



My name is William "Bill" Ankrom and I am from the Southwest Region in PATS. I have a long work history in the Pittsburgh region working as a certified athletic trainer. My longest tenure has been with UPMC Sports Medicine which began in 1994 up to my most recent professional adventure in academia with the University of Pittsburgh.

My interest in the profession, like many others, stemmed from my participation in high school athletics. The most impactful moments that fueled my interest in the profession were seeing my high school football teammates play with untreated injuries. During my senior year, a close friend in football camp was sidelined for a massive blister on the plantar surface of his foot. He kept trying to participate in practice but the loss of skin from his new shoes was intolerable. My mind was consumed with wanting to help him get back on the field as it seemed that there had to be a simple solution to help him, but we practiced on as he watched from the sideline. The season progressed with many untreated injuries on the team, many were serious. One injury of significance was a femur fracture that occurred on the practice field. We stood, watched and waited as an ambulance arrived to help our teammate as he was lying on the field in extreme pain. This was in 1988 in rural Greene County. We did not have access to a healthcare provider in athletics. Much has changed in the district. The school now has an athletic trainer. I am truly grateful, especially as my own children participate in athletics within this school district.

My professional path began at California University of PA where I earned my BS degree in 1994. After working for a few years, I returned to graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh in 1998 earning my MS Degree in Sports Medicine. My early years of clinical practice occurred in the secondary school settings, several large high schools in the Pittsburgh region. However, my most rewarding experience was my graduate assistantship position (1998-2000) through the University of Pittsburgh treating athletes in two schools within the Pittsburgh Public School System. In my 20 years working for UPMC Sports Medicine, most of my time was in an administrative or managerial position which occurred through professional promotions. In 2015, I accepted my current, full-time faculty position at the University of Pittsburgh in the BS- Athletic Training Education

Program. I work as an Instructor and Clinical Education Coordinator within the Sports Medicine and Nutrition Department in the School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences.

Over these working years, I have been involved professionally in different ways through PATS and NATA. I make a personal, concerted effort to attend the NATA Clinical Symposia and AT Expo annually. Within PATS, I have served on the COPA Committee the past 6 years and have been the County Delegate for Greene County, my home territory, for the last 8 years. My recent appointment as the Southwest Representative serving on the PATS Board of Directors has been a personally satisfying and rewarding experience. I encourage everyone to find a way to contribute to the organization, it is ours to improve.

If re-elected as the Southwest Representative, my goals are simple for the region: to promote the mission and vision of our organization, communicate PATS related activities and initiatives to you the members, engage and work with each of the County Delegates to address the local needs and to create educational opportunities for members within the region.

Outside of my professional life, I am a father of two beautiful young girls, and married to Amy, my wife, for over 21 years. We live in a small rural town along the Monongahela River in Greene County. We have two dogs and a cat who are also part of our family. I am an avid outdoorsman. I enjoy fishing, hunting and boating on the river. I am very active in my church, I serve as an elder and as a youth group leader. The balance of my personal time is usually consumed by family activities, assisting with coaching athletics, remodeling projects or attending my children's athletic events as a spectator.