

Pittsburg State University
Health, Human Performance, and Recreation Department
Recreation Services, Sport & Hospitality Management Program
Academic Year 2019 – 2020 Program Highlights

Program Growth

- The RSSHM program has seen growth in student majors in the last year and half. Some of this growth can be attributed to the program changes that were implemented in 2018.

Faculty Involvement

- Department hosted the Kansas Recreation and Parks Association (KRPA) board member retreat in the fall.
- The recreation faculty presented together at KRPA in February with the topic of hiring new graduates. Four students attended the conference and assisted with the faculty's presentation.
- Faculty continued to participate in recruitment events, such as Rumble in the Jungle.
- The HHPR department hosted Kansas Association on Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Dance (KAPEHRD) conference in the fall. Sarah Ball, Rick Hardy and Janice Jewett each presented at the conference.
- All faculty were involved in various outreach projects through classes with organizations throughout the community.
- Faculty continue to be involved in various scholarly activities in addition to conferences such as writing journal articles and implementing various research projects.

Student Involvement

- Students attended the KRPA conference and assisted with the faculty's presentation.
- RSSHM students completed a research project for the Pittsburg Parks and Recreation Department (PPRD). One student group conducted a survey for community members about acceptance of non-smoking policies in parks and healthy food options at concession stands. The second group conducted surveys pertaining to the Four Oaks Golf Course, focusing on helping the course increase revenue through suggestions of new programs and additions.
- RSSHM students also had the opportunity to collaborate with PPRD in the spring to begin the planning of Outdoor Kansas Kids Day. The planning had to be cancelled due to the move to the online course format for the students and COVID-19 restrictions.
- TR program planned and hosted TR-Iffric Field Day in November at the PSU Plaster Center. The program had over 200 attendees, the best attendance to date. Students from all majors within the department volunteered for the event.
- *Please see email for attached document for advisory board student representatives input on RSSHM program and transition to online courses this spring.*

Student Internships

The following are locations student internships were completed during Summer & Fall 2019 & Spring 2020.

- Freeman Hospital, Joplin, MO – Psychiatric Unit
- Pittsburg State University Plaster Center
- The Ozone – Osawatomie KS
- Easterseals of Georgia, Columbus, GA
- Kids TLC – Overland Park, KS
- Fayetteville Veterans Hospital, Fayetteville, KS
- Leavenworth Veterans Hospital, Leavenworth, KS
- Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, Lincoln, NE
- Fort Scott Recreation Commission, Fort Scott, KS
- Crawford County Mental Health, Pittsburg, KS
- Imagine! Out & About, Lafayette, CO
- Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department, Kansas City, MO
- Kids TLC, Overland Park, KS
- Junction City Brigade Baseball, Junction City, KS
- Cerner Corporation Fitness & Wellness, Kansas City, KS
- MWR Coast Guard, Kodiak, AK
- Ottawa Recreation Commission, Ottawa, KS
- Shangri-La Resort, Afton, OK
- *RSSHM students have been given the option for the summer of 2020 to complete an alternative internship, complete their internship in the fall, or complete a traditional internship in the summer with approval and discussions with the student and the agency supervisor. The traditional internship can be completed remotely, if agreed with the student, agency supervisor, and academic supervisor.*

Community & Worksite Wellness

The Community and Worksite Wellness has implemented a new course titled Promoting Community and Worksite Wellness. This course has been approved to meet the PittState Pathways requirements and as an elective for the Public Health Minor. The class has been delivered face-to-face for the past two Fall semesters and will be delivered on-line this coming Fall.

The Community and Worksite Wellness courses have been involved in the following activities:

- Worked with the Crawford County Health Department on a program for single moms, new moms and pregnant moms during the Fall semester. This involved communicating thoughts and ideas on the event, designing and preparing a flyer to promote the event, and determining the logistics for the event.
- Visited and toured the Community Health Center of SEK

- Observed the Biometric Screening on Campus and discussed the information obtained through the screenings as well as job opportunities with the company conducting the screenings.
- Heard a presentation and received materials on safety/wellness aspects at PSU from Mr. Jeff Stotts.
- Students in Community and Worksite Wellness and Dance observed, hosted a booth and presented at Parents University.
- Worked with Axe Library on ideas for movement in the library including advertising, promoting, equipment recommendations and more- all with the purpose of encouraging students to move every hour or more.
- Worked with Axe Library on Fitness Videos that could be used during Dead Week and Finals Week. This included meeting in the library, discussing options with the Resource Librarian, developing questions for an Instagram poll, and discussing best modes of exercise to be delivered.
- Guest Instructors have provided opportunities for the students in Group Fitness to see an effective style of leadership as well as key components of a group fitness class, in action. Ms. Regina Casner and Ms. Chelsey Powell-Davenport (both graduates of PSU) have offered their expertise in this capacity either through in-person class or via video.

Dance Minor/Dance Program

Our Dance Appreciation students participated in the Pittsburg Christmas Parade by performing various dances in the parade. In addition, students in Dance Appreciation performed a flashmob dance at a home men's and women's basketball game.

The Dance Minor Program conducted three different auditions for the newly formed PSU Dance Research Symposium and Performance (replacing the Dance Showcase which had been offered the past four years). Ms. Abbey Sommerauer, Graduate Assistant in Dance, choreographed six dances for the performance. In addition, a total of approximately 20 students auditioned their own work in the form of solo and group dances for the performance. Costumes were researched and ordered. A tech rehearsal for this event was held in March at the Bicknell Family Center for the Arts. In addition, student research opportunities were recruited for the Research Symposium and a \$700 grant was received for these students to present their work in a poster presentation style. Although the event was canceled this year, the groundwork has been laid for this new format which will be presented next Spring. *Thank you, Janice Jewett, Community & Worksite Wellness; Dance Minor/Certificate*

Hospitality Management

This semester concludes the second year of PSU hospitality management emphasis and certificate programs. The first hospitality management student to complete their certificate program was in the fall 2019.

- There are currently 14 total students pursuing this emphasis (10) and certificate (4).
- Hospitality management students have been completing practicums with various agencies including but not limited to PSU organizations and departments (Bicknell Center, PSU Foundation, Campus Activities, etc.), hotels, and event venues.

- Hospitality management courses continue to have substantial class sizes: Fall 2019 (REC 400 – 22 students and REC 404 – 18 students) Spring 2020 (REC 402 – 15 students and REC 410 – 22 students).
- With all hospitality management courses being online, spring 2020 COVID-19 responses and their impact to courses has been limited in this program.
- COVID-19 responses has impacted some of our practicum students completing hours at agencies, course modifications were made to allow students the ability to complete the course. *Thank you! Sarah Ball, Hospitality Management*

Recreation and Sport Management

We started August 2019 with 74 students in the Recreation Sport Management emphasis, which was up from 58 at the end of the spring of 2019. At the end of the academic year May 2020 we have held steady at 75 students in the emphasis.

Fall of 2019 we started teaching the REC 426 Law of the Professions class. Before the Coronavirus hit this spring the REC 435 Facility Design and Operations class was scheduled to visit both the Worlds of Fun amusement park and the Kansas Speedway. This experience would have been the first-time getting a behind the scenes tour and Q and A with the operations, management, and marketing staffs at Worlds of Fun.

We continue to look for new students, new experiences for our students, and new and exciting partners for internships. *Rick Hardy, Ph.D., Recreation and Sport Management Emphasis Advisor / Master Advisor*

Therapeutic Recreation

Therapeutic Recreation students and courses have been involved in the following activities:

- TR students created and implemented various therapeutic interventions for consumers at New Hope Services, residents of Gran Villas Assisted Living, and residents of Highland Meadows. Prior to COVID-19, students were in preparations to plan and provide interventions for the Learning Center in Girard and a Special Education class at George Nettles Elementary School.
- Two TR students, Kerestin Beaty and Libby VanRheen, were recruited to be student researchers on Dr. Covert Miller's research project, Assessing Fitness Levels of Adults 50 and Over in Southeast Kansas. Training took place in fall 2019. The spring semester three assessments were able to be completed with test subjects before the COVID-19 restrictions came in to place. It is hoped this research will be able to be continued in the future.
- Prior to COVID-19, students in the Adapted PE course were meeting with Special Olympics athletes weekly to lead and participate in a Unified Fitness program. Dr. Covert Miller also started a research project within this course examining the health effects of unified fitness with Special Olympics athletes. This research has been postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. It is hoped this research will be able to be continued in the future.

- Multiple guest speakers, who were former PSU TR graduates, presented on their jobs and experiences in the TR field. Speakers were in person or interviewed virtually due to their location. *Thank you, Laura Covert Miller, Therapeutic Recreation*