New Course for Year One Physical Education Majors
“Introduction to PE Curriculum Materials”

The Health & Physical Education Department will introduce a new course in Fall 2006 for students majoring in physical education. HPE 240: Introduction to Physical Education Curriculum Materials is a prerequisite for all upper division courses and focuses on curriculum and lesson planning, teaching styles, and motor skill and fitness competencies. It is anticipated this course will add greatly to the professional preparation of our already outstanding student majors and assist them in their course sequencing. Current students who have earned more than 29 credits are exempt from this new requirement.

International Honor Society Inaugurated at Eastern
Alpha Upsilon Chi: (AYX)

The Health & Physical Education Department has inaugurated an International Honor Society for students majoring in Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport Management, and Dance. Qualifying students must have completed at least 60% of their major program, achieved high academic standards, engaged in service to their institution, profession, and/or community, and demonstrated outstanding qualities of ethical and moral behavior.

This international honor society is established to recognize undergraduate and graduate college students around the world who have achieved a level of accomplishment in our related professions. Membership in the Honor Society will serve to encourage lifelong contributions to one's chosen field of work and to the global community in which the members practice their craft. The Honor Society values its members and recognizes them as ethical and contributing members of society.

Dr. Robert Horrocks, HPE Chairperson, is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of (AYX). A committee of Neil Williams, Kerri Tunnicliffe, and Charlie Chatterton has worked to identify specific membership standards for Eastern students.

FACULTY CHANGES

Ms. Mary Chalupsky, who has worked with us before in many capacities, will be a full-time faculty member this spring. Dr. Michael Gerich, who was full-time last semester, will be here on a part-time basis during the spring semester.

Dr. Robert Publishes a Text Book

BIG STUFF! Dr. Darren Robert and his longtime associate, Dr. Bill Yongue (Florida International University) have published their first book, Play, Physical Activity, and Physical Education for Children. Prestigious publisher Kendall Hunt (2005) just released the book in January. The focus of the text is on physical education themes for early childhood and elementary school programs. Congratulations to Dr. Robert and Dr. Yongue.
HPE/SLM NEWS & NOTES

First Aid?

HPE 075 (First Aid Certification) is the very last requirement met by almost all of our physical education majors. Why? We don’t know...but we do know that at least ten students each year are forced to wait for their degree for one or more semesters because they haven’t taken care of this small obligation on time.

The Physical Education and Sport Leisure Management Majors’ Club

Congratulations to the New PE & SLM Club Officers for Spring 2006

President—Kenneth Dustin
Vice President—Allison Soucy
Secretary—Jon Diaz
Treasurer—Patrick Stone

The club will meet regularly throughout the year to plan events and activities. Dr. Robert Horrocks is serving as the club’s advisor.

The purpose of the majors’ club is to give students the opportunity to participate in community service, to network with other peers and professionals in the field, provide mentoring to new members of the major, and provide a voice in the major. Peer tutoring is also being discussed as another way the club can help students.

Be ready to attend the majors’ club meetings and start investing in your future! Students may earn Professional Development Points for participation in club activities.

Holly Zimmerman Award

Winners

Three senior Health & Physical Education majors have been selected to receive the 2006 Holly Zimmerman Memorial Award. The recipients are Lindsey Karsmarski (PE, 2006), Jennifer Orme (PE, 2006), and Laura Tignonsini (PE, 2006). These outstanding young women have distinguished themselves by their academic and athletic performance, community involvement and personal attributes.

The individual plaques were presented on February 4. If you have the opportunity, please congratulate these recipients of this prestigious award.

International Study

Ashley Gomes (SLM, 2008) is taking the current semester abroad in England at London Metropolitan University. She is taking four courses and traveling to a different place every weekend. Since it is only a short train ride through the “Chunnel” to Paris, she will be touring parts of Europe as well.

Samantha Greco (PE, 2009) is studying abroad in Australia, at Southern Cross University, during the Spring 2006 semester. She’s hoping to do a little surfing while she’s there. Jason Bak (PE, 2008) is also in Australia for the Spring, studying at Bond University.

International study is about the same cost per semester as Eastern and the experiences are life-changing.

Colleen Devine (PE, 2007) has just returned from a semester in the Czech Republic. Ask her about it.

Guest Lecturer from England

Dr. Jim Lavin, Principal Lecturer and Head of Physical Education at St. Martin’s College in Lancaster, England, will be a guest lecturer and visiting scholar at ECSU in April. Dr. Lavin is the only physical educator to have received the Winston Churchill Medal of Merit in Education as has been to Eastern several times before, including a full semester teaching appointment in Spring 2000. Dr. Lavin is scheduled to make a formal presentation and to teach in several of our courses.

HPE students interested in taking a semester abroad in England should make an appointment with Dr. Lavin while he’s here. He will be happy to discuss the possibilities with all students.
**Dr. Tunnicliffe Helps Katrina Victims**

After seeing nightly news coverage of what was NOT being done, Dr. Kerri Tunnicliffe went to Gulfport, MS, to assist in the massive rebuilding process following Hurricane Katrina’s devastating impact on the south. She spent five days repairing roofs, working along side other volunteers from around the world. Volunteers’ accommodations were spartan: air mattresses on a church floor, lukewarm showers in a trailer, and cafeteria-style mass cooking.

Dr. Tunnicliffe reports that the work was “physically exhausting, but it was rewarding to be able to help fellow Americans whose lives do not seem about to return to ‘normal’ any time in the near future.”

**ECSU Student Teaching Interns**

Several HPE and teacher education students are assisting Dr. Williams as interns in HPE GER courses this semester.

HPE 150 Swimming for Non-Swimmers: Ken Dustin and Klansi Kelly

HPE 117 Jogging for Beginners: Ken Dustin, Lindsay Raymond, and Sara Therrien.

These students get great practical teaching and administrative experience in areas in which they have talent, and they also earn academic credit.

**Jon Diaz Wins Teaching Grant**

Jon Diaz (2007) has just been selected by the Board of Governors for Higher Education and the Connecticut Department of Higher Education to receive a Minority Teacher Incentive Grant. The value of the grant is up to $7500 over the next three semesters plus another $10,000 toward student loan debt as long as Jon gets a job at a public school in Connecticut.

To qualify, a student must be a full-time college junior or senior of African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian American, or Native American heritage, and be nominated by the Dean of Education. Among Jon’s qualifications: very high GPA and academic achievement; elected to the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education (Spring 2006); elected to the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society (Spring 2006).

**Congratulations, Jon!**

**Eastern Students and Faculty Win CTAHPERD Awards**

Bonnie Arcari, Stacie Parn, and Dr. Charlie Chatterton Honored

Physical Education and Sport Leisure Management majors from Eastern’s Health & Physical Education Department again won several awards conferred by the Connecticut Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance for 2005 at the CTAHPERD conference in Cromwell, CT, on November 17 – 18.

The most prestigious student award was the selection of Bonnie Arcari (PE, 2006) as one of two Connecticut student representatives to AAHPERD’s Eastern District Association convention in Hartford, CT, in March 2006. Bonnie will be one of only 20 individuals (selected from literally thousands of eligible students) representing the New England and Atlantic coast states as an “Outstanding Future Professional.” Among the criteria for her selection were: leadership qualities, individual accomplishments/honors/awards received, minimum 3.0 GPA, involvement in university organizations, and contributions to the community. Stacy Parn (SLM, 2006) was also a finalist for this award, representing ECSU as one of our two “Outstanding Future Professional” nominees.

Ms. Arcari also won the Gibson-Laemel CTAHPERD Scholarship for academic excellence and achievement. More than 1000 students in physical education, health, recreation, and dance programs from Connecticut colleges and universities were eligible.

Also, Dr. Charlie Chatterton received the CTAPHERD Professional Honor Award for 2005. Dr. Chatterton’s service to his profession and the state is unequalled in Connecticut, and he certainly deserves this recognition and honor. Congratulations to our award winners.

**Alumni Reunion A Great Success**

The second ECSU Physical Education and Sport Management reunion took place at the CTAHPERD conference on Friday, November 18, 2005. More than 100 past and present students showed up to help celebrate the 26th anniversary of the professional programs in the HPE Department. Former students came from near and far, but the prize for greatest distance traveled goes to Kelly Stancil (’96) who came all the way from Atlanta for the event.

Many other notables also were at the reunion where it was standing room only on the crowded balcony while old friends caught up with each other and new acquaintances were made. The Alumni Affairs office sent representatives and they gave out prizes and raffled off some great items. We have been setting up a network of alumni across the state and region and will also be sending each issue of our newsletter to everyone. Dr. Robert Horrocks coordinated the event and took photographs to commemorate the day.
**Did you know?**

Dr. Robert Horrocks and his wife, Pam, were just honored as Willimantic’s “Cupids” for 2006. This recognition is for outstanding service and contributions to the community over many years. This is a big deal! Congratulations to the Horrockses.

Many of our recent graduates have gotten full time jobs this spring. These are just a few of the ones we know about:

**Kristen Colasanto** (PE, 2005) is teaching physical education and health at the elementary school level in Oxford, CT.

**Marcie Mastronunzio** (SLM, 2005) writes Dr. Tummers: I just wanted to give you an update...I am on my way into the field of corporate health promotion! I have accepted the Health Promotion Coordinator position with Pro Fitness Health Solutions in Berlin (at Northeast Utilities). How exciting! They have a great program, and this is exactly where I had hoped to be in the next five years, so I’m already ahead of the game. I just wanted to thank you again for all your help; Stress Management was one of my favorite classes at ECSU. Now I can take what I have learned and apply it in the corporate setting (they have 3,600 employees).

**Sean Walsh** (1997) has just been hired by Central Connecticut State University to be their exercise physiologist. Sean will be completing his doctorate in August 2006 from the University of Maryland. Along with Dr. Dan Swartz (1998), now teaching at Southern Connecticut State University, and Dr. Darren Robert (1992), who of course is teaching at Eastern, Sean is the third ECSU HPE alumnus to earn his doctorate and return to the CSU system to teach.

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**Faculty Professional Development Activity**

Just as we want students to be active in their profession, HPE faculty are also expected to participate in professional development activity.

**Dr. Darren Dale** is beginning a research project that aims to answer the following question: which activity helps children improve cognitive tasks such as memory and mathematical reasoning—exercise or playing video games? The purpose of the research is to help answer whether video games and/or exercise can influence the cognitive ability of young children.

**Dr. Nanette Tummers** has been very active this semester. She made two presentations at the National Association of Physical Education in Higher Education Conference in San Diego in January 2006: “Service Based Learning” and “The Best of Both Worlds: Yoga and Tai Chi.” She also led a yoga class in February for children enrolled in “Run Storrs,” a walk-to-run program for local children. Dr. Tummers will be presenting a session titled “Yoga for Health and Performance” at the New England chapter of the ACSM Spring Meeting in April. She will also be presenting a session titled “Yoga for the Total Athlete” at AAHPERD’s Eastern District Association Convention in Hartford in March.

**Ms. Mary Chalupsy** was recertified “With Distinction” by the National Strength and Conditioning Association as a Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) in December 2005. She also was certified as a CPR/First Aid provider by the American Heart Association on February 1, 2006.

**Dr. Neil Williams** has been invited to Shanghai to consult with Chinese, English, and American elementary and secondary school physical educators about their programs and curricula. He will be going to China to after the end of the Spring 2006 semester to meet with a select panel of administrators and teachers. This will be his third professional visit to Asia.

**Dr. Daniel Switchenko** made a presentation during an in-service workshop Bunnell High School in Stratford, CT, to all health and physical education teachers in the district on January 10, 2006. He also recently was on the WILI Radio Show “Let’s Talk About It” and the topic was “Education in Windham.”

**Dr. Kerri Tunnicliffe** presented at the National Association of Physical Education in Higher Education Conference in San Diego in January 2006. Dr. Tunnicliffe will also be making another presentation at the Eastern District AAHPERD Convention in Hartford in March 2006.

**Dr. Charlie Chatterton** and his wife, Carol, are proud to announce the November 5, 2005, birth of their third child, Caitlin. If he wasn’t already a busy man, he was invited to join the Connecticut State delegation the School Wellness Institute at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta in January. He then attended the Connecticut School Wellness Summit in Farmington in early February. In March, Dr. Chatterton will be involved in three presentations at the Eastern District Association AAHPERD Conference in Hartford, and he is coordinating the 2006 New England ACSM Spring Meeting in his role as Past President of the chapter.