Adam Lachendro Wins Barnard Scholarship

Adam Lachendro (2007, PE) was among the twelve scholars recognized on April 25 at this year’s annual Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award Banquet, held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. Adam was selected as one of two winners from Eastern and from over 6000 eligible seniors in the CSU system. It’s a very big deal!

Adam had a 3.83 GPA. In 2004, he traveled to New Orleans to work as a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, building houses. He has been an assistant coach in both soccer and basketball for Enfield youth, was junior coordinator for the Teen Center at St. Bernard’s Church, and volunteered at the Enfield Food Shelf and Enfield Soup Kitchen. He also has volunteered at the Windham Elementary School’s After School Program and at the 2005 and 2006 Windham Special Olympics. He was recently hired to teach health and physical education at Howard Cheney Technical High School in Manchester.

HPE/SLM Majors’ Club Ready for Fall 2007

The majors’ club is getting ready for another year of activities and professional development. Last year, under the guidance of Dr. Jodi Frank, the club organized a rafting trip, a paintball event, and a bus trip to the Museum of Science in Boston to see the Body Worlds II “plastination” exhibition. There was unanimous agreement that the plastination display was the most amazing museum show anyone had ever seen. Mr. Greg Kane is this year’s advisor for the club.

Club Meeting times will be posted in the main hallway on the club bulletin board, and the group is always looking for ideas, input, and energy. Some possibilities for the year: racquetball tournament, whitewater rafting, hiking trips, professional seminars and fund raisers. Officers will be elected soon, so get involved in the process. Professional Points are always available.

Outstanding Future Professionals

Colleen Devine (2007, PE) and Melinda Kerr (2008, PE) were selected as Eastern’s two Outstanding Future Professional candidates last fall. Both were honored at the CTAHPERD conference in November 2006. At the conference, Colleen was selected as one of Connecticut’s two Outstanding Future Professionals in HPE by CTAHPERD. As part of her honor, she attended the EDA/AAHPERD convention in Baltimore, Maryland, March 13-17, 2007. Colleen is now teaching health and physical education in Athens, PA. Her first teaching assignment? Archery. Melinda is a returning senior at Eastern this semester.

Advisement for Spring 2008 Registration

Spring 2008 registration will begin, if you can believe it, in early October. Registration and PIN information will be sent to all PE/SLM majors. Please check your ECSU student email account.
Alumni Return as HPE Faculty

Several ECSU alumni are now working part-time in the HPE Department, teaching courses in the in new GER/LAP. Among them are Rose (Otten) Paggioli (1990, PE), Anne DiFranco (1999, PE), Justin VanGelder (1999, PE), Cindy (Baker) Kobus (1999, PE), and Sara (Tourtellotte) Gustavesen (2004, SLM). Ms. Gustavesen, a former SLM Major of the Year at ECSU and Outstanding Future Professional award-winner from CTAHPERD, is also teaching SLM 240 for our SLM majors.

Eastern Alumni at Work

More than 150 ECSU Physical Education major graduates are now teaching health and physical education full-time in Connecticut's public schools. Recently joining their ranks are the following.


Greg Cowen was selected as the teacher of the year in Putnam, CT. Greg graduated in 1992 and is the head of HPE for the Putnam School District.

Jessica Keogh and Dave Pavia, both ECSU alums in SLM/Health Fitness (2006), have joined the staff of Velocity Sports Performance in Trumbull, CT, as full-time employees.

Dana Clark Lecture

The annual Dana Clark Lecture and Awards Ceremony was held on April 30, 2006, in the Johnson Community room of the Smith Library. Over 100 guests attended, including Dr. Patricia Kleine, Dean of Education and Professional Studies. Several HPE students were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements and contributions to our programs.

Alpha Upsilon Chi is an international honor society for students in health, physical education, recreation, sport, and dance. The following ECSU students were inducted: Jessica Bate, Collette Boudreau, Joe Capitani, Abby DelNegro, Kristin Fallo, Jenna Germain, Ashley Gomes, Samantha Greco, Tiffany Jablonski, Melinda Kerr, Amy Lampe, Angela Loomis, and Carrie Robinson.

In addition, fourteen students, representing each year-group and both the Physical Education and Sport & Leisure Management Majors, were recognized for their outstanding academic achievement. These awards were given to the student(s) with the highest GPA in their respective year-group.

Finally, awards were given to six students selected by the faculty as Outstanding Majors. In Sport & Leisure Management, the awards went to Thomas Gaudioso, Ashley Gomes, and Jason Przekop. In Physical Education, the following students were honored: Colleen Devine, Mykal Kuslis, and Adam Lachendro.
Did You Know?

Our Graduates are Stars:

A note of success for HPE: For the class of 2006, **ONE HUNDRED** percent of Eastern’s graduated HPE candidates were awarded with initial educator certifications in Connecticut.

**Kristin Fallo, Angela Loomis, and Jenna Germain** (all HPE, 2008) won the first place award for their May 2007 Excellence Expo poster presentation on alcohol use among college athletes.

**Jenna Germain** and **N. Williams** have had their article, “Volleyball Serving Contest,” accepted for publication by the *Great Activities Newsletter*, a national journal with a readership of more than 8000 physical education teaching professionals.

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**Student Teachers in Fall 2007**

The following students are completing their final course in the PE major: student teaching. **Jessie Bate, Jen Ficarrotta, Nick Frosolone, Myke Kuslis, Mike Silver, Greg Talbot, and Joel Ziff** are all in area schools doing both elementary and secondary placements this term.

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**Professional Points**

Students must average ten Professional Development Points for every semester beginning with the term they first registered for a course in the major program. These points are required as a prerequisite for registration in upper level major seminars and internships.

There are almost unlimited ways to earn points, including membership in the PE/SLM Majors’ Club, attending a conference, volunteer work, coaching, and making professional presentations. As further examples, there are opportunities to volunteer at the Hole in the Wall Gang camp on weekends and other times this semester. There are also volunteer opportunities for Professional Development Points and field experience in after-school programs at the elementary schools in Willimantic. Contact Dr. Tummers if interested.

Additional information is available in the hanging file in the department’s main office.

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**Bart Mazur Returns from Afghanistan**

**Bart Mazur** (2008, PE) has returned to ECSU as a full-time student after completing a military tour of duty in Afghanistan last year. While he was overseas, **Dr. Tummers** organized and mobilized the HPE Department and sent him a “CARE” package full of food, supplies, and letters. He wrote to us last term while he was still overseas.

_I would like to thank the Department and SGA for the package and the student letters. I spread out as much of the stuff in the package as I could to the rest of the guys. They were very appreciative of it all. I managed to use my resources and use Facebook to respond to about 15 of the letters that were sent. It wasn’t easy on some because they didn’t include their last names, but from what they said, I was able to find most of the students who wrote letters and thank them. It’s been getting pretty cold here but not too unbearable. It’s like November weather in CT. The mountains are covered in snow all around us and it’s quite beautiful. It almost makes you forget how much of a hole his place is. But we are doing all right and looking forward to leaving in April. Please spread the thanks to the rest of the department for me and let everyone know that I said hi._
Faculty Professional Development Activity

Just as we expect students to be active in their field of study, HPE faculty are also required to participate in professional development activity:

In April, N. Williams was featured on the national “ABC Nightly News” with Charles Gibson as well as in several national magazine and newspaper stories. The topic is one that won’t go away: dodgeball and appropriate teaching practices in physical education. Also, Williams’s article, “The Rules of Engagement: Civilizing College Students in the Age of Entitlement,” about professors’ basic social and academic expectations for their students, will be published this fall by the New England Faculty Development Consortium in their journal, Exchange.

Dr. Tummers and Mr. Kane received a Faculty Development grant for Summer 2007. They developed an evaluation tool and protocol for Outcomes Assessment in HPE 104, the HPE Department’s new GER/LAP course, and are now collecting data from more than 350 students.

Darren Robert and his long-time teaching colleague from Florida International University, Dr. Bill Yongue will be making a presentation this month to early childhood teachers in Jackson, TN, at the Tennessee Association for Childhood Education International. The name of the conference is "Space to Play and Room to Grow!" Their two-hour presentation is "Completely Harmless Movement Activities For The Existing Classroom Environment." The first hour will focus on Preschool Activities and the second hour will focus on Elementary Activities.

Dr. Daniel Switchenko has made several keynote speaking presentations thus far this fall. He has been featured at high schools throughout New England and the CIAC Leadership Conference. His topics include: “Leadership,” “Substance Abuse,” “Ingredients for Success,” and “Application of Exercise Science to Interscholastic Sports.”

Dr. Tummers, along with former ECSU HPE faculty member Dr. Kerri Tunnicliffe (now at RIC), presented “Service Learning: Linking Academic Coursework and School/Community Needs” at the National Conference of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, Baltimore, MD, March 2007.

Dr. Tummers has been very busy in all aspects of her professional life. She was a Hole in the Wall Gang Camp Resident Volunteer (Ashford, CT) this past summer; she made a presentation on stress management to the Windham School District Wellness Committee in January, and has done several yoga workshops throughout the region.

In October, Dr. Tummers will be presenting at the Association for General and Liberal Studies in Portland, ME on “Strengthening and Improving Instruction in Liberal Arts Courses Through Service Learning.”

Dr. Tummers will be coordinating an ECSU student research session at the upcoming CTAHPERD Conference in Cromwell. Her students from HPE 448 will present on best practices for stress management for K-12 students.

Dr. Tummers is also the new advisor for the ECSU Dance Team. Our squad is a club and competes in Florida every year, often winning division titles.

CTAHPERD Conference

November 15 & 16, 2007
Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, Cromwell, CT

Please plan to attend. See your instructors for more information.

Connecticut Recreation & Parks

The CPRA Annual Conference will be held in Uncasville on November 19 & 20, 2007. You can learn more about the conference by going to www.crpa.com.

It’s an interesting opportunity for Professional Development Points.

NEACSM Conference
Providence, RI
November 15 & 16, 2007
See Dr. Chatterton

Greg Kane & his wife Sarah are proud to announce the birth of their son Gavin Kane.