WSU Sport Management Taking Steps Toward Accreditation

Those of us who work in the WSU sport management program commonly tell people ours is one of the top sport management programs in the world. For the last eight years, we’ve had external confirmation of that top-caliber status through our certification by Sport Management Program Review Council (SMPRC) as one of roughly 20 institutions in North America with “approved” programs at both the bachelor’s and master’s levels.

A big change occurred in our field this summer. A more demanding and more comprehensive program review body, the Council on Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA), was established. COSMA unveiled its new standards in July, and WSU is among the first dozen institutions to sign on as charter members in the new organization.

We have already begun laying the groundwork for accreditation review by COSMA. It is a process that by definition takes some time, but we are well-positioned to meet the COSMA principles. Meanwhile, our previous status as having “approved” sport management programs stands.

WSU sport management students, alumni and other constituents rightfully expect excellence from our programs. The bar is being raised, and we are looking forward to meeting the new challenge.

-- Clay Stoldt

This is the first of a series of columns from sport management faculty and staff that will appear in The Sport Manager this year.
**Wanted:** New members to join the Sport Management Student Association, the WSU student group dedicated to sport management. SMSA is a group of your peers in the sport management program that meet in social and informational settings throughout the school year. SMSA activities typically include tailgates at WSU sporting events, guest speakers, group outings to games, watch parties and networking events with sport managers or program alumni.

The cost to join the organization is $20. All members get the official 2008-2009 SMSA T-shirt and receive information on sport management internships and job opportunities via e-mail every 7-10 days. Stop in to the sport management office (Heskett 109) to sign up.

All students are cordially invited to the SMSA bowling night on **Wednesday, Sept. 10.** The event will start at 6:30 p.m. at North Rock Lanes, located on Rock Road just north of 29th Street.

The Sport Management Student Association is hosting this event as a kick off to the 2008-2009 school year. Come out to bowl a few frames, see which of your classmates look groovy in bowling shoes and enjoy some free pizza and soda from AJ’s Sports Grill. $6.00 is all you'll need to get shoes and bowl all night.

Several students took the opportunity to sign up for Student Association membership at the bowling/pizza event.
Tentative Spring Semester Schedule in Place

The fall semester is just underway, but planning for the spring semester has already begun. The Department of Sport Management has announced a tentative spring semester schedule. It sets up as follows:

- SMGT 112: Introduction to Sport Management, MW 8-9:15 a.m.
- SMGT 210: Practicum, Experiential Assignment
- SMGT 426: Sport Public Relations, MW 8-9:15 a.m.
- SMGT 428: Sport Finance, MW 9:30-10:45 a.m.
- SMGT 462: Legal Aspects of Sport II, TTh 8-9:15 a.m.
- SMGT 466: Marketing Sport & Physical Activity, MW 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- SMGT 475: Sport in American Culture, TTh 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- SMGT 520: Sport Tournament & Event Management, M 4:30-6:55 p.m.
- SMGT 525: Sport Facility Management, MW 12:30-1:45 p.m.
- SMGT 545: Organization & Administration in Sport, TTh 9:30-10:45 a.m.
- SMGT 547A: Internship, Experiential Assignment
- SMGT 711: Structuring & Scheduling Sport Tournaments, Online
- SMGT 811: Sport in Society, W 7:05-9:45 p.m.
- SMGT 822: Communication in Sport, T 7:05-9:45 p.m.
- SMGT 828: Financial Management in Sport, W 4:30-6:55 p.m.
- SMGT 835: Legal Issues in the Profession I, T 4:30-6:55 p.m.
- SMGT 847: Internship, Experiential Assignment

This schedule is subject to revision prior to the start of registration. All students are encouraged to meet with their assigned advisor prior to enrolling. Spring registration is tentatively scheduled to begin Nov. 17.

Alumni Update

Congratulations to Tami Cutler (G 2002) and her husband Brandon on the birth of their new baby. Future Shocker Brett Lane Cutler was born July 28... Marshall Fey (G 2007) has been named as the assistant sports information director at Cal State University-Bakersfield... Mitch Germann (G 1998) is now serving as the vice president of business communications with Maloof Sports and Entertainment. MS&E is the umbrella brand for the Sacramento Kings, Sacramento Monarchs and ARCO Arena. ... Jason Kramer (G 2001) is now working as a senior account executive for Jayhawk Sports Marketing, an IMG division working with the University of Kansas... Tenille Matzek (UG 2002) is now working as the event coordinator at the Kansas Coliseum... Congratulations to Donovan Nelson (G 2003) and his wife Glynis on the arrival of a new baby and prospective future Shocker, Rigley Nelson... Dan Regan (G 2005) is now the director of sales and marketing for the National Center for Drug Free Sport in Kansas City... Mike Sandbo (G 2007) has been hired as the event coordinator for SMG in Tulsa, managing the BOK Center and Tulsa Convention Center... Travis Schlenk (G 1998) is working as an assistant coach with the Golden State Warriors... Keith Schobert (G 2005) has taken a new position as an event coordinator in the athletic department at Ole Miss... Zach Sweers, grad student, has been hired as the director of ticket sales/coordinator of the annual fund at Indiana University/Purdue University-Fort Wayne... Nick Taylor (G 2007) has been named to the U.S. wheelchair tennis team that will compete at the 2008 Paralympic Games Sept 6-17 in Beijing, China. Taylor won a gold medal at the 2004 Games in Athens, and he is coming off a doubles championship at the British Open this summer... Russell Wilkins (UG 2008) has been named as the assistant director for ticket operations in WSU Athletics.

Thanks to all our alumni for staying in touch. All sport management alumni are encouraged to submit updates to the Department of Sport Management by calling 316-978-5445 or by sending an e-mail to mary.myers@wichita.edu.
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LECTURERS AND OTHER FACULTY:  
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Greg Buell — Psychology of Sport  
Scott Crawford - Sport Public Relations  
John Lee — Sport Facility Management  
Mike McCoy — Sport Finance  
David Moses - Sport Law  
Martin Perline — Economics of Sport  
Chris Presson - Marketing Sport & Physical Activity  
Frank Rokosz - Structuring & Scheduling Sport Tournaments  
Steve Shaad — Sport Tournament & Event Management, Selling in the Sport Industry