BOC, the recognized leader in credentialing and the only Athletic Trainer certifying body.
Letter from the BOC Board of Directors President and BOC Executive Director

We've had a successful 2013 – a year focused on raising the awareness of the public and regulators on the critical role ATs play in healthcare. We launched the “We've Got Your Kid's Back” awareness campaign, published the BOC Facility Principles document and testified in California in support of the licensing of ATs.

As always, we value the feedback on what you, our customers, need from us to enhance the professional development of ATs. We also welcome your suggestions on how we communicate information about complaints and discipline, as we pursue our mission to assure protection of the public.

Highlights:

- Continuing professional development and education
  - Began review of Level 1 Evidence Based Practice (EBP) courses for 2014-15 continuing education reporting period (13.5 CEs approved as of publication date)
  - Completed individual phone calls and emails to more than 26,600 ATs

- Collaboration
  - Published Joint Statement on Reporting Unregulated Practice with the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the National Athletic Trainers’ Association (NATA) and the NATA Research and Education Foundation
  - Provided data to the NATA Executive Committee on Education (ECE), a group that examines the professional degree for athletic training
  - Consulted with the World Federation of Athletic Training and Therapy (WFATT) in the development of global education standards
  - Facilitated conversations with the Canadian Athletic Therapy Association (CATA) and Athletic Rehabilitation Therapy Ireland (ARTI)
Standards of Practice and Discipline

- Published the BOC Facility Principles document
- Took the following actions in the enforcement of BOC Standards and Professional Practice:
  - Opened 248 discipline cases
  - Decided and/or closed 201 discipline cases
  - Issued emergency suspensions to six ATs because of the potential danger to the public

Regulatory Affairs

- Testified in California in support of SB 864
- Hosted the 6th biennial State Regulatory Conference
- Launched the State Regulatory Network to foster communication among AT Regulatory Board members and staff

Awareness

- Launched public awareness ad series

The BOC Board of Directors and staff are committed to providing you with timely information that we trust will be beneficial to you as a practitioner, educator, BOC Approved Provider or member of the public and regulatory community. The BOC provides products and services to promote continued individual improvement through educational resources, Approved Provider programs, self-assessments and CE monitoring with the goal of providing the highest quality healthcare to our patients, while assuring the protection of the public.

Susan McGowen, PhD, ATC  
BOC Board of Directors President

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE  
BOC Executive Director
Vision of the BOC:
To be the worldwide leader in credentialing

Mission of the BOC:
To provide exceptional credentialing programs for healthcare professionals to assure protection of the public

The Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) has been responsible for the certification of Athletic Trainers (ATs) since 1969. The BOC was the certification arm of the professional membership organization the National Athletic Trainers’ Association (NATA) until 1989 when it became an independent non-profit organization to provide a certification program for entry-level ATs. The BOC establishes and regularly reviews both the standards for the practice of athletic training and the continuing education requirements for BOC Certified ATs.

The BOC has the only accredited certification program for ATs in the US. Since 1982, the BOC has been continuously accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the BOC must undergo review and reaccreditation every five years. The NCCA is the accreditation body of Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE). In 2013, we served more than 45,000 ATs.

Member of the Better Business Bureau
The BOC has been a BBB Accredited Business since 2010. Accreditation in BBB is by invitation to companies that, at a minimum, have been in business for at least one year, have demonstrated sound business practices and meet the BBB accreditation standards. To be accredited by the BBB, an organization affirms that it meets and will abide by the standards of building trust, advertising honestly, telling the truth, being transparent, honoring promises, being responsive, safeguarding privacy and embodying integrity.
BOC Initiatives

• Attended and exhibited at the NATA 64th Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia in Las Vegas, Nevada. BOC Director of Credentialing Services Shannon Leftwich, MA, ATC; BOC Board President Susan McGowen, PhD, ATC; and Rob Sandmann, Med, ATC, LAT, of Texas Orthopedic Associates, presented “You Can’t Make This Stuff Up! Professional Responsibility Case Studies.” The meeting drew more than 15,000 attendees.

• Celebrated National Athletic Training Month in March. The BOC invited local ATs to our headquarters for a luncheon, which featured a proclamation by Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle. BOC Executive Director Denise Fandel and Athletic Trainer Director-Elect Rusty McKune also made remarks.

• Collaborated with the leadership of the Strategic Alliance to issue joint statements on reporting unregulated practice and on the process for examining athletic training’s professional degree requirements. Members of the Strategic Alliance include the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the National Athletic Trainers’ Association (NATA), the NATA Foundation and the BOC.

• Completed a phone campaign to inform ATs about recertification changes. Between March 2012 and November 2013, BOC staff members called more than 26,600 ATs to personally discuss the new recertification requirements and answer questions.

• Contacted more than 1,100 BOC Approved Providers to share information on staff transitions, upcoming requirements in Evidence Based Practice continuing education and benefits of the Approved Provider program.
• Convened the sixth **Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference** July 12-13, 2013, in Omaha, Nebraska. The conference addressed state regulatory trends and issues, as well as explored the roles that the BOC, NATA and CAATE play in the regulatory process. The BOC welcomed more than 100 attendees, including ATs and members of state regulatory agencies and state associations.

• Created the **BOC Facility Principles** document, which provides educational institutions and organizations with the means to self-assess their policies, procedures and facilities to ensure the safe, effective and legal provision of athletic healthcare services.

• Developed an online portal called the **State Regulatory Network**. The network, designed to foster communication between stakeholders in athletic training regulation, was established as a result of feedback gathered at the Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference.

• Enhanced marketing opportunities for **BOC Approved Providers** by offering advertising space in **Cert Update** and on the BOC website.

• Honored BOC volunteers at our yearly reception and presented six **Dan Libera Service Awards** and one **Paul Grace Leadership Award**. At a separate reception, the BOC honored three recipients of the **Public Advocacy Award**.

• Initiated a marketing campaign to promote awareness of the athletic training profession. The campaign, called **“We’ve got your kid’s back,”** emphasized the role of Athletic Trainers in keeping youth athletes safe.

• Introduced a new publication, the **PD Update**. This biannual e-newsletter targets Program Directors and provides news on the BOC exam, accreditation, student education and more.
• Launched sqOne™, an online tool for members of the Exam Development Committee to develop items for the BOC exam. The committee developed more than 400 new exam items.

• Published a blog series about ATs working with their College World Series teams. Because the BOC is headquartered just blocks from the CWS ballpark, visiting ATs were invited to the BOC office for refreshments and to share stories about their work.

• Published the first entries of a blog series called, “Ethics in Action.” The ongoing series examines ethical questions faced by ATs. It is written by Kimberly Peer, EdD, ATC, FNATA, an associate professor at Kent State University.

• Unveiled a redesigned website at www.bocatc.org. Last updated in 2010, the new website features tabs specific for Candidates, ATs, Educators and BOC Approved Providers for easier navigation. We matched our new look and feel to express strength, knowledge, authority and presence in the athletic training community both in the US and globally. For developing the website, the BOC received the Paper Anvil Award of Merit in the “Public Relations Tactics: Digital” category from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Nebraska Chapter.
2013 Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference

The BOC convened the sixth Athletic Trainer Regulatory Conference July 12-13, 2013, in Omaha, Nebraska. More than 100 people attended, including ATs and members of state regulatory agencies and state associations. Attendees represented 44 states and the District of Columbia.

The conference is designed to create a communication network among state Athletic Trainer leaders and state regulatory boards. Program topics are appropriate for audiences with a vested interest in athletic training regulation, leadership and public protection.

Topics and speakers included:

- Updates from Leading Organizations – Mike Chisar (NATA GAC), Russ Richardson (NATA ECE), Mark Laursen (CAATE) and Susan McGowen (BOC)
- Public Awareness Strategy: Empowering Consumers to Seek Licensed Professionals – Cynthia Miller Murphy
- Effective Management of Consumer Complaints – Donna Mooney
- BOC Presentation: Discipline – Rob Sandmann
- Association and Board Relations – Rusty McKune, Chad Kinart, Ron Carroll and Jason Cates
- Introduction to Ethics – Kim Peer
- Ethical Responsibility Roundtables – Kim Peer
- Case Study: How Athletic Training Boards Should Educate and Oversee the Actions of the Profession as it Relates to Over-the-Counter Medication within the Athletic Training Practice Setting – Jim Porter
- Concussion and Sport Safety Legislation: An Analysis of Existing Laws and Future Regulatory Trends – John Parsons
- States’ Rights and Immunity vs. Federal Anti-Trust Prerogatives – Amy Richardson

Event Co-Chairs

Dave Montgomery of Nebraska and Kurt McClurg, ATC, of Ohio were Co-Chairs of the Advisory Panel that assisted with planning the event.
Public Advocacy Award Honorees

Greg Rose, left, of the Kentucky Athletic Trainers’ Society, accepts the Public Advocacy Award on behalf of Kentucky State Rep. Joni Jenkins from Kurt McClurg.

Lisa Walker, an AT from Utah, accepts her award from Dave Montgomery.

Louise Inafuku, President of Hawaii Athletic Trainers’ Association (HATA), accepts the award on behalf of HATA from Dave Montgomery.

Conference Sponsors

Gold Sponsor: Mutual of Omaha
Silver Sponsor: Johnson & Johnson
Program Sponsor: E Creative
Contributing Sponsor: Regal Awards & Advertising Specialties

Conference Reviews

“Nice to have all of these representatives of these areas all in one room!”

“Cannot wait to go back in 2015! The best conference I have been to in years!”

“Beautiful job of synthesizing info from States - I hope this gets published somewhere.”

“Excellent meeting, with great information.”

“Really made me interested in seeing what our state laws are and if we are in compliance!”
BOC Community Involvement

The BOC has continued to support the Food Bank for the Heartland this past year. Throughout the summer months, staff and their families took “ownership” of one of the Food Bank for the Heartland’s produce stands. The produce stand was available every Wednesday from June to August from 5:00-6:00pm. Various produce such as watermelons, carrots and green peppers were donated by farmers, local gardens and grocery stores for volunteers to organize, bag and distribute. Individuals and families in the community were able to select fruits and vegetables to make healthy meals and snacks. BOC staff enjoyed distributing the free produce, which was provided regardless of income. It was such a success that the BOC will support the effort again next summer.

In December, the BOC’s Holiday Open House supported the Food Bank for the Heartland. Attendees donated food and funds, while the BOC contributed $10 per person. In all, the event raised $690.

About 21,900 people in Food Bank for the Heartland’s service area receive emergency food assistance in any given week. To learn more about Food Bank for the Heartland, visit www.foodbankheartland.org.
Exam Report

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Candidates Certified</td>
<td>3,098</td>
<td>3,198</td>
<td>3,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam Applications Processed and Approved</td>
<td>3,463</td>
<td>2,768</td>
<td>3,825</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reinstatement Applications Processed and Approved</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>172</td>
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</table>

**Reinstatement by Exam:** Thirty-six individuals sat for the exam to be reinstated in 2013, and 31 passed the exam, for an overall pass rate of 86%.

Individuals who allow their certification to lapse have options to reinstate their certification. The requirements for a successful return to Certified status are based on the total number of years the individual’s status has been expired. In general, candidates for reinstatement must demonstrate that they have completed the required continuing education (CE) requirements while their status was expired or pass the BOC exam. For reinstatement details, visit the BOC website, [www.bocatc.org](http://www.bocatc.org).

CE Report

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certified ATs</td>
<td>39,167</td>
<td>41,670</td>
<td>45,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of New Certifieds for the Year</td>
<td>3,098</td>
<td>3,198</td>
<td>3,531</td>
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</table>

**Number of Certified ATs (2009-2013)**

![Graph showing the increase in the number of certified ATs from 2009 to 2013]
Protecting the Public

The Professional Practice and Discipline (PP&D) Committee is responsible for the oversight and adjudication of the BOC Standards of Professional Practice, which consists of the Practice Standards and the Code of Professional Responsibility. The PP&D Committee has jurisdiction over all BOC Certified ATs and both current and prospective BOC exam applicants. The BOC Standards of Professional Practice and Professional Practice and Discipline Guidelines and Procedures can be viewed on the BOC website at www.bocatc.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approved Provider Report</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Providers</td>
<td>1,229</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>1,285</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Providers</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Study Courses Approved</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>328</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providers Audited</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>145</td>
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</table>

Discipline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Disciplines</th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPD Cases Opened</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPD Cases Closed</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Suspensions</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evidence Based Practice is "Patient-Centered"

Continuing education (CE) process requires the involvement of the Standards Committee Chair, Mark Doughty, in ensuring that all education materials are relevant and up-to-date. This involves critical analysis of topics such as evidence-based practice (EBP) and statistical decision-making. In addition, topics relevant to EBP, such as critical appraisal, are included to ensure that professionals have the ability to find and evaluate evidence, apply it to their practice, and integrate evidence, expertise, and patient-centered care. Kitty Newsham, PhD, ATC, encourages BOC Standards Committee members to consider that expectations can improve patient outcomes, clinical expertise, and patients' values and needs.

Utilizing the best available evidence, clinicians relative to their level of expertise can apply it to their practice. However, BOC approved providers are reminded that consistency among topics is key for Athletic Trainers (ATs) to identify whether a category when appropriate. All EBP category events, including live events and webinars, are based on current evidence and practice. BOC Approved Providers are encouraged to review their current listings of EBP. Second, EBP promotes the profession through diversity among topics encouraged in athletic health-care research, or evidence, and the consistent use of the BOC logo.

PD Update

In 2013, the BOC added a new publication, the PD Update, which targets Program Directors and provides news on the BOC exam, accreditation, student education, and more.
Volunteers

We thank the hundreds of volunteers who serve in various capacities. The contribution of volunteers such as BOC item writers, committee members and Board of Directors is critical in developing the high professional standards expected of today’s ATs.

2013 BOC volunteer accomplishments:

- Administered 4,862 certification exams
- Continually developed more than 400 new exam items for experimental testing
- Approved 328 home study courses

The continuous commitment to the development and administration of a quality certification program has produced a highly regarded program recognized as the gold standard for identifying entry-level athletic training professionals. We thank everyone for their service to support the growth and success of the BOC.

We thank you for your service!
An nine-member Board of Directors governs the BOC. There are six AT Directors, one Physician Director, one Public Director and one Corporate/Educational Director.

**Back Row:**
Sue Pereira, James Kinderknecht, Ed Christman, James Higgins, Frank Walters, Rusty McKune, Mindy Lindquist, Melissa Breazile

**Middle Row:**
Jan Vidlak, Anne Minton, Stacy Arrington, Peter Koehneke, Jan Lauer, Chad Kinart, Lorinda Horst, Kendra Aspegren

**Front Row:**
Shannon Leftwich, Stephanie Setlak, Denise Fandel, Susan McGowen, Jim Malseed, Amy DeRosa, Brittney Ryba, Jessica Roberts
A nine-member board of directors governs the BOC. There are six AT Directors, one Physician Director, one Public Director and one Corporate/Educational Director.

2013 BOC Board of Directors

**President/Athletic Trainer Director**  
Susan McGowen, PhD, ATC ('16)  
University of New Mexico, XMED, Inc. and Red Bull North America, Inc.  
Email: xmed@me.com

**Treasurer/Athletic Trainer Director**  
Jan Lauer, MA, ATC ('17)  
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**Athletic Trainer Director**  
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**Vice President/Athletic Trainer Director**  
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Email: fwalters@browardhealth.org

**Athletic Trainer Director**  
Erin Cramer, MS, PA-C, ATC ('15)  
Sublimity Medical Clinic  
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**Athletic Trainer Director**  
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**Public Director**  
Amy DeRosa ('17)  
Incremedical, LLC  
Email: aderosa@incremedical.com
Dan Libera Service Award

The BOC Dan Libera Service Award was established in 1995 in recognition of Dan's contributions to the BOC certification program. The award recognizes individuals who have shown dedication to the mission of the BOC. Long-standing contributions to the BOC’s programs are the primary criteria for the award. In 2013, we presented six Dan Libera Service Awards.

Jan Clifton
Kevin Ennis
Mike Ferrara
Bob Moss
Carol Moss
Wayne Wagner, posthumously

Dan was well-known throughout the nation for his enthusiasm and commitment to the profession of athletic training. Through his work at the University of Northern Colorado and his volunteer activities with the NATA and the BOC, he was able to pass on these traits to the students and colleagues who had the privilege to work with him.

Dan was a founding member of the Colorado Athletic Trainers’ Association, serving as secretary from 1979 until 1983. In addition, he held several offices in the NATA, including the District 7 Research and Injury Committee, the Membership Committee, the Board of Directors and the Board of Certification.

In 1995, Dan was inducted in to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame. In pursuit of educating others, Dan gave presentations throughout the country and served as a consultant to NIKE, Kodak of Colorado, the NCAA and several high schools in Colorado. In 1997, Dan was inducted in to the NATA Hall of Fame. Dan passed on August 2, 1997, from complications from ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease).
2013 Exam Development Committee

The Exam Development Committee is responsible for the development, construction and validation of each portion of the BOC certification exam and other assessment tools approved by the BOC Board of Directors.

Committee Chair
Jill Dale, MS, ATC ('13)
Orthopedic and Sports Therapy Associates, LLC
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Multiple-Choice Co-Chairs
Joseph Lueken, MS, LAT, ATC ('14)
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Email: jlueken@indiana.edu

Christine Odell, PhD, ATC ('13)
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Alternative Item Type Co-Chairs
Carol Moss, MA, AT, ATC ('13)
Albion College
Email: cmoss@albion.edu

Keith Wiedrich, MA, ATC ('13)
Minnesota State University Moorhead
Email: wiedrich@mnstate.edu
2013 Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee implements the process and procedures for nominating candidates for the BOC Board of Directors and chairs for the BOC standing committees.

Committee Chair
Julie Emrhein, ATC ('15)
California University of Pennsylvania
Email: emrhein@calu.edu

Athletic Trainer Members
Mark Cherwony, MSEd, MS, ATC ('13)
Cinnaminson Senior High School, Philadelphia Wings Indoor Lacrosse Team and Temple University
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David E Colt, EdD, ATC
MidAmerica Nazarene University
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Corey Oshikoya, ATC ('14)
Denver Broncos
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Sue Stanley-Green, ATC ('14)
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Ericka Zimmerman, ATC ('13)
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Email: erickazimmerman@ucwv.edu

Public Member
Paul DeMartinis ('14)
MedCo Sports Medicine
Email: pauld@medcosupply.com
2013 Professional Practice & Discipline Committee

The Professional Practice and Discipline Committee is responsible for overseeing and upholding the BOC Practice Standards and Policies.

Committee Chair

*Rob Sandmann, Med, ATC, LAT* (’14)
Texas Orthopedic Specialists
Email: rjsandmann@gmail.com

Athletic Trainer Members

*Cynthia Clivio, ATC* (’15)
Kamehameha Schools
Email: cyclivio@ksbe.edu

*Paul Higgins, DPT, ATC, CSCS* (’14)
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University Physical Therapy, LLC
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*Bernadette Olson, EdD, ATC* (’14)
South Dakota State University
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*Brian Razak, ATC* (’14)
University of New England
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Public Members

*Jerry Diehl* (’13)
Retired from National Federation of State High School Associations
Email: ndad22@gmail.com

*Jack McNeely, AT Ret.* (’14)
Retired Athletic Trainer
Email: jmcneely@tampabay.rr.com
2013 Standards Committee

The Standards Committee recommends entry-level and continuing education requirements and policies to the BOC Board of Directors and reviews relevant issues at the Board's request. Additionally, the Standards Committee reviews the Code of Professional Practice and recommends any revisions to the Board of Directors.

Committee Chair
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Athletic Trainer Members
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Katherine Newsham, PhD, ATC ('13)
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John Parsons, PhD, ATC ('13)
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Public Member
John Knote ('13)
Retired Physician
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2013 Continued Professional Development Working Group

The CPD Working Group was formed in 2011 to provide the recommendations to the BOC Board of Directors relative to current trends in professional development.

Group Leader
Gail Samdperil, EdD, MAT, ATC, LAT, Chair
Sacred Heart University

Nina Walker, ATC
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Jenna Street, MS, ATC, PES
US Olympic Committee

Matt Rothbard, ATC
Southern Connecticut State University

Gwen Hyatt, MS
DSW Fitness, Inc

John Parsons, PhD, ATC
AT Still University

John Hauth, EdD, ATC
East Stroudsburg State University
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Brittney Ryba
Communications and Marketing Coordinator
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Email: BrittneyR@bocatc.org
VISION OF THE BOC
To be the worldwide leader in credentialing

MISSION OF THE BOC
To provide exceptional credentialing programs for healthcare professionals to assure protection of the public

The BOC, a national credentialing agency, has been certifying Athletic Trainers and identifying, for the public, quality healthcare professionals with certainty since 1969. Currently, there are more than 40,000 BOC Certified Athletic Trainers.