

September 25, 2020

Dear Karen,

Please consider this a formal letter of interest for the treasurer position on the executive board of the Missouri Athletic Trainers Association.

Over my career, I have had the amazing opportunity to work in a variety of settings. From working in a high school, both outreach and in-house, to the college level D-III and D-I and working within a physical therapy clinic. In addition to these professional opportunities, I continue to serve as the District Five Representative to the Professional Responsibility in Athletic Training Committee. These experiences would allow me to see multiple perspectives, network with people with a wealth of knowledge and would provide value, if elected, to our members.

The central theme for why I am interested in the president-elect office is advocacy and empowerment. I believe that now that the practice act has been updated, we need to move to put information into the hands of our members. As leaders in this state, I would like to explore providing our members with the tools to advocate for their value and skill set, regardless of setting. I would like to see third-party reimbursement come to full fruition. It is also important to explore other avenues for employment for our members. Finally, I want to provide employers with information that allows for their administrators to understand that as health care providers we don't need to be furloughed but instead can continue to perform other health care related duties.

During the ongoing CoVid-19 pandemic, a number of our colleagues continue to be either furloughed or are unemployed. Budgets across the state will continue to shrink and our members need to have the information that they need to demonstrate their value, as healthcare providers and employees. Administrators need to have data to support their positions, when defending jobs. It would be really hard to eliminate a position that is demonstrating a significant savings, to either a business partner or an organization. We need to show our members how to collect that data.

Third-party reimbursement would be another way to allow our members to demonstrate their worth. Third-party reimbursement can be a delicate and complicated process. Understanding the intricacies of this process is vital for athletic trainers to prove their worth. Continuing to fight for our ability to bill for our services, need to be explored and successes need to be touted.

Our skill set is everchanging. With the CAATE's update to their standards, athletic trainers are going to be even better educated health care providers. Do our employers understand the diversity of our skill set? Do our constituents understand our value and worth? Do the members of MoATA know how to start these conversations? Have we empowered them with

the information that they need to be successful advocates for their position and the profession?

It is for these reasons above that I seek to be elected as treasurer. I look forward to serving the membership in a constructive way and empowering our members to reach the heights that they choose to.

Sincerely,

Kevin Stalsberg MS, LAT, ATC