Dr. Divina Grossman, Dean of the CNHS, her staff, and all of the faculty have welcomed the ATEP with open arms. Several interdisciplinary collaboration opportunities are being explored that will positively benefit the ATEP.

The ATEP is very happy to be a part of the CNHS!

In May of 2007, the Athletic Training Education Program (ATEP) began transitioning out of the College of Education and into the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS). This decision was prompted by the fact that the CNHS houses allied health education programs similar to athletic training, such as physical therapy.

The transitional process has been smooth due to the supportive culture that exists among the administration and faculty in the CNHS.

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From the Director’s Desk

I would like to thank all of the mentors for assisting the Observational Athletic Training Students in their preparation for the Competitive-Entry Process. The Competitive-Entry Interviews will be held on Friday, December 7th, 2007. Members of the Selection Committee include Jenna Doherty-Restrepo (Director), Michelle Odai (Clinical Coordinator), Kari Riddle (ACI), Jennifer Smoyak (ACI), and Dr. Carol Pyles (Outside Faculty Member).

- Jenna Doherty-Restrepo
Entry-Level ATS Spotlight: Cara Vreeland

Cara Vreeland is a Level V student in the Entry-Level ATEP. She wants to be an Athletic Trainer because she knows what it feels like to need one. During her days in high school she suffered multiple injuries while participating in cross-country. Unfortunately, Cara’s high school did not have an Athletic Trainer to care for her injuries. One of Cara’s career goals is to educate others on the importance of having an Athletic Trainer on staff to care for athletes and their injuries.

During Cara’s tenure in the ATEP, her favorite class was Therapeutic Modalities. In the clinical setting, she enjoyed her experiences with a variety of ACIs and sports because it opened her mind to different settings and allowed for learning.

Cara’s favorite thing about the Entry-Level ATEP is the closeness of the students. She comments, “Since the classes are so small we become a very tight-knit community.”

Her biggest accomplishment, of which some of you may be unaware, is being able to get through school while being pregnant! Congratulations! Cara will be having a baby boy in February.

Cara aspires to work at a small or private High School because the schedules are flexible and the age group is very impressive.

Cara wants to say “Merry Christmas” to everyone in the program.

ACI/CI Spotlight: Israel Mitchell

Israel Mitchell is the Head Athletic Trainer at Belen Jesuit Preparatory School, an all-boy school. He works with a variety of sports, such as soccer, track, and baseball. Israel’s favorite sport to work with is football because it demands that he be very involved with the players. In addition, Israel played football growing up and therefore has the most experience in this sport.

The most traumatic injury Israel has managed was a suspected spinal cord injury. In remembering this event, he says “Dealing with the spine board was really scary. Luckily it just ended up being a severe sprain.”

Israel Mitchell has been an ACI for the ATEP since 2005. His favorite thing about being an ACI is sharing his experiences with students and helping them prepare for the profession. Israel feels that the hands-on experiences students gain in the clinical setting are as important as the learning that occurs in a classroom.

Israel recommends that students experience athletic training in a variety of settings, such as the high school, university, and clinic. He says to students, “Never assume you don’t want to work in a certain setting. Just try it out, you never know.”

GA Spotlight: Natsuko Sato

Natsuko Sato, who is a native of Japan, is in her second year of graduate school. She did her undergraduate studies at Salem State College in Massachusetts prior to joining the AT staff here at FIU.

Natsuko’s favorite thing about being an AT at FIU is that she sees something different every day. She states, “It’s a great job, even though I work very hard someone always gives me a reason to smile.” Natsuko just finished the season with the men’s soccer team and is already looking forward to next year. This year the most traumatic injury she managed was a simultaneous maxilla and nasal fracture!

Natsuko reports her biggest accomplishment has been making great friends in Miami, whom she considers to be her support system.

Natsuko is fluent in Japanese and English; however, before graduating from FIU she hopes to enhance her Spanish speaking skills.
ATSO Corner

- **His House:** Cyndil, Jenna, Andrea, Monica, and Jonny participated in the His House Community Service Event on Thanksgiving day. ATSO contributed $75 dollars to feeding families in need.

- **Adopt-a-Family Holiday Toy Drive:** ATSO is awaiting information for the family we will sponsor. We hope each member is able to contribute a gift (between $10-$20). More information to come via email.

- **Mentorship Night:** Saturday, December 8 at 6PM in PA 112. Don't forget to invite your mentee!

- **The ATSO Board would like to start a new tradition of selecting an ATSO Member of the Month to show our appreciation for your contributions and participation.**

- **Jonny Garcia** is the ATSO Member of the Month for December. Thank you Jonny for your continued participation and support of our organization.

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**ATEP Dates to Remember**

**Entry-Level ATEP**

**Dec. 3:** Mandatory ATEP Meeting (12 pm-1pm, PA 112)

**Dec. 7:** Competitive-Entry Interviews (8am-10am, PA 112)

**Dec. 7: Holiday Luncheon**
(11:30am-1:30pm, PA 112) All ATSs, ACIs, GAs, and Faculty are welcome to attend

**Dec. 20:** Mail Acceptance/Retention letters

**Jan. 8:** Deadline for SEATA Scholarships ($500-$1000). Visit www.seata.org for information

**Post-Professional ATEP**

**Dec. 1:** Deadline for abstract submission for SEATA Athletic Training Student Symposia in Atlanta, GA

**Dec. 1:** Deadline for abstract submission for NATA Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia in St. Louis, MI

**Jan. 14, 2008:** Deadline for abstract submission for SEATA Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia in Franklin, TN

**General Information**

**Dec. 6:** Last day of Fall 2007 classes

**Dec. 10-15:** Final Exams

**Feb. 8, 2008:** Last day to apply for Spring 2008 Graduation

**Special Note:** Congratulations to Gabe Casanova on the birth of his beautiful baby girl, Madison Elizabeth.

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**Quote of the Month**

“I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody”

*Bill Cosby*