



In February 2021, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) leadership gathered to conduct our strategic planning. It is unfortunate we couldn't meet in person, but given the multistep process that spanned several months, we were able to come together virtually and achieve excellent results.

For the first time, we included our committee chairs and invited guests to participate. The result was a strategic plan that will define our focus for the next three years. These are the goals we established for the CAATE.

The first goal related to organizational excellence focuses on our internal operations. The purpose of this goal is to enhance our governance structure and build the foundation that will position us to more effectively achieve goals two through five. Within goals two through five, there is an enhanced focus on connection and engagement with our stakeholders.

When there is much change, there is much opportunity. We are very excited to present these goals, the thought and lengthy consideration they represent, and for the work that lies ahead.

## OUR MISSION

Serving the public and profession by establishing and ensuring compliance with accreditation standards that facilitate quality outcomes, continuous improvement, innovation and diversity to enhance athletic training education.

## OUR VISION

Advancing clinical practice and improving health care outcomes through promotion of excellence in athletic training education.

## OUR VALUES

Accountability • Transparency • Integrity • Excellence • Leadership • Collaborative

## ABOUT US

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the CAATE is the sole accreditor for athletic training (AT) programs in the United States, serving nearly 400 professional, post-professional and residency programs.

More than 4,600 AT faculty are associated with CAATE accredited programs. Each year, more than 3,500 athletic training students graduate from CAATE accredited programs and become certified athletic trainers.

Learn more at [www.caate.net](http://www.caate.net).

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### **Goal 1: Sustainability & Organizational Excellence**

**Continually strive toward organizational excellence.**

Strategic Objectives:

- Review and redefine the CAATE's governance culture, structure and processes (#1 priority)
- Align CAATE policies and procedures with CHEA recognition standards
- Develop an overall CAATE assessment plan
- Implement leadership recruitment and development efforts aimed at strengthening the volunteer base and improving the diversity of CAATE committees, peer reviewers and Commissioners
- Focus on the financial health and sustainability of the CAATE based upon the projected sustainability of existing AT programs



### **Goal 2: Quality Assurance, Improvement & Innovation**

**Ensure continuous quality assurance, quality improvement and innovation across accredited athletic training programs.**

Strategic Objectives:

- Foster programmatic excellence in quality assurance, quality improvement and innovation
- Support quality improvement in accreditation processes
- Establish a culture of CHEA awareness and compliance



### **Goal 3: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

**Foster the CAATE's commitment to equitable representation for all, including students, faculty, staff and stakeholders.**

Strategic Objectives:

- Identify and eliminate structural and process barriers to success across AT education
- Develop an understanding/benchmark of the current state of DE&I within the CAATE and CAATE accredited programs
- Develop programming to assist programs in recruiting and retaining diverse faculty, students and preceptors

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (CONT'D)



### Goal 4: Residency & Fellowship Program Growth

**Grow accredited residency and fellowship programs.**

Strategic Objectives:

- Assure that our standards lead to the development of clinical specialist and sub-specialists
- Facilitate the development of new fellowship and residency programs
- Ensure that accredited residency and fellowship programs have the same recognition and protection as professional programs
- Examine and address the way the CAATE is and can continually engage stakeholders



### Goal 5: Recognition of the Profession

**Aid in the promotion of athletic training as a health care profession comprised of diverse, competent and highly educated professionals.**

Strategic Objectives:

- Collaborate strategically with partners to support the message of athletic training as a healthcare profession
- Articulate the value of accreditation
- Communicate the value of AT accreditation to others in the health care space (accreditor to accreditor)

## STRATEGIC PLAN CHAMPIONS

The CAATE thanks those who are taking a leadership role in moving these goals forward, including:

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