



FREE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER

Term Start: **June 2024**

Term: Three (3) year term, starting and ending in June, once renewable

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Terminal degree
- ATC, BOC, NPI number
- Member of NATA
- Accepted Free Communications abstract in the last 2-3 years.
- Looking for individuals with expertise in each of the following areas:
 - Concussion and/or cervical spine injuries
 - Upper extremity injuries and therapeutic exercise
 - Professional development and/or pedagogy, qualitative and/or mixed methods
 - Lower extremity biomechanics, biomedical imaging, and/or long term-term outcomes post ACL injury

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

Applicants must submit a curriculum vitae that includes evidence of the requirements.

Applicants must submit a cover letter that includes their identified area of expertise, and describes their potential value to the committee in terms of research methods, content knowledge, contribution to science, contribution to the athletic training profession.

All applications must be submitted no later than **December 1, 2023** to the NATA Foundation, via the online submission link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FreeComm24>

The Foundation creates, fosters, and advances a culture that values diversity, equity, and inclusion in all its activities. Our stakeholders come from all walks of life and so should we. We want committed people from a wide variety of backgrounds involved with the Foundation's leadership and programs. Our mission and stakeholders are best served when people bring a variety of views and backgrounds together to advance our strategic priorities. Please join us.

Please direct questions about the position to:

Kathryn LaLonde (Programs and Projects Manager) at kathrynl@nata.org

About the Free Communications Committee

Overview and Mission: The Free Communications program provides a forum for researchers and clinicians to disseminate original research and clinical case studies. Abstracts selected by the Free Communications Committee are published in the Supplement to the Journal of Athletic Training and are presented at the NATA Annual Meeting via oral or poster presentations. The mission of the Free Communications Program is to advance the discovery, dissemination, and application of scientific knowledge in athletic training domains through written and oral forum.

Primary Goals and Objectives: The primary objective of the Free Communications Committee is to solicit and review original abstracts for inclusion in the Free Communications program. Furthermore, the Free Communications Committee

plans the Free Communications program, identifies newsworthy abstracts, and distributes awards for exemplary abstracts among investigators across the research spectrum. Specific committee goals and objectives include:

1. To provide a forum to disseminate high quality original research to athletic trainers.
2. To facilitate the publication of Free Communications abstracts in professional journals.
3. To recognize exemplary Free Communications abstracts submitted by people across the career spectrum through awards, oral presentations, press releases, newsletters, social media, or other media coverage.
4. To recognize Free Communications abstracts funded by the Foundation through presentations, press releases, newsletters, social media, or other media coverage.
5. To encourage abstract submitters and presenters to address translation and clinical utility of findings (e.g., provide clinical take-home messages).
6. To encourage abstract submitters and presenters to develop content for a clinical audience.
7. To provide leadership and professional development opportunities through providing opportunities to present and moderate sessions.