Entry-Level Master’s in Athletic Training Approved

The Montana Board of Regents recently approved a new entry-level master’s degree in athletic training at The University of Montana. The program will begin accepting students in the spring, and the first class of students will start classes during summer 2013. The program will provide students the opportunity to become certified/licensed athletic trainers and will advance their studies in the profession. The accelerated three-two model involves three years of undergraduate prerequisite courses and general education requirements, followed by two years in an entry-level master’s professional program. At the end of the program, students will have earned both a health and human performance bachelor’s in science and a master’s in athletic training. For more information about the new program, please visit our website at www.coehs.umt.edu/umat/.

Dave Kendall

Sadly, on September 23rd, Dave Kendall of UM-Western was tragically killed in a motor vehicle accident. He was a great mentor and friend to many athletic training students, certified athletic trainers, athletes and coaches throughout the country. He was an inductee into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the University of Pacific and the Northwest Athletic Trainers Association Halls of Fame. Everyone treasured the hours they spent with Dave at the UM-Western campus, athletic events, symposiums and conventions. He was truly a special person who touched many lives. Words cannot express how much he meant to us and how much he will be missed! A memorial celebration of Dave’s life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 12, 2013 in Straugh Gymnasium on the UM-Western campus in Dillon.
CAATE Site Visit a Success

The undergraduate athletic training education program is currently going through re-accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). After a year of collecting data, the self-study was submitted to the CAATE over the summer and we recently hosted our three-day site visit in mid-November. It was a positive learning experience for all involved, and our program is emerging stronger as a result. Although the formal report will not be received until January, we received very positive feedback from the site visit team identifying numerous strengths of our current program.

A Message from Scott...

Fall semester has presented us all with some challenging issues and some great achievements. Our athletic training education program (ATEP) has successfully endured a CAATE re-accreditation site visit. We are also moving forward with our entry-level master’s (ELM).

Less than a month ago we went through a three-day, on-campus site visit to re-accredit our undergraduate ATEP. The site visit team praised us for having an exceptional program and identified only a few easy paperwork issues to be fixed. They left us with the directive to add additional personnel in order to reduce Valerie Moody’s current overload and assist us with the ELM next year.

We are excited that we are in the process of posting initial applications for our ELM athletic training education program. We hope to attract UM students, transfer students and perhaps athletes who were too busy to join us during their years of competing. We will also be able to accommodate students from four-year institutions that do not have an accredited program, as long as they complete the program prerequisites for application.

In closing, a special thanks to Valerie Moody for her exceptional leadership of our program. I would also like to thank all our clinical and academic instructors and athletic training students for their commitment and devotion to the athletic training education program. I wish you and those you love all the good fortunes of life, health, happiness and peace throughout the New Year.
UM athletic training students (Morgan Umphres, Paul Capp, Sophia Bowe, Shauna Delaney, Emily Jones, Taylor Baldwin, Erika Berens, Amy Bergan, Nora Ifft, Cali VanValkenburg, Britt Dickman, Kasey McCarthy, and Reegan VonWildenradt) and faculty (Valerie Moody and Scott Richter) participated in the 2012 SAFE Kids Missoula at Community Medical Center in September. The afternoon was spent educating children and their parents in the Missoula community about concussion prevention and management.

Students also participated in the Can the Cats Food Drive this year, donating almost 800 cans of food to the Montana Food Bank!

The athletic training students have been busy this fall, fundraising to attend the District 10 meeting on March 15 and 16, 2013 in Boise, Idaho. They raffled off a Griz football this fall, and during this coming spring they will be raffling an autographed Griz basketball as well as holding a tape-a-thon.

Finally, the 2012-2013 UMATSA shirts are in! This year’s theme is dedicated to UM’s first athletic trainer, the founder of UM’s Athletic Training Education Program, and NATA Hall-of-Famer Naseby Rhinehart. We will be selling long sleeve shirts for $25 and short sleeve shirts for $18. This shirt is a must for any UMATEP alum or Griz historian you may have on your Christmas list. If you are interested, please send your order to us via email (james.capp@umontana.edu) or Facebook private message (UMATSA Montana). All proceeds go towards sending UMATSA club members to the NATA Conference in March. Thank you and happy holidays from UMATSA!
Clinical Education Update

Clinical rotations are in full swing this semester and once again the students have been rewarded with exceptional clinical experience. In August, Morgan Umphres and Brandon Rumph travelled to Dillon, Mont. to work with the UM-Western athletic training staff, Russ Richardson and Sarah Cummings, during the preseason.

Paul Capp was able to head home to Great Falls to work with Shawn Ruff, the head athletic trainer at Great Falls High School for preseason football.

We are pleased to announce several new clinical preceptors to our program this fall: Kara Wesen (UM Class of 2012), Tasha Kohlwes, Dustin Burton and Nicole Roessing (all UM Class of 2011). In addition to our current clinical sites, we are excited to announce the addition of the following clinical sites and preceptors for the spring and following year: Jamie Terry at Alpine Physical Therapy, Madelyn (Wiley) Boyle (UM Class of 2009) at Montana neurobehavioral specialists, Courtney Rayfield (UM Class of 2012), Monica Thackeray (UM Class of 2010), and Brad Beffert at University of Great Falls.

Student Research

Paul Capp (faculty mentor: Valerie Moody) applied for and received funding from the Davidson Honors College for the Undergraduate Research Award for this academic year to conduct an original research project, “Exploring Sources of Stress and Variation of Mood States in Athletic Training Students in Accredited Athletic Training Programs in the Northwest.”
Where in the World are UM ATEP Alumni??

We hung a map this past spring in the Athletic Training Education Program Suite and would like to start collecting business cards of UM ATEP alumni to pin up on the map. This will be an excellent opportunity for future students to see where our past students are and will possibly open the doors for networking opportunities!

Please send business cards to: Valerie Moody, Co-Program Director ATEP, 32 Campus Drive McGill Hall 238C, Missoula, MT 59812. Don’t have a business card? You can email me your information and I will place it on a card to post on the map. Email me at: valerie.moody@umontana.edu.

Megan Fisher (UM Class of 2006) crossed the Atlantic Ocean in August to compete in the 2012 Paralympic Games in London. After countless hours of training and sacrifice, Meg had the opportunity to represent our country and compete with elite athletes from around the world. Meg has won six on- and off-road triathlon World Championship titles and has numerous U.S. National Championship wins. A below-knee amputee from a car accident a decade ago, Meg’s cycling career began shortly thereafter. Her competitive drive never wavered as she worked her way up through the local, regional, national and international racing circuit. Living her dream of competing in the Paralympics, Meg competed in four different cycling events at the London Games this year: the 3k Pursuit, 500M time trial, Road Time Trial, and Road Race. She won a track cycling silver medal in the 3K Pursuit and a gold medal in the C4 time trial. Since the London games, Meg has returned home to Seattle to continue her education as a doctoral student in the University of Washington Physical Therapy Program, as well as her training with next year’s World Championships in sight. Way to go Meg!!!
2012 Alumni Update

Kiri Weeks accepted a graduate assistant position at the University of Oregon, Tyler Beauregard is a graduate assistant at Illinois State University, and Alyssa Frei accepted a graduate assistant position at the University of South Dakota. Rebekah Truitt is working at Missoula Bone and Joint Physical Therapy with the outreach program and Courtney Rayfield accepted an assistant athletic trainer position at the University of Great Falls. Lastly, Kara Wesen accepted an interim assistant athletic trainer position here at The University of Montana working with JC Weida and the Griz Football team.

Happy Holidays!