## **UNLV: Rebel Athletic Training Society NATM 2016**

By: Chely Arias and Brooke Petefish

National Athletic Training Month is the time when athletic trainers, students, and staff get the recognition they deserve. This year, the Rebel Athletic Training Society (R.A.T.S), from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas contributed to #NATM2016 by promoting our field at UNLV, partnering with Special Olympics of Nevada, designing and selling t-shirts and stickers that represented NATM. This gave R.A.T.S the opportunity to show the appreciation the organization has towards athletic trainers in the state of Nevada and all over the United States.

To start off NATM, our ATP was asked to set up a case in our Health Sciences Building along with a board to educate other students and faculty about the different aspects of athletic training. The case was able to inform students and staff about first-aid, rehabilitation, blood pressure and cranial nerve assessments. Our board proudly displayed our NATM 2016 poster along with information about our ATP. Throughout the month, R.A.T.S.' Secretary, Shanice Chedi, setup a student spotlight in which one student was featured daily. A photograph of the student at their clinical site was displayed along with their professional goals,



The case set up by the Rebel Athletic Training Society in the Health Sciences Building. From top to bottom: blood pressure, wound care, goniometry, stethoscope, reflexes, cranial nerve assessments, and rehabilitation exercises.



Junior, Ainsley Lovejoy, Student Spotlight during NATM 2016

aspirations, and the reason why they love athletic training so much.

Our volunteer event of the month was the Polar Plunge. R.A.T.S. members had a chance to volunteer with the Special Olympics of Nevada on March 12, 2016. There were different activities in which the athletes involved could participate in. Volunteered were responsible for various activities such as: mini golf, home run derby, hula hoop contest, corn hole, costume contest, and the Polar Plunge in which over 50 people participated in including multiple R.A.T.S. members. Athletic training was represented well during the Polar Plunge not only with R.A.T.S volunteering, but with participants taking pictures at the photo booth with the #NATM2016 sign.

NATM 2016 and R.A.T.S t-shirts were designed by the R.A.T.S. President, Brooke Petefish, to promote the profession and recognize all of the hard working athletic trainers. T-shirts were purchased by all students, staff, and preceptors to help expand the recognitions of athletic training. The t-shirts were noticeable all around campus and at all clinical sites away from UNLV including high schools and physical therapy clinics.



UNLV's R.A.T.S. taking a break from at the Polar Plunge to show NATM spirit!

(Front Row- Left to Right: Brandon Hamilton, Malia Russo, Shanice Chedi.

Middle Row- Left to Right: Vernice Ollano, Erica Capehart, Meghan Wonderling, Amie-Gayle Miran, Chely Arias, Brooke Petefish.

Back Row-Left to Right: Lindsay Renterias, Michael Smith, Andrew Martinez, Katie Draschner, Ainsley Lovejoy, Serena Bruhn, Kendell Sauter)



UNLV R.A.T.S. Executive Board members Front: Brandon Hamilton. Middle: Shanice Chedi, Chely Arias, Brooke Petefish. Back: Michael Smith



NATM 2016 "A safer approach to work, life, and sport"



Rebel Athletic Training Society T-shirts

Not only did R.A.T.S. want to have T-shirts to represent NATM, create stickers for our staff, students, and athletes to have. R.A.T.S' Vice-President, Michael Smith, along with two R.A.T.S. members, Lindsay Renterias and Albert Tinoco, designed three different stickers. Two of which were designed specifically for NATM 2016 and one designed to show the love athletes have for their athletic trainer. At one dollar each, stickers were highly sought out and quickly sold out within the first 3 days.

NATM 2016 is one to remember for the Rebel Athletic Training Society. The organization hopes to continue to share the knowledge of athletic training all around the community.



The R.A.T.S.' high in demand stickers that demonstrated not only NATM, but the love we have for our athletic trainers!