FIU ATEP is ACCREDITED!!!

On February 16, 2008, the Entry-Level Athletic Training Education Program at FIU was officially accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The notification letter and accreditation certificate were received on February 29, 2008. We were awarded accreditation status for 5 years, which is the maximum number of years awarded for initial accreditation.

This achievement is a testimony to the hard work, dedication, and support of all involved: students, ACIs/CIs, graduate assistants, administrators, and faculty. We should all be very proud of this accomplishment and national recognition.

To see FIU included on the official list of accredited programs, visit caate.net and click on Accredited Programs.

From the Director’s Desk

WOW! I have so much good news to share this month.

First, Sonya Abadeer, Priscilla Dwelly, and Kelly Jordan were selected for poster presentations and Dr. Tripp an oral presentation at the 33rd Annual SEATA Clinical Symposia & Members Meeting in Franklin, TN. Congratulations for being selected to present your research!

Second, Indira Moreno received the Florence Bayuk Health Sciences Scholarship in the amount of $900. Indira will honored at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences Donors/Scholarship Luncheon on March 12.

Finally, Robinson Henry was awarded the NFL-PFATS Ethnic Minority Scholarship. This award not only includes $1000, but Robinson will spend six weeks with the Minnesota Vikings. He will gain athletic training experience during preseason practices and games...what an incredible opportunity!
Entry-Level ATS Spotlight: Rodrigo Martinez

Rodrigo Martinez is a “Level 6” student in the ATEP. He was born in the USA and raised in Nicaragua. Rodrigo became interested in Athletic Training because he found it to be a career that balanced things he really liked: sports and helping people. In addition, the job is fun! He really likes the ATEP program at FIU because of the student: teacher ratio.

The individual attention allows professors to adjust to the learning styles that best suit the class. His favorite class so far has been the advanced upper extremities with Dr. Tripp, because he does a great job at teaching information while keeping it fun and interesting. During his clinical education, Rodrigo reports that all of his experiences were valuable. None the less, he says his favorite clinical education rotations were with Israel Mitchell at Belen Jesuit Preparatory School and Kari Riddle at FIU.

While Rodrigo is still unsure of what his dream job would be, he has high expectations for his future as an Athletic Trainer. Currently, he is just proud to be getting his Master of Science degree in Athletic Training.

ACI/Ci Spotlight: Jennifer Smoyak

Jennifer Smoyak is an Assistant Athletic Trainer at FIU and her primary sport responsibilities include women’s basketball, cheerleading, and the dance team. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training at the University of Central Florida and later completed her Master of Science in Sports Management here at FIU.

Jen became interested in athletic training while a member of the dance team. When she was injured, Jen had no one to turn to. After taking an Athletic Training class, she knew it was the profession for her. She loves the idea of being able to help people and enjoy herself while earning a living.

Jen loves being an ACI in the ATEP because it allows her to interact with young and eager Athletic Trainers. For her, being able to give back to the students has been amazing. She hopes that she is a positive role model for the students.

Jen’s words of advice to the students: “Try every sport at least once!” In her case, she used to love working with baseball but now adores basketball.

GA Spotlight: Priscilla Dwelly

Priscilla Dwelly is a Graduate Assistant Athletic Trainer in the ATEP. She received her undergraduate athletic training degree from Eastern Kentucky University. Priscilla became interested in the profession because her aunt was an athletic trainer. Priscilla’s Aunt taught her to have an appreciation for helping others.

During her time at FIU, Priscilla has grown to love athletic training-related research. Her dream job would involve the opportunity to do research while being involved with clinical education.

Her favorite sports to work with are baseball and football. The worst injury Priscilla ever had to manage occurred during a football game. The injury was a complete tear of the MCL, a grade-two ACL tear, and two avulsion fractures! Luckily, the football player made a full recovery.

Running with Scissors
ATSO Corner

- ATSO would like to congratulate Mariela Hernandez, the winner of this month’s raffle for a $50 Target Gift Card.
- Congratulations to Alex Alvarez for being the Top Raffle Seller. Alex sold 75 raffle tickets this month! She won a $25 Target Gift Card for her hard work.
- Thank you to Farah Hernandez, Frank Millan, Dawn Selvidge, Rodrigo Martinez, Sherain Lewis, and Indira Moreno for professionally representing the ATEP at the Student SEATA Conference in Atlanta, GA. Faculty from other Colleges and Universities were impressed with their level of education and professionalism. Hopefully we will have the same showing at the ATAF meeting in April.
- Please remember to RSVP for the End-of-the-Year Banquet, which will be held May 3, 2008. You should have received an E-vite with the details. Another E-vite and reminder email will be sent this month.

ATEP Dates to Remember

**Entry-Level ATEP**

**March 5:** BOC Study Session—Therapeutic Modalities with E. Frank (9am—10am, PA 113)

**March 10:** BOC Study Session—Rehabilitation with C. Ristori (8am—9am, PA 113)

**March 10:** Mandatory ATEP Meeting (12pm—1pm, PA 112)

**March 24:** BOC Study Session—Rehabilitation with K. Jordan (8am—9am, PA 113)

**March 31:** BOC Study Session—Organization and Administration with K. Jordan (8am—9am, PA 113)

**Post-Professional ATEP**

**Feb. 28—March 2:** 33rd Annual SEATA Clinical Symposia & Members Meeting in Franklin, TN

**General Information**

**March 10:** Accreditation Celebration Luncheon (11:30am—1:30am, Athletic Training Room)

**March 11:** Last day to drop a course with a DR grade

**March 12:** College of Nursing and Health Sciences Donors/Scholars Luncheon (11:30am, GC Ballroom—RSVP required)

**March 17-22:** Spring Break

**March 24:** High School Open House (8:45am—1:45pm)

**March 1—March 31:** National Athletic Training Month.

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**Quote of the Month**

“The mark of a true professional is giving more than you get.”

*Unknown*