Award winners:

Yvette M Ingram, PhD, LAT, ATC

Reid K Takano, ATC

Garvin N Tsuji, MS, ATC

Emerging Leader Award winner:

Zach Garrett, DHSc, MHA, ATC

**Emerging Leader Document**

The guidelines presented in this document were based upon the collaboration of the NATA SAAC, EDAC, LGBTQ+AC, SLC, and YPC groups along with the best practices identified by each. The document outlines steps your association can take and scale to your state to 1) establish a strong culture of diversity and inclusion, 2) help your membership grow as leaders, and 3) create a pipeline to develop future association leadership. View the guidelines and full document **HERE**. <insert hyperlink to Emerging Leader Document>

**GAC Fall Webinar Series**

The NATA GAC will present a series of three interactive events where attendees will LEARN AND PRACTICE the basics of legislative and professional advocacy. Events will be held at 2pm CDT on the first Wednesday in September, October, and November

Zoom link: <https://nata.zoom.us/j/2791359905> Meeting ID: 279 135 9905

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 – 2pm central: “Legislators Demystified: Communicating AT Value”.

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 – 2pm central: “Day to Day Advocacy”.

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – 2pm central: “The Final Preparation: Handling Pressure in the Hot Seat”.