

IATA Student Congress Monthly Report

**Aurora University**

Students of Aurora University’s ATP have been kept quite busy this semester! Everyone is deep into their clinical hours at either the high school setting or the collegiate setting. Football is over for some of those in high schools that didn’t make play-offs, so they are getting prepared for basketball and wrestling! Senior athletic training students have had guest speakers in their Administration of Athletic Training class teaching them about communication, ethical practice, and various settings of the athletic trainer. Juniors are finishing up their practicals for their Upper Extremity Evaluation class and are almost able to complete orthopedic evaluations of the entire body. Sophomores are almost through with their Anatomy and Physiology 1 class and are excited to finish this semester and start learning about orthopedic evaluations in January.

    Our student organizations are currently keeping student’s busy outside of clinicals and the classroom. Spartan Athletic Training Student Organization (SATSO) started selling t-shirts and sunglasses to family and friends to raise money for field trips and fun events. SATSO took a fun field trip to Heap’s Pumpkin Farm for a haunted corn maze and moonlit tractor ride. Students had a blast getting lost in the maze and relaxing a bit after just taking midterms two week prior. SATSO members are currently planning out volunteer events for the rest of the year.

Our honor society organization, Iota Tau Alpha (ITA) is hosting an educational event this month. ITA will be having Brian Vesci, a concussion specialist from Northwestern University, speak to the ATP about concussion management.

So far, the fall 2017 semester has been a busy and productive semester for everyone!

**Eastern Illinois University**

Eastern Illinois University Athletic Training has had a few recent events and along with a few events that are soon to come. Some recent events the program held included having a guest nutritionist speak to the athletic training students about diet in relation to athletic performance and fundraising the “I Love My Athletic Trainer” shirts. Both were excellent outcomes as most students in the athletic training program participated in the events. Some upcoming events for the EIU athletic training program include the SASTM certification course, which we hope to put in place by the end of the month, and a possible food drive for hunger awareness month by teaming up with other Kinesiology departments. For fun, we plan on having a bowling event for some class bonding later in the month, rolling into December.

**Illinois State University**

Our student organization has put on some great events in the last month and have many more planned. We hosted a Family Weekend Tailgate on October 27th. We also had a meeting to talk about social media in athletic training.

Our seniors are busy and excited to apply for graduate schools, find jobs, and prepare for the BOC. Our juniors are beginning to search and apply for internships for summer 2019. Our sophomores have been completing their first observation hours and will apply to the program at the end of the month.

    We are excited to send many students to the IATA State Symposium. The most we have sent in recent memory!

**Lewis University**

Lewis University students continue to work hard and show off their skills at clinical sites. Many have started preparing for winter sports, while others begin the winter season. Our upper extremity students are wrapping up their shoulder unit and begin elbow this week. Clinical 1 prepares to start their clinic rotation in the spring and can’t wait to show off the skills they have obtained in a new setting. Our seniors make final preparations for internships and continue to prepare for the BOC. All of our students are preparing for finals, as they are just around the corner and new clinical rotations are being assigned. Everyone is excited for this year’s quiz bowl team to compete at the IATA Symposium and to see Dr. Gonzales at the student session. Exciting time for all of our Lewis AT students as they are finishing the semester strong.

**North Park University**

Since last month, a lot has been going on for North Park University. To start, our program got the awesome opportunity to visit Northwestern University and view some of their brand new facilities. We got a personal tour from NATA President himself, Tory Lindley. The building that we got a tour from was just off of Lake Michigan, which in itself is very neat. He showed us their indoor field and practice facility, and that was also incredible. Next, we saw their strength and conditioning and weight room areas. This had state of the art equipment, and we got to see some of the teams in action. We were able to walk through the hallways to see where each locker room was and see their nutrition bar as well. Something new that they added to this building was the foam pit areas for their diving teams. This was so awesome to see, and gave us a unique perspective of how different the Division I athletics setting is from what we are used to.

The last place we saw was their athletic training facilities. Again, we got another great perspective of how the clinical side of things run in a Division I setting. One of our very own students is assigned to Northwestern Football this fall, and he gave us a tour of this area. We were able to see their state of the art treatment tables and taping tables, and learned the meaning behind choosing those specific pieces of equipment. We also were shown around to the different hydro rooms as well as different treatment rooms in the back. We ended the day with questions and a discussion with Tory. This experience was very beneficial and gave us such an exclusive perspective of athletic training that we don’t necessarily see very often. We are very fortunate to be such a short drive away from this awesome campus.

    Next thing that was on the agenda since our last meeting was discussion of the importance of the presence of our program at IATA. During our monthly student association meetings, myself, and a few other students were explaining to the rest of our program what the IATA State Symposium is, and why it is such a great opportunity to be a part of. As the President of our student association I expressed that this is not only a learning opportunity for everyone, but it is also an opportunity to network. Something that is taught to us from the moment of acceptance to the program, is that connections are important. I explained to the rest of the students that you never know who your future boss might be. This is such a great event that we are lucky to host every year and it is that much better when we get to share with our fellow classmates. It is an awesome learning opportunity for everyone.

    Lastly, our program is preparing for our annual Friendsgiving meal. This is an opportunity for all of us to come together and spend a Thanksgiving potluck meal together. It’s a nice break from homework and studying and get to see our classmates that we do not see each other as often as we used to. We have a few people in our program who also live far away and don’t get a chance to be able to go home for the holiday, so we like to come together for those people as well. Every year the student association will purchase the main entrée, and anyone who would like to volunteer and bring their favorite Thanksgiving dishes may do so.

    In the future, seniors have a lot to do to wrap up the second to last semester of college. Some of us are beginning to apply to graduate school and graduate assistantships. The rest of the program will be preparing for finals and getting ready to begin winter break. Winter break also comes time for the seniors to begin preparing for the BOC exam that we will take in April. It has been a whirlwind of a semester, but North Park Athletic Training is looking forward to what is coming up next!

**Northern Illinois University**

Over the last month, the NIU Athletic Training Program has continued to do volunteer work with the Huskie Food Pantry. We also have several students from the program who will be volunteering as first aid personal at the weight lifting composition, hosted by the NIU’s Exercises Science club on November 17th.

    At this year’s IATA Symposium, NIU will be having up to 10 students attending. We are fortunate to have Ashley Brown, Tanner Spoden, Catrina Sanfilippo as our Quiz bowl competitors, along with Dan Krout as our alternate.

**Olivet Nazarene University**

For November the senior class will be attending the ACES seminar to prepare us for the BOC, we also as a program have set up a little hour-long study break for the morning of November 13th, we are providing coffee and doughnuts to all athletic training majors in hopes of achieving a little breather and catching up between everyone. Also, we as a group will be going bowling on night during the week to have some fun and get to know our sophomores a little bit better. We are also preparing for our annual Christmas party.

**Western Illinois University**

This month at WIU we have been busy. We have been preparing to take our written and practical comps. We are happy to say that this year we will have nine students attending IATA. We finally have decided what equipment we are getting for our new resource room, we are putting in the order to MedCo next week. We had a fundraising bake sale at the end of October for Halloween and we made $149. This money will help contribute to bringing students to IATA by helping with registration and travel fees. Lastly, we had a program-wide suicide prevention training, which will be tremendously helpful in providing the best care we can to athletes and fellow students. We are looking forward to the face to face meeting this Sunday, can’t wait to see you all there! Go Necks!