

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

## Danielle LaPergola of Neumann University

Clinical Rotations: Disney/ ESPN Wide World of Sports, Villanova University, Williamson College of the Trades, Immaculata University, Sun Valley High School and Malvern Preparatory School

Certifications and Credentials: American Red Cross CPR and First Aid for the Professional Rescuer



### Why did you want to pursue a career in athletic training?

Growing up my interests included sports, being healthy and helping others. While I was in middle school, I thought I wanted to be a personal trainer. During high school, I originally thought I wanted to become a physical therapist, but, after sustaining an injury I learned what an athletic trainer was and knew that was what I wanted to do. I realized that an athletic trainer didn't just tape ankles and give you ice bags. An athletic trainer is a person who is always there for you, whether it is for an injury or just someone to talk to. From that point on, I knew I wanted to be an athletic trainer and spend my time helping others.

### Where do you hope to see athletic training in 10 years?

In 10 years I hope to see athletic training appreciated by everyone, everywhere. Currently, our profession is young and still growing. We need to make sure we are advocating and teaching others more about what an athletic trainer is. People today are still unaware of what certified athletic trainers do and the intense program of study they are required to complete before they can become certified. I hope during my time as an athletic trainer I can help educate others about this profession and watch it continue to move in a positive direction.

### What are your career goals?

Shortly after becoming a certified athletic trainer I would like to earn my master's degree. I hope to publish research pertaining to injury prevention while working as a graduate assistant. After graduate school, I would like to work with Division I athletics and eventually transition to the high school setting, as I get older. I would also love to work with Team USA athletes at one of the Olympic training centers and at the actual Olympics.

### What do you hope to bring to the field of athletic training that may be unique or help improve the field?

I would like to bring more awareness and prevention of injuries to the field of athletic training. By the end of my career, I want to have helped to make athletic trainer a common household name. I want everyone to know what an athletic trainer is, what we do, and the importance of our profession.

### Being a leader and advocate for student athlete health services can be rewarding and challenging, how would you describe your leadership style?

I would describe my leadership style as a democratic. While leading a group, such as the athletic training club, I always ask my peers for their thoughts about the various service activities, fundraisers, and trips we plan to help increase our own knowledge and promote the profession of athletic training. My high school crew coach once told us "teamwork makes the dream work" and I firmly believe that. You can accomplish more with a group of people working together rather than one person working alone.



### What are your interests outside of athletic training?

Outside of athletic training, I like to spend my time on the lake, with my family and friends, waterskiing, wakeboarding, and barefooting. I also enjoy crossing tasks off my bucket list such as running a marathon and skydiving.

## PATS Committee Chairs

COMMITTEE ON PRACTICE  
ADVANCEMENT  
Jason Vian, LAT, ATC  
revenue@gopats.org

CONVENTION  
Elizabeth Gulich Evarts, LAT, ATC  
convention@gopats.org

CORPORATE RELATIONS  
Vacant  
corporatesponsorship@gopats.org

CONTINUING EDUCATION  
Jason Scibek, LAT, ATC  
continuingeducation@gopats.org

DIVERSITY  
Fafa Tsikata, LAT, ATC  
diversity@gopats.org

EDUCATORS  
Jody Russell, PhD, LAT, ATC  
education@gopats.org

ETHICS  
Shelly Fetchen DiCesaro, PhD, LAT, ATC  
ethics@gopats.org

FREE COMMUNICATION  
Aaron Hand, LAT, ATC  
freecommunications@gopats.org

FINANCE  
Jamie Mansell, PhD, LAT, ATC  
treasurer@gopats.org

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
Tanya Miller, MS, LAT, ATC  
governmentalaffairs@gopats.org

HALL OF FAME  
Yvette Ingram, PhD, LAT, ATC  
halloffame@gopats.org

HISTORY AND ARCHIVES  
Richard M. Burkholder, LAT, ATC  
Edwin "Sandy" Bush, MS, LAT, ATC  
historyandarchives@gopats.org

HONORS / AWARDS  
Mark Keppler, MS, LAT, ATC  
John Post, MBA, LAT, ATC  
honorsandawards@gopats.org

LONG RANGE PLANNING  
George Roberts, LAT, ATC  
presidentelect@gopats.org

MEMBERSHIP  
Lindsay Rice, MS, LAT, ATC  
membership@gopats.org

(continued on page 4)