

Crossroads of Recreation

Newsletter of the Indiana Recreational Sports Association (IRSA)

President's Corner

Hello IRSA,

T-minus 5-7 weeks depending on your respective institution until the end of the semester and the 2009-10 Academic year. Can you believe it? Each year seems to pass quicker and quicker. As my wife and I discuss with our 2.5 year old son Grady, is it possible to hit "pause" every once and while? If anything, to be able to take a moment to reflect on what's just happened. As this semester and academic year winds down, hopefully each of you have the time to stop, sit back and reflect on the impact you've made on your students. I know I'm going to try and do the same in the next few weeks. Here at Butler, it's surreal as the first class to experience the HRC and the Department of Recreation is graduating. It's safe to say a few tears will be shed as they've left a huge impact on us professionals.

With NIRSA less than a month away, I wanted to share a few things we've been working on. First, the workshop committee is fast at work on devising a game plan to move forward. In a few weeks, you will receive a survey with questions on what direction you think the workshop should go. We received great feedback since the workshop. We ask that you please fill out this survey so we have concrete data to decide the future of the workshops. Also, the executive team continues to look at all practices of IRSA. We plan on meeting in June for an all day retreat to hopefully lay ground work for the future of IRSA. Developing a line item budget, evaluating charges for each committee, documenting our current business practices are just a few of things we'll be working on. More to come...

Finally, as you'll see in the newsletter, please submit students for the Carol J. Stickel Outstanding Student Award. We would love to have the tough decision on deciding the winner from an outstanding pool of nominees. Please enjoy our 3rd edition of our newsletter. If you'd like to be included in future newsletters, please send your ideas to Adrian Shepard, ashepard@butler.edu.

See you soon,

Josh Downing
Butler University
IRSA President



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Student Perspective

Greetings fellow Indiana Students! First off, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you this year as your Indiana Student Leader. I come to you now with a quick update on our facility project, a review of where we have been and where we will hopefully go.



I wanted to catch everyone up on the progress going on at Ball State University and our Student Recreation and Wellness Facility. As you can see our building is really taking shape! Our rock climbing wall is actually in position now. This is what it looked like coming in off the truck. It is a very exciting time to be at Ball State! If you have questions or would like to visit, please let me know. You are always welcome at our “nest.”

Over the last six years, I have been involved with IRSA and have seen the organization grow. However, I think there are changes that need to happen from a student member side of things. In order to make our experience in this organization fulfilling, participation is the key. Push the envelope, ask each other questions via e-mail or phone, make site visits, and truly build your network. Sure, the IRSA conferences, Student Lead-On, and the NIRSA conference are great for learning opportunities, networking, and seeing our network family, but we should strive to do more. One of my visions still will be to see the fruition of a Student Newsletter every month, but in order for this to occur we all must contribute to the cause. Write your Student Leader and let him or her know what is going on at your University that would be great to share. It may spark an idea and be successful at another campus. This is what IRSA is all about, a shared collaboration of student knowledge that can make every university more successful.

Our future can be bright, as long as we take the opportunities given to us and make our participation in this organization a more engaged approach as opposed to being stagnant and accepting of the norm. Thank you students again for giving me this opportunity to be your student leader and I look forward to our future.

Ben Peak
Ball State University
IRSA Student Representative

IN the Know

Valparaiso University Fitness Center

Fitness Center area: 2,300 SQ. FT for strength, 2,300 SQ. FT. for cardio, and 1,337 SQ. FT. for program space, and locker rooms with shower

- Huge step-up from two racquetball courts
- All new Precor cardio equipment (9 elliptical, 6 treadmills, 3 AMT, 1 rower, 4 recumbent bikes and 2 up right bikes)
- Complete Nautilus Circuit of select weight machines and free weights
- Center area for stretching and programs

Recreational Sports area: 3 staff offices, 1 reception office, conference room, and copy room

We were budgeted 1.3 million to turn an old bookstore that had already been retrofitted from a residence hall cafeteria into a state of the art fitness center. Within a time period of 6 months we were ready for the grand opening. We are so proud of our new facility it is the first designated space for Recreational Sports. It is our new home and we have seen a huge increase in participants in our fitness program. No longer do you need a GPS to find us to pay for intramural sports or come and workout.



Scholarships

2009-10 Scholarship Winners

The IRSA Scholarship Committee recently announced the 2009-10 Scholarship winners. Congratulations to all.

<u>Student</u>		<u>\$</u>
Kim Jamriska	Ball State University	300
Douglas Delamage	Indiana University	300
Ben Peak	Ball State University	300
Justin Peterson	Indiana State University	100
Christin Everson	Indiana University	100
Jillian Formanski	Indiana University	100
Matt Lake	Purdue University	100
Chance Young	Indiana University	50
Megan Hohenstein	Valparaiso University	50
Tristan Leonhard	Valparaiso University	50
Tiffanie McIver	Valparaiso University	50
<u>Professional</u>		
Hollie Adams	Indiana State University	250
Kimberly Monte	Indiana State University	250

Carol Stickel Award



Carol Stickel was the former director at Purdue University. She served as IRSA state director along with being the Historian for many years. She led the effort to allow students to vote in IRSA. She created this award and it was renamed for her in 2004 when she retired. She also is a Region III Award of Merit winner.

The Indiana Recreational Sports Association has established an award to recognize an outstanding undergraduate and graduate student who has made contributions to the field of recreational sports. Those contributions can be on the local, state, regional, and/or national level. The student does not have to be a recreational sport major. Contributions worthy of recognition include: NIRSA or IRSA committee work, Lead On workshop host or committee member, presentations, articles, state and/or national student representative. The IRSA executive committee will be responsible for selecting the award winner.

Announcements

If you would like your university, students, employees, projects, etc. featured in a subsequent newsletter please contact Adrian Shepard at ashepard@butler.edu.

If we have neglected any information regarding your university in this newsletter or on our website, please contact Adrian Shepard at ashepard@butler.edu.

Don't forget to check us out online for contact information, scholarship information, committee assignments, and more at:

<http://www.nirsa.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Networking/StateProvincialDirectors/Indiana.htm>.

Please consider the environment before printing this newsletter.

