



Hello, my name is Scott R. Dietrich, I am an assistant professor at East Stroudsburg University and I've served as the northeast regional representative since 2008.

I was inspired by my high school athletic trainer George "Speed" Ebersole who took me under his wing after a season ending wrestling injury my sophomore year. I was drawn to this profession by how much respect everyone had for Speed, coaches, teachers and administrators all came to speed for help with their injuries. There were only two air conditioned rooms in our high school the library and the athletic training room. I was also inspired to serve simply by watching the many other ATs I learned from - Joe Hazzard, Ellen West, Joe Godek, and Robb Williams all served PATS in some way. Although I never really saw myself as having the right stuff to be a board member it still seemed like it was something everyone was supposed to do.

There were several defining moments that let me toward my involvement in PATS, but I'll never forget working a wrestling tournament with Speed in 1994 and a youngster went down holding his knee; as speed and I approached there was a nurse and a dental hygentist arguing over what to do while the boy writhed in pain - Speed yelled at these folks to "get back and let me do my job." Much later on, in college or graduate school I found out that although he served our school for over 20 years, he did not get paid.

I helped with the NEPA scholarship run for one year then I ran for the Rep Position after Greg Janik became president elect.

There is a daily commitment of 30-45 minutes of checking email and communicating with ATs in my region and other PATS committee members etc. During the month of March, April, May I spend about 15-20 hours each week during those months organizing, and preparing for Hike to Harrisburg, Scholarship Race, and the Annual meeting.

I serve and communicate the concerns of members in my region to the board. Secondly, I am the Rep responsible for honors and awards and college and university, and I chair the sustainability committee.

These tasks are consistent with my typical daily responsibilities as a faculty member. Shortly after being elected to office, my wife Wendy (ESU clinical Athletic Trainer) shared a beautiful surprise that we were pregnant, with our son Devin. Neither of us saw ourselves as capable parents (sound familiar); but life is what happens when you are busy making other plans; I've always been a family first kind of guy, so it's hard to leave my young boys behind to attend the four face to face meetings. I am also frustrated that Wendy is unable to attend PATS meetings, and have things for family members to enjoy. I believe Wendy would be a tremendous leader for PATS, but at least at this point we have not evolved to accommodate members with young families who are both willing to serve in leadership positions.

Even with these few challenges; the benefits of serving PATS far exceeds these limitations - I've grown tremendously as an AT and have a greater network of support within the profession, also have a greater understanding of the challenges faced by ATs in other settings. Most of all, and not to be missed, serving on the board is fun, when we are not debating the issues of the day we are usually poking fun at one another.