

By the time this article goes to print we will be well into our fall academic term with our fall sport seasons coming to a close and our winter seasons getting under way. Each year brings new challenges on how to meet the needs of our diverse student bodies with dwindling resources. We are tested daily to strike a balance between our personal and professional lives. Unfortunately, that usually means there isn't much time left over for anything else. Often, items such as professional development get overlooked; although its impact can enrich both our personal and professional well-being.



Gary Broadhurst



One of my challenges this year is to stay engaged with our Executive Committee and hope in turn they reach out and connect with our membership throughout the year. We encourage our current members to set a goal to recruit at least one new colleague to the organization. In turn, optimistically, some of those new members will consider attending this year's National Convention at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas, Texas, on June 24-26.

NATYCAA is fortunate to be associated with three outstanding athletics associations that provide invaluable governance structures for two-year college student-athletes and the venues in which to compete in.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) is led by Executive Director Mary Ellen Leicht. It is the largest of the associations with more than 500 member colleges encompassing 24 regions. This year the NJCAA has provided its membership the opportunity to join NATYCAA via its online registration process. We hope this will allow more NJCAA institutions and athletics administrators to join our wonderful organization.

The California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCAA) is led by Executive Director Carlyle Carter. Its membership includes more than 100 two-year colleges with nearly 25,000 student-athletes participating annually. The CCCCCAA is committed to professional development and joins NATYCAA collectively as an organization.

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) is led by Executive Director Marco Azurdia. Its 35 member colleges are from the states of Oregon and Washington. Each NWAACC institution also is a member of NATYCAA.

NATYCAA is appreciative of the relationship that has been fostered with each of these associations and looks forward to working closely with them to promote the continued growth and development of two-year intercollegiate athletics and all those involved.

This year marks a special year for NATYCAA as we celebrate our 25th anniversary. In 1987, 10 prophetic leaders came together at the NACDA Convention with the belief that the issues athletics administrators deal with are not separated by divisions, or even two and four year colleges. Their idea was while the challenges facing intercollegiate athletics extend beyond divisional lines there was a need to narrow the focus to the specifics that were directly related to two-year college athletics. NATYCAA may never have been established without the vision of these 10 Founding Fathers; some of which are still active in the organization.

- Art Becker — Scottsdale Community College
- Bob Bottger — St. Louis Community College-Meramec
- Rex Brumley — Broward Community College
- Carlyle Carter — Penn State System
- Vin Cullen — Community College of Rhode Island
- Bob Dinaberg — Santa Barbara City College
- Russ Dippold — St. Louis Community College-Forest Park
- Rick Golas — Holyoke Community College
- L. William Miller — St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley
- Max VanLaningham — Dodge City Community College

We look forward to another exciting year as we celebrate 25 years of excellence and the challenges and opportunities that the future holds.

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