

Indiana State University

2004 - 2005 Academic Annual Report

Department of Athletic Training

Year in Review

Accomplishments

As you have heard, increasing public awareness of Indiana State University's accomplishments is crucial to building student enrollment, influencing policy makers, and developing a place of pre-eminence in the Midwest. What do you consider to be your department's 5-10 top accomplishments for the 2004-2005 year that will help contribute to this effort?

1. Faculty and Staff are involved in many National Committees within the Athletic Training Profession. This continues to provide great exposure to Indiana State University and our athletic training programs 2. We continue to host an Athletic Training workshop for high school students within the States of Indiana and Illinois 3. Our Athletic Training Alumni have won numerous national awards including: Distinguished Research Award by the NATA Research and Education Foundation; Doctoral Dissertation Award by the NATA Research and Education Foundation; an undergraduate and graduate student were awarded NATA Research and Education Foundation Scholarships; other alumni have been honored by our National association as well for their distinguished service and excellence in athletic training. 4. The department held a very successful Summer Honors Class in the Summer of 2004. 5. Our Department has made significant strides toward the creation of a Sports Safety Device Laboratory, which exemplifies the University's Mission of creating "Centers of Excellence" 6. Our Department has made significant strides toward the implementation of a Third-Party Reimbursement Plan within our Athletic Training Services division. This plan has great potential to generate a substantial alternative revenue stream for the department. 7. The department continues to procure external dollars through extramural grants and contracts. 8. Our research productivity continues to be high. 9. The department continues to expand our global presence in Athletic Training by teaching a sports medicine course during the Summer II session at a college in Tokyo, Japan.

Research and Scholarship

What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of research and scholarship? Are you satisfied overall? In which areas do you feel your department does particularly well? In which areas do you feel your department needs to improve?

My assessment of the ATTR faculty and staff scholarship / research production is that it's very good considering that the production given above has come from 5 people. These papers are peer-reviewed, and represent original investigations. They are not simply unsolicited review papers. Moreover, these papers are published in very high quality journals. What is also really gratifying about our department scholarship production is that many of our undergraduate and graduate students are a primary or co-author on the publications. This speaks exactly to the University's focus in providing students a strong experiential learning environment.

Grants, Contracts & Off Campus Professional Service

What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of grants, contracts, and off campus professional service? Are you satisfied overall? In which areas do you feel your department does particularly well? In which areas do you feel your department needs to improve?

Our department faculty and staff are fairly involved in procuring external grants and contracts, whether it is specific dollars, or capital equipment. I feel that given the all of the other work our faculty do (i.e. teach all of our major course, high number of publications, AND serve as program directors of accredited programs, they have done a good job at finding the time to write and procure grants. With respect to professional service, Indiana State University is as well-represented at the national level than any other institution in the country. Here are some examples: Mitch Cordova serves as an Associate Editor of the Journal of Athletic Training and serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Sport Rehabilitation. He also serves as a manuscript reviewer for 3 other prominent sports medicine journals. He is on the national committee responsible for accrediting graduate programs in athletic training, and he serves on the NATA Foundation Research Committee that awards up to \$500,000 in grants each year. Further, he moderates a electronic discussion board for athletic trainers and sports medicine professionals Cat Stemmans serves on the NATA Education Council Sub-committee for Multimedia Technology, and has been named to the editorial board of the Journal of Athletic Training Education Online. Paul Plummer serves as the President-Elect of the Indiana Athletic Trainers' Association; Chair - District 4 Reimbursement Advisory Committee, and serves on the NATA College / University Student Committee. Our other faculty serve as manuscript reviewers for multiple sports medicine journals as well. Other professional staff and faculty members are involved at the state and district level helping out our professional organizations as much as possible. I think the biggest area that we could improve is the procurement of grants with indirect costs associated with them. This is important as it develops external revenue for the Department, College, and University.

Best Practices

Describe the progress your unit has made thus far. Were you able to take these steps? What steps or goals have been particularly difficult to achieve and why? What practices, actions, initiatives are you doing that could be considered eminent?

Our unit has made great advances in each of the "best practices" we identified for 2004-2005. As previously stated, we were very focused and committed to enhancing the clinical education component of both of our accredited programs, and I feel we have done that. We have improved the goals and objectives of the clinical courses that are associated with the students' clinical experiences to ensure that what is being taught in the classroom is being applied and experienced in the clinical setting. This has included improving the instruction and assessment of many proficiencies and competencies that the students must complete as a part of our curriculum. These proficiencies and competencies are imposed by our accrediting body, and thus are normalized across ALL accredited programs in the country. The results of this have been a much more improved acquisition of knowledge and skill that should translate into better performance on our National Board Exam. Lastly, our respective department committees have met frequently this past year in an attempt to enhance both of our curricula as it relates to these areas. The practices that we believe have been eminent are: Increased interaction with specialized allied health care professionals (orthopaedic surgeons, primary care physicians, physicians trained in emergency medicine, physical therapists, and physician assistants.) Regularly scheduled in-services with very well respective sports medicine professionals Another initiative that we consider eminent is the continued involvement of our undergraduate students in research. Our undergraduate students have witnessed first-hand the value of doing research from our graduate students, and have been willing to participate in their own research. This is not a requirement of our undergraduate program, and I believe that the students willingness to be involved is commendable.

Student Credit Hours

What did you learn? What steps will you take during 2004-05 to meet your department's student credit hour target by fall 2005?

Our student credit hour production this academic year met its target. Because of the stringent guidelines imposed by our accreditation standards, there is very little we can do that will influence our SCH in a large fashion. For the upcoming academic year, we do expect a large freshman enrollment of majors, as well as a large number of students accepted into the upper division of our undergraduate program. Moreover, we do anticipate a larger enrollment in our graduate program commencing in the 2005 Summer II session. In summary, it is anticipated that our SCH production will be significantly higher during the 2005-2006 academic year than this past year due to greater enrollment starting with our freshman class all of the way through to our graduate program. Moreover, we fully expect to meet the SCH targets set forth by the University.

Budget

Identify and describe any collaborative efforts that have been undertaken by your department with other academic or administrative units to maximize resources to meet departmental goals. Please also consider collaborative opportunities with external partners.

Our Department has made many collaborative efforts with the Department of Physical Education in an effort to minimize costs, and best use our collective resources. Our faculty collaborate on many research projects, and thus we share laboratory equipment. Both Departments have also collaborated on the hiring of a new support staff position that is shared between both areas. This has worked well for both Departments. The faculty within AT and PE also make sure that we do not offer duplicate course work. We also work together to ensure that our students can take each others courses in a coordinated sequence.

Outreach

What are the outreach opportunities for your discipline? (non-traditional modes of delivery and timing, etc)

We currently offer one course via the web using Blackboard or WebCT, and we offer another course through correspondence.

Assessment

For each program in the department, provide one or two examples of how the program is using assessment and evaluation (student outcomes, program review, and/or accreditation) to enhance student learning and program strength this year.

The department continues to use the annual reporting mechanism for both our BS and MS accredited programs to help guide us in the yearly assessment and evaluation of our programs. For example, in both programs we are using our graduate placement data to help track the employment or education opportunities our students have received as they finish our programs. Additionally, for the undergraduate program we use the results from our national certification exam to help guide us in assessing the strengths and weaknesses of our program. For the graduate accredited program, we continue to use exit surveys and placement data to help enhance and refine our program.

Strategic Initiatives

Development Activities

What steps have you taken to support development activities in your department? How can your efforts be supported?

The department continues to be supportive of helping faculty and staff develop into better educators and professionals. This is done by supporting faculty with professional development funds and by

allowing faculty and staff the opportunity to learn outside of Indiana State.

Experiential Learning

Please provide examples of experiential learning in which your department was engaged in 2004-2005.

As discussed in greater detail earlier, the foundation of our BS and MS degree programs is experiential learning. We provide students with a strong didactic education, and couple that with outstanding staff athletic trainers who are responsible for helping the students apply their knowledge in a structured health care environment. To give an idea of the quantity of this, our students in our undergraduate program spend approximately 30-40 hours a week in their clinical rotations. Our graduate students are spending approximately 20 - 25 hours a week doing the same. The amount of learning that these student achieve from this is tremendous. However, the key point is that the learning is structured.

Future Goals

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The University is highlighting experiential learning, community engagement, and eminent programs as aspects of our campus that will attract students and resources. How is your department planning to contribute to these strategic initiatives in ways that will help ISU be recognized as a Pre-eminent University?

With respect to Athletic Training education, research, and the profession as a whole, Indiana State IS a pre-eminent institution. We have more alumni than any other school in the nation (approximately 900) and we were the first institution to have an accredited undergraduate and graduate program. Indiana State has more faculty and staff (former) AND alumni in our profession's Hall of Fame than any other University. ISU's alumni in athletic training have literally established the educational standards that are in place today, as well as set the bar for performing research in athletic training. We are looking to continue to improve upon our athletic training education programs and healthcare services, which will allow us to produce better students for our profession.