

Suzette Nynas

MTATA Hall of Fame

Inducted 2022

Suzette Hackl Nynas completed a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training from South Dakota State University, Master of Science in Teaching and Learning from Northern State University, and began her career as an Athletic Trainer in the clinic/secondary school setting before moving to Montana in 2000. Suzette joined Montana Orthopedics and Sports Medicine as the Head Athletic Trainer for Rocky Mountain College, where she provided clinical care to patients and instructed courses in athletic training, wellness, and safety for six years.

Suzette's dedication to developing the skills of athletic training students led her to pursue a Doctorate of Education in Adult and Higher Education and College Teaching Certification from Montana State University and transition to clinical education instructor for Montana State University Billings. In 2009, Suzette joined the full time faculty at MSUB and became the Program Director for the Professional Masters Athletic Training Program. Suzette's leadership has been instrumental in developing a collaborative relationship with other Athletic Training Programs and her leadership is widely recognized, evidenced by her selection as Chair of the Department of Health and Human Performance at MSUB and appointment to department, school, and campus committees.

External organizations have also recognized Suzette's outstanding leadership, resulting in her selections as a site visitor for the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Convention Planning Committee, representative to the Board of Athletic Training Specialties Workgroup and NATA Executive Committee for Education, and Northwest Athletic Trainers' Association Meeting and Education Program Coordinator. Suzette has served the Montana Athletic Trainers' Association as secretary/treasurer and member of the State Meeting Planning, Honors and Awards, and Governmental Affairs Committees.

Suzette's outstanding service to the profession of athletic training and her dedication to exceptional educational experiences has been honored many times, including the Montana Center for Inclusive Education and Disability Support Services Faculty Award for Exceptional Support of Students with Disabilities, the MSUB Faculty Excellence Award, the NATA Athletic Trainer Service Award, and the NWATA Director Award and ElevATe Awards.

An active speaker and author, Suzette's research interests include cultural competence, critical thinking and pedagogy. Outside her work as an athletic training educator, Suzette serves her community through volunteer work and enjoys spending time with her family.