

## Biography

**Name and credentials:** Bonnie L. Van Lunen, PhD, ATC, FNATA

**Current Employment:** Professor and Chair, School of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training,  
Director, Post-Professional Athletic Training Program, Old Dominion University  
Director, Health Services Research Doctoral Program, Old Dominion University

### History with accreditation and Athletic Training Education:

- Site Visitor (Chair and Team Member roles) since 1994
- Conducted professional and post-professional (degree and residency) visits
- Subject Matter Expert for the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Competencies (Evidence-Based Practice)
- Post-Professional Athletic Training Program Director for 18 years
- Chair of Post-Professional Education Review Committee (2006-2012) (Program Review, Formulated Post-Professional Residency Standards)
- Member of Post-Professional Education Committee (2010-2013) (2016-present)
- At Large Member for Executive Council on Education in Athletic Training (2010-2013)
- CAATE Post-Professional Transition Team Leader (2012-2014) (Transitioning all Post-Professional processes to the CAATE, Leading Team in Standards Revision for Post-Professional Degree Programs)
- CAATE Review Team (July 2013 – present)
- Taught coursework with professional (Canisius College for 3 years) and post-professional programs (UT-Chattanooga for 1 year, ODU for 18 years)
- Grant reviewer and writer
- Manuscript reviewer, Editorial Board Member – JAT, ATEJ, JSR, JAT
- Teach spring course to graduate students which encompasses the CAATE professional and post professional standards and the issues within accreditation

### Personal Philosophy Statement for candidacy:

The duties described within the CAATE Commissioner announcement are related to previous tasks that I have been associated with. The accreditation process is the gateway for athletic training programs and also is an instrumental route which leads students towards the content and experiences that define athletic training. The CAATE advertises that it is transforming the profession through quality education. Through my experiences as a site visitor I have been able to witness first-hand the effects of accreditation, and the process reiterates the fact that constant evaluation and assessment are essential in determining action plans for the future. As a commissioner I believe that one must know all levels of athletic training accreditation in order to define where it is we need to be and go. Knowing what we know now assists us with planning where we need to make our next steps, and this can only be done by researching information that is available and listening to those that live the life on a daily basis. The CAATE commissioners should be individuals who can examine the 30,000 foot view of athletic training, and use that information to be visionary. At the end of the day, we must be confident in the decisions

that have been made; therefore the processes used to make these decisions must be clear, transparent, and well developed.

**Contributions to the future success of the CAATE:**

The future success of the CAATE depends upon the individuals who work within the walls of the organization, as well as those who institute the processes in real life. I believe that I can assist the CAATE with discussions surrounding Standards content, special certifications, and clinical education requirements within professional programming, and advanced clinical practice requirements within post-professional programming at the degree and residency level. Many of these discussions are currently taking place, but some long range planning will be needed. At the professional level I am particularly interested in examining clinical education in order to determine what metrics help to gauge clinical progression and advancement towards autonomous clinical practice that results in effective patient outcomes. At the post-professional level I am interested in restructuring the Standards to continue to align with the degree and residency programs. Additionally, I am interested in growing the residency programs and examining the possibilities related to competencies for each area of focus within athletic training. My leadership roles nationally within the NATA and the CAATE have prepared me for this, and my directorship role at Old Dominion University has certainly provided me with the opportunity to develop programming and understand degree change. I pride myself in being an attentive listener, while also having the confidence to make decisions that were formulated following careful examination of the issues. I will also ask the tough questions when needed and continue to pursue the issues that are important to athletic trainers and their students.