



REGION III NEWSLETTER

FALL 2009



Colleagues,



**Region III Vice President
Rin Seibert**

What an honor it is to represent Region III. The summer months have been full of opportunities to engage in dialogue about this exciting time in the life of NIRSA. I hope that each of you have had a chance to renew and reflect over the summer and reenergize as we move into the peak season of our profession. I encourage each of you to remember “why” you became involved in this profession. We impact lives daily, one student at a time. We are saddened by the loss of one of our Region III greats, Rich O’Leary who lost his valiant battle with cancer this summer. We remember him in the article below. Rich and the staff at Notre Dame most recently were the gracious hosts of our Indiana State Workshop last fall. Thanks to each of you for the contributions that you continue to make on your local campus and to the profession.

Have a great fall,
Rin

RICH O’LEARY

The University of Notre Dame Office of Recreational Sports lost a beloved member of its team on July 17, 2009, when Rich O’Leary, director of intramurals and club sports, passed away at the age of 62, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Rich’s contributions to the University’s RecSports program were extensive and spanned the course of a 37-year career in athletic administration at Notre Dame.

His oversight of the club sports program included growing the historic Bengal Bouts boxing club into a model program for collegiate boxing. In the early 1970s he played a significant role in the development of women’s club teams as women undergraduate students were enrolled at Notre Dame for the first time. Over the years, Rich developed the leadership skills of hundreds of club officers –skills that would serve them the rest of their lives.

Under Rich’s direction, intramurals grew to offer more than 60 programs, including unique offerings such as lacrosse, men’s tackle football and ice hockey. On two occasions *Sports Illustrated* named Notre Dame’s intramural program best in the nation and, in the most recent Princeton Review, Notre Dame’s intramurals were listed #1 in the category “Everyone Plays Intramural Sports”.

Rich will be remembered for his kindness and quick wit, and for the positive impact he had on the lives of generations of Notre Dame students. His willingness to help out anyone, at any time, anywhere, will leave a lasting legacy of service at RecSports.

Thank you, Rich. We’ll miss you.

*Note: Memorial Contributions may be made to the Rich O’Leary Memorial Fund that will benefit the Notre Dame men’s lacrosse program and the Bengal Bouts boxing program. Send contributions to:
112 Joyce Center, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556.*

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Board of Directors Meeting

As you know, the Board of Directors summer meeting took place June 23-25, 2009. The Board met in Point Clear, Alabama. The Board continues to work closely with the Governance Transition Team as we move forward at this exciting time. Membership recruitment initiatives and visioning for future direction were a few of the important issues that we addressed. President Bryan Harris and I will be serving as Board of Directors Liaisons to the Nominations and Elections Committee.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

This includes our new Region III Student Representative, Ashlea Wilson from Northern Illinois University. Please check out the [Region III Student Page](#).



Lead On Committee

The 28 members of the Lead On Planning Committee participated in a retreat on July 11-12 at Wayne State in Detroit. We have a great group of future professionals who have stepped up to coordinate this year's conference. Our Student Coordinator [Oscee Wheatfall](#) is from University of Illinois. We have an additional leaders retreat planned in Detroit on September 12-13.

Officers Retreat

Region III reinstated the tradition of meeting together with the leaders from each of our states. We met on July 16-17 in Indianapolis hosted by Butler University. This was an excellent opportunity to discuss shared issues and projects between the state associations. This face-to-face meeting gave us the opportunity to build relationships with each other and begin the foundation for our communication during the next two years. We hope to continue this via teleconference and electronically. We are blessed to have outstanding leadership from our region.

Call to Service and Leadership

This fall you will be hearing more about the Call to Service and Leadership. Many leaders from NIRSA have been diligently working to refine the roles of your future leaders. Watch the [NIRSA Know](#) for more information as we begin to move forward with this exciting transition for our association.

UPCOMING REGION III WORKSHOPS

October 7-9, 2009	WIRSA State Workshop	UW Oshkosh	Thomas R. Patt
October 15-16, 2009	Illinois State Workshop	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Erik Riha Kristin Duitsman
October 22-23, 2009	MIRSA Workshop	Grand Valley State University	John Rosick
November 5-6, 2009	Ohio State Workshop	University of Cincinnati	Jim Jamriska
November 5-6, 2009	Indiana State Workshop	Indiana State University	Hollie Adams
January 29-30, 2010	Region III Student Lead On Workshop	Wayne State University	Jovita Scroggin Oscee Wheatfall