



# Arnold T. Bell Memorial EDAC Graduate Scholarship

The Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee (EDAC) of the Southeast Athletic Trainers' Association (SEATA) is proud and honored to announce the creation of the **Arnold T. Bell Memorial EDAC Graduate Scholarship** for an ethnic minority member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) enrolled as a full-time graduate student in SEATA. Dr. Bell was a long-time member of SEATA and advocate for higher education. He served as a Professor of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training at both Florida A&M University and Florida State University. This scholarship is dedicated to memorializing and honoring the numerous contributions to the profession of athletic training and his advocacy for ethnic diversity. Dr. Bell died in September of 2013.

## Arnold Tooson Bell, PhD, ATC, RPT



*" Dr. Bell was a great clinician, educator, and mentor. His quiet influences spread behind the classroom and fields of FAMU. His teaching touched many minority athletic trainers and physical therapists working around the country. I, and many of my colleagues, can personally attest to his teaching and mentorship which still have a positive impact on our careers today. This scholarship will provide opportunities for minorities within District IX to pursue sports medicine within the allied health profession."*

– Mr. Monroe Abram, ATC, mentee, colleague, and past Chair of the SEATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee (EDAC).

Born in Bronx, NY, Arnold graduated from Evander Childs High School and earned his bachelor's degree in Physical Education from Springfield College (MA). He continued his education by attaining a Master's in Exercise Science at Columbia University (NY), his Physical Therapy Certification at New York University, and finally his Doctorate in Higher Education from Florida State University. Dr. Bell was employed at Cleveland State University (OH); when, more than 30 years ago, he was recruited by Florida A&M University (FAMU) to establish its Physical Therapy Department.

In 1991, he became the first African American Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Sports Physical Therapy by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties. Dr. Bell also worked as an athletic trainer with the U.S. Olympic Committee. While at FAMU, he worked extensively in athletics and was recognized as Teacher-of-the-Year in 2000-2001 for the School of Allied Health. He received the Outstanding Physical Therapist Award from Springfield College PT Department in 2000 and he was a Bill Chisholm Award recipient in 2004. He also served as a NATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Council board member.

He was a 2003 inductee in the FAMU Sports Hall of Fame. He served diligently as a deacon and song director at the Springhill Road Church of Christ. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Lois C. Bell; daughters, Patrice L. Bell and identical twins, Antoinette N. and Anjane` C. Bell; brother, Maurice H. Bell and a host of other relatives and loving friends.

This \$2,000 Scholarship shall be awarded to an ethnic minority student member enrolled full-time in a graduate program and demonstrates academic achievement, financial need, and service. Graduate students who are either a NATA District IX (SEATA) member or a NATA member attending graduate school within District IX are encouraged to apply, with preference given to SEATA members. The recipient shall be pursuing either a master's or a doctorate degree in athletic training, or a related field. Scholarship Applications will be accepted beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> with a deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. The recipient is to be recognized at SEATA's annual Clinical Symposium and Members' Meeting.

Complete details and application can be found on SEATA's website at [www.seata.org/scholarships](http://www.seata.org/scholarships)



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## **Scholarship Recipient Selection Process:**

1. By August 1<sup>st</sup>: Announcement of SEATA Awards and Scholarships shall be made by SEATA MarCom Committee
2. Applications will be accepted until December 1<sup>st</sup>
3. Applications will be accepted by the SEATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee Chair who will be responsible for:
  - a. Collecting all applications and supporting documents; and to then organize into state-based file folders based on the applicant's respective college/university state.
  - b. Contacting the SEATA Secretary to verify each applicant's NATA membership status as each application is received.
  - c. By January 2, send each State Folder of all eligible applications (in alpha order) to each respective state committee member for consideration.
4. By January 7<sup>th</sup>, state committee members shall select one finalist application to represent their state and submit the student's name to the chair to be placed on the official committee ballot.
5. By January 10<sup>th</sup>, the EDAC Chair shall distribute the official ballot to the committee members. The chair is to attach the application and supporting documents of each state finalist.
6. By January 14<sup>th</sup>, EDAC shall have a committee conference call to discuss the ballot. Each state committee member will be given the opportunity to present their respective state finalist during the conference call discussion. Each committee member shall place a rating score for each finalist on the ballot and submit his/her ranking report/vote back to the chair who will then tabulate and confirm the committee's recommendation for the award.
7. By January 15<sup>th</sup>, the EDAC Chair shall email the SEATA President with the committee's recommendation for Executive Board approval.
8. Once approved by the EB, the EDAC Chair shall have the honor of notifying the scholarship recipient and inviting him/her to the Tim Kerin Honors and Award Ceremony at the annual CSMM.