Class of 2008: Where are they now?

So what do athletic training students do upon graduation. They take the BOC exam and start a job search! The class of 2008 succeeded in both endeavors. This is where they are now...

**Farah Hernandez, ATC** is working for UHZ Sports Medicine Institute with Dr. Keith Hechtman, the Team Physician for FIU, as a physician extender.

**Rodrigo Martinez, ATC** is the head athletic trainer at Somerset Academy.

**Frank Milan, ATC** is working as the head athletic trainer at Hialeah Gardens High School, a new high school opening this year.

**Dawn Selvidge, ATC** is the head athletic trainer at North Miami Beach High School.

**Cara Vreeland** has been spending time with her son Christian but we look forward to her eligibility to sit for the BOC exam.

Congratulations to the Class of 2008. We are very proud of you! Please keep in touch and inform us of all your future accomplishments.

- C. Ristori & J. Restrepo

From the Director’s Desk

WELCOME BACK!!! As we embark on another academic year we have many accomplishments to recognize. The Entry-level ATEP graduated it’s first class from the accredited program. We achieved a **100% passing rate** on the BOC exam. Way to go class of 2008!!!

There have been several changes in both ATEPs. **Dr. Brady Tripp** resigned from FIU to accept a position at the University of Florida. Although we are sad to see him go, we wish him the best.

Several new adjunct faculty members have been hired to teach in both ATEPs: **Tara Clark, Gabe Casanova, Dennis Coonan, Grizelle Garcia, and Jennifer Smoyak**. Additionally, the Entry-level ATEP has a few new ACIs/CIs. Welcome **Dennis Coonan, Lesley King, and Yi-Tzu Kuo**.

I am also extremely pleased to welcome the new Senior Secretary for the Athletic Training Department, **Debbie Gronlier**. Monday, September 15th will be Ms. Gronlier’s first official day on the job. I am thrilled to be adding Ms. Gronlier to our team. I know that she will be a tremendous asset for us all. Please be sure to welcome her next week.

- J. Restrepo
Robinson Henry, a Level II Athletic Training Student (ATS) in the Entry-Level ATEP, just returned from a preseason internship with the Minnesota Vikings. This internship opportunity was awarded to Robinson upon winning a minority scholarship from the National Football League (NFL). From July 19—August 30, 2008, Robinson interacted with the Athletic Training Staff and provided athletic training healthcare to professional athletes during preseason practices and games. He was afforded the opportunity to apply taping techniques, modality treatments, and rehabilitation assistance. Robinson is the first FIU ATS to be awarded this opportunity in the NFL. Eric Sugerman, Head Athletic Trainer of the Vikings, had this to say about Robinson. “He did a great job... We invited him back for next preseason.” Mr. Sugerman also offered to help other FIU ATSs gain NFL experience in the future. Robinson, we are very proud of you!!! You have opened the door for other FIU ATSs to gain similar experiences.

John Steele, ATC, LAT

John Steele, ATC, LAT, CSCS comes to FIU from Villanova University in Pennsylvania where he was a football Graduate Assistant. He is expected to receive his MS degree in Public Administration in Spring of 2009.

In 2005, John worked with the New England Patriots and in 2006, he worked with NFL Europe. John also spent a summer in 2007 working with the Philadelphia Eagles. Currently John is the Assistant Football Athletic Trainer at FIU. He also has the responsibility of acting as an ACI for ATSs gaining clinical education during the football season.

John is the Assistant Football Athletic Trainer at FIU. He also has the responsibility of acting as an ACI for ATSs gaining clinical education during the football season.

Dennis Coonan, ATC, LAT

Dennis Coonan, ATC, LAT comes to FIU from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA where he worked with women’s volleyball and baseball. Dennis received his BS degree from Iowa State University and his MS degree in Education from the University of Kansas. After completing his degree, he worked at two high schools in Houston, TX. He is designated as the Head Men’s Basketball Athletic Trainer at FIU. He is an ACI who supervises ATSs gaining clinical education during the men’s basketball season.

Dennis Coonan (lower right)

Welcome to the new Graduate Assistants (GA) of the Post-Professional Athletic Training Education Program!

Nicole Figuerola: West Broward High School

Madeline McGuire: Miami Country Day High School

Derek Rivera: Hallandale High School

Courtney Schaeper: Miramar High School

Adam Simpson: Cypress Bay High School

Shannon Singleton: McArthur High School

Ginette Torres: Doral Academy

Lindsay Tunney: Cooper City High School

We also extend a warm welcome to the returning GA’s who are expected to graduate Spring 2009.

Alexandra Alvarez: Flanagan High School

Andrea Miller: Everglades High School

Cyndi Ristori: Doral Academy

Laura Zona: South Broward High School

We also extend a warm welcome to the returning GA’s who are expected to graduate Spring 2009.
A group of ATSs attended the 2008 Athletic Trainers’ Association of Florida Symposium back in April. Four FIU students were selected for the Honorary Student Host program; Cyndil Flores, Kerri Houck, Kenneth Johnson, and Sherain Lewis. These ATSs assisted with registration, introduced speakers, and collected tickets for the awards luncheon among other duties. Additionally, these ATSs networked with peers and professionals.

Next ATSO Meeting: September 17, 2008 in GPA 113 at 12:30pm. Elections will be held September 17th. Nominations are still being accepted for the following positions: CSO Representative, Director of Finance and Director of Public Relations. Also, membership dues must be turned in at our next meeting on September 17th. Dues are $20 for the entire year OR $15 per semester.

Football game voucher: Don’t forget to get your voucher for the home opener on September 20, 2008 against University of South Florida. Pick up your voucher at the ticket box office in GPA by Friday, September 12th. There is a limited supply, so don’t wait until the last minute! If you do not have a voucher you will not be allowed to enter the game.

---

**ATSO Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry-Level ATEP</th>
<th>General Information</th>
<th>December 18: Grades available on the web</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 17: Mandatory ATEP Meeting (12pm, GPA 113)</td>
<td>September 2: Deadline to Drop/Add without financial penalty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15: Mandatory ATEP Meeting (12pm, GPA 113)</td>
<td>October 6: First day to apply for Spring 2009 graduation</td>
<td>December 25-January 2: Winter Break-University closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 5: Mandatory ATEP Meeting (12pm, GPA 113)</td>
<td>October 17: Deadline to drop course with a DR grade</td>
<td>December 30: Last day to pay fees for Spring 2009 classes without cancellation of enrollment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 11: Veteran’s Day-</td>
<td>January 1: Happy New Year!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 13-26: Spring reg-</td>
<td>January 5: First day of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>istration begins</td>
<td>classes for Spring 2009 sem-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 27 &amp; 28: Thanks-</td>
<td>mester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>giving Holiday-University closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 8-13: Finals week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>