



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Department of Sport Management

# THE SPORT MANAGER

Official Newsletter of the Department Sport Management

## New Mentorship Program Being Launched

A new mentorship program is being launched to enable WSU sport management students to develop professional relationships with department alumni working in areas of interest to the students. The program is a joint initiative of the Sport Management Alumni Association (SMAA) and the Sport Management Student Association (SMSA).

More than 100 students and alumni have already registered to participate. Mentor assignments will be made in April with the intent that mentees and mentors will connect this academic year and continue to remain in contact next fall. The SMAA Executive Committee is developing a plan that will guide participants to discuss a range of topics, including career goals, resumes, and cover letters.

The new program will benefit students by providing them with networking opportunities and insight into the profession. Alumni will benefit from the opportunity to “give back” as they share expertise and maintain their engagement with the department.

## Students, Faculty and Staff Help Manage NCAA Championships



Roughly 40 sport management students, faculty and staff members were involved in managing NCAA championship events last month.

APRIL, 2011

Vol. 12, issue 7

*In This Issue --*

*New Mentorship Program Being Launched*

*Students, Faculty and Staff Help Manage NCAA Championships*

*SMSA Members to Visit Several OKC Organizations*

*Mike Ross Wins College Award*

*Alumni Spotlight*

*Save The Date -- Saturday, April 30, 2011*

*Mark Vermillion Presents Research at St. Louis Conference*

Wichita's Intrust Bank Arena played host to the first and second rounds of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championships March 20 and 22. More than 35 **sport management students** served as part of the event management team. Sport management instructor Mike Ross served as the event's media coordinator, while administrative specialist **Mary Myers** and department chair **Dr. Clay Stoldt** also worked on the media services staff.

Earlier in the month, **Dr. Jeff Noble**, sport management instructor, served as part of the event management staff at the NCAA Division II Swimming and Diving Championships in San Antonio. Dr. Noble is a standing member of the championship staff, assisting with the event on an annual basis.

## 2011 Career Fair Successful

Contact Us:  
Sport Management Department  
Wichita State University  
Room 109 Heskett Center  
1845 Fairmount  
Wichita, KS 67260-0127

316-978-5445  
FAX: 316-978-5954  
[mary.myers@wichita.edu](mailto:mary.myers@wichita.edu)

## SMSA Members to Visit Several OKC Organizations

The SMSA will take its third annual trip to Oklahoma City April 8. In addition to the usual meeting with alumni and other staff members of the NBA Thunder franchise, students will also meet with sport managers from the RedHawks and Barons organizations.



More than 40 students and staff will make the trip. Their first stop will be RedHawks Field, home of the triple-A affiliate of the Houston Astros, where they will tour the stadium and meet with staff members. That afternoon, the group will meet alums Megan Morgan and Becca Cook, as well as other Thunder staff members. They will also tour the Oklahoma City Arena. Later in the afternoon, the group will meet with staff members from the Barons, the American Hockey League affiliate of the Edmonton Oilers. The trip will conclude with the group attending that evening's Thunder game against the Denver Nuggets.

### FACULTY:

Dr. Jeff Noble, Instructor,  
Undergraduate Coordinator (ext. 5442), [jeffrey.noble@wichita.edu](mailto:jeffrey.noble@wichita.edu)

Mike Ross, Instructor (ext 5980),  
[mike.ross@wichita.edu](mailto:mike.ross@wichita.edu)

Dr. G. Clayton Stoldt, Professor,  
Department Chair (ext. 5441),  
[clay.stoldt@wichita.edu](mailto:clay.stoldt@wichita.edu)

Dr. Mark Vermillion, Assistant  
Professor, Graduate Coordinator  
(ext. 5444)  
[mark.vermillion@wichita.edu](mailto:mark.vermillion@wichita.edu)

### OTHER CONTACTS:

Mary Myers, Department  
Secretary (ext. 5445),  
[mary.myers@wichita.edu](mailto:mary.myers@wichita.edu)

Carol Pitetti, Undergraduate  
Advisor (ext. 6952),  
[carol.pitetti@wichita.edu](mailto:carol.pitetti@wichita.edu)

Cathy Razook-Ellsworth, Co-op  
Education (ext. 3668),  
[cathy.ellsworth@wichita.edu](mailto:cathy.ellsworth@wichita.edu)

### LECTURERS AND OTHER FACULTY

Alan Aagaard — Desktop  
Publishing  
John Lee — Sport Facility

## Mike Ross Wins College Award



Congratulations to sport management instructor **Mike Ross**, who is the 2011 recipient of the College of Education Technology Innovation Award. The award recognizes Mike's excellence in using technology as a teaching tool and as a topic of instruction.

Management  
David Moses – Legal Issues  
in the Profession 1 & 2  
Martin Perline – Economics  
of Sport  
Frank Rokosz – Struct. &  
Scheduling Sport  
Tournaments  
Steve Shaad – Sport  
Tournament & Event Mgt.  
Scott Crawford – Sport  
Finance  
Jessica Varlack – Legal  
Aspects of Sport and Physical  
Activities 1  
Matt Brokaw -- Marketing  
Sport and Physical Activity

Dr. Richard Laptad –  
Assistant Professor Emeritus,  
[richard.laptad@wichita.edu](mailto:richard.laptad@wichita.edu)

Dr. Lori Miller –  
Professor Emeritus,  
[5millergirls@gmail.com](mailto:5millergirls@gmail.com)



## SPOTLIGHT ON:

**Jennifer Keen** is the Corporate Service Director for the Greater Wichita YMCA and this month's Sport Management Alumni Spotlight. Keen, who is a graduate of Wichita State University, shares with us how she got into her current position after doing her internship with the YMCA while she was attending WSU.

Job Title and organization:  
Greater Wichita YMCA  
Corporate Service Director

**How long have you been working in your current position and how did you arrive in that position?**

3yrs.

I have been an employee for the Y for over 10yrs. I worked at the branch level as a Membership Director and then moved to the Metro/Corporate level where I have been over the last 5 yrs.

NOTICE of  
NONDISCRIMINATION:  
Wichita State University does  
not discriminate in its  
programs and activities on the  
basis of race, religion, color,  
national origin, gender, age,  
sexual orientation, marital  
status, political affiliation,  
status as a veteran or disability.  
The following person has been  
designated to handle inquiries  
regarding nondiscrimination  
policies: Director, Office of  
Equal Employment  
Opportunity, Wichita State  
University, 1845 Fairmount,  
Wichita KS 67260-0205;  
telephone (316) 978-6791.

My passion has always been membership and sales. So as corporate membership & wellness began to grow in the community we decided to reorganize our personnel and duties. I now manage all membership, sales, corporate membership and corporate wellness programs for the Greater Wichita YMCA.

**While attending WSU, where did you do your internship?**  
Greater Wichita YMCA

**In what ways do you feel that the WSU Sport Management Department (SMGT) prepared you for you current position?**  
SMGT prepared me for my career because it exposed me to all avenues of business. Every day I make decisions that I can relate back to course work that included facilities management, sport finance, marketing and sports management. The SMGT program gave me the understanding and set the groundwork for who I am today.

**When you first started out in the SMGT program, what was your 'dream' job?**  
My dream job was to work in the professional sports field in operations.

**What advice would you give to those students who are currently in the program?**  
Network with as many people as you can. You never know who will help you move ahead in life. Utilize your internship and co-op to help guide you into the right sports management career.

## **SAVE THE DATE -- SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2011**

The **Sixteenth Annual College of Education Graduate Showcase** will take place at the Rhatigan Student Center. Registration for the event will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the 3rd floor, with presentations and posters in various rooms beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd floor. Snacks will be available in the 3rd floor ballroom throughout the morning.

## **Mark Vermillion Presents Research at St. Louis Conference**

**Dr. Mark Vermillion**, assistant professor, delivered a research presentation at the Midwest Sociological Society's annual conference in St. Louis March 25. Dr. Vermillion's presentation was titled "Student-Athlete Experiences as Reflections of Organizational Expectations and Deviance." The organization is comprised of more than 1,200 scholars, students and practicing sociologists.



## 2011 CAREER FAIR SUCCESSFUL

The 2011 annual SMSA career fair took place on March 15 in the Heskett Center lobby.

Local sport organizations were in attendance as they are eager to find prospective employees and interns for their upcoming season. Exhibitors included the Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission, the KCAC, the Wichita Thunder, Wichita Wild and Wichita Wingnuts. Students had a chance to speak with the various representatives, hand out resumes, and build their network. This event has been extremely successful in the past, with many of our students obtaining jobs or internships.

---

*Wichita State University - Department of Sport Management  
1845 Fairmount - Wichita, KS 67260-0127  
316-978-5445 - FAX: 316-978-5954*