

IATA Student Congress Monthly Program Reports

**Aurora University**

Students of Aurora University’s ATP have been kept quite busy this semester! Everyone is deep into his or her clinical hours in either the high school setting or the collegiate setting. Football is over for those in high schools that didn’t make play-offs, so they are enjoying some down time in the athletic training room, while AU football is still going strong for the next few weeks. 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, currently finishing up their lectures on the musculoskeletal system. They are excited to finish this semester and start learning about orthopedic evaluations in January. Only 6 more weeks left of this first semester for AU ATP students!

Our student organizations are currently keeping students busy outside of clinicals and the classroom. Spartan Athletic Training Student Organization (SATSO) just started selling t-shirts and sunglasses to family and friends to raise money for field trips and fun events. Students also participated in a 50/50 raffle to raise money at a home football game. SATSO was able to raise $270 after a fan won half the pot! They used some of this money at their first fun event of the semester: a 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 the week prior. This week, SATSO members will be volunteering at the Interfaith Food Pantry to help handout food to the Aurora community. SATSO members are currently planning out other volunteer events for the rest of the year. Iota Tau Alpha (ITA) Honor Society is also starting to carryout more events for the semester. ITA recently took in a new member, and the society is excited to induct all of our new members in the spring. ITA members finished planning their first educational event for the semester with the AU head athletic trainer, Nicki Pieart. Nicki will be presenting a padding workshop to students in December. She will talk about the different materials and their use, how to improvise pads, and how to create certain pads for different injuries. It will be a half lecture, half hands-on event for students to partake in. On top of preparing for the workshop, ITA members are also tutoring other students in the ATP. So far, the fall 2017 semester has been a busy and productive semester for everyone!

**Eastern Illinois University**

Currently our senior students are waiting for their results from the BOC. Many of them feel great about it. We recently had one of our Graduate Assistants teach a class on manual therapy. He focused on muscle energy and active release. This was a great experience for our program because we got to have more hands-on opportunity with it outside of the classroom. We are also in the process of ordering items for fundraising. We have shirts and koozies that promote our program. Our program has also been in contact with a few orthopedic doctors who are interested in coming to share experiences and knowledge with our students. This year our club seems to be getting more involved with learning possibilities than in the past.

**Illinois State University**

We had a meeting for the level zeros (ﬁrst semester freshman) to show them the application process and how to go about it. At the same meeting, the upper class-men had a meeting regarding attending the state meeting, goals for the upcoming semester, and quiz bowl.

**Lewis University**

Lewis University has been continuing to progress through the semester. The first year athletic training students have been working on practicing their assessment skills. They are getting prepared for next semester, in which they will have the opportunity to start their clinical experience. First and second semester athletic training students have been working on differential diagnoses for their initial evaluations. Furthermore, the Clinical 1 class is forming study groups to prepare for the final practical and written exam coming up soon. Seniors have been finalizing internships and visiting their intended sites, while also studying for the BOC. Overall, the students have experienced multiple clinical sites to get more exposure to different settings in the field. Registration for next semester’s classes will be in the upcoming next two weeks. Meeting with advisors are currently being scheduled to ensure that everyone is taking the right amount of courses to be ready to graduate by their corresponding expected year.

**North Central College**

November is a productive but quiet month for North Central. Many of the fall sports at NCC have completed their seasons with the exception of a few. Football and Men’s and women’s cross-country are headed into their post-season. With the conclusion of several fall sports on campus, many athletic training students are preparing for fall term finals and beginning their winter clinical experience. The Cardinal Athletic Training Student (CATS) club will also be having the annual Kitty Cat Bowl, a flag football team-bonding event, this month.

**Northern Illinois University**

Northern Illinois University is in the home stretch with a month and a half left in the semester. Our student organization, Northern Illinois Training Student Association (NIATSA), has continued to be busy this semester. We had 9 of our members volunteer at the “Pumpkin Run,” a local 10k held in Sycamore, IL. The students, along with one of the Graduate Assistants, were spread about the race path as medical spotters. On November 1st, NIATSA had their monthly meeting for elections. The new E-board has been selected and they are starting right away on plans for the next year. The President is Mia Reyes, Vice President Candace Schroeffel, Treasurer Shane Hudson, and Secretary Catrina Sanfilippo. As for the program, the 1st and 2nd year students have turned in their clinical request forms and are waiting to hear their assignments for the next year. As for the seniors, they have signed up for a practice BOC exam and are finalizing their internships. Lastly, the Athletic Training program is in discussions with the Health and Science department to potentially give our department the opportunity for inter-professional education in conjunction with the physical therapy and occupational therapy departments.

**North Park University**

Since our last meeting, North Park has been focusing a lot on working together as a unit. To start, we have been coordinating plans to do team building events, which include pick-up games of basketball and soccer. We figured we would do these things to mesh our program together more, as we are still trying to get our lower level students acclimated. Another thing that helps us work one on one with our lower level students is that the upper level students have been working toward being aids during the lower level student’s Orthopedic Assessment class as well as hosting study sessions each week to help them improve their skills with evaluations and injuries. Additionally, we have made a point to consider more volunteer opportunities, for the remainder of the year. Another thing that we have been doing as a program is supporting our athletic teams, specifically our men’s soccer team. We were recently named conference champions as well as CCIW conference tournament champions. Our athletic training program has been in huge support to this team. Starting this upcoming week, they will be competing nationally, and we are preparing to support them in any way possible. Our Athletic Training Student Association will be volunteering to help make the tournament run smoothly. In addition to this, our fall rotations are ending and we are preparing to move onto our next rotations. To close out November, we will be hosting a Friendsgiving potluck themed dinner at the end of the semester as a prospective student social.

**Olivet Nazarene University**

The Olivet Nazarene Athletic Training Program has been prepping for our CAATE visit for this week by getting our athletic training rooms into good shape, getting ready for the seniors to go to the ACES workshop the weekend of the 17th with study sessions every week, and about to switch clinical rotations from Fall sports to Winter sports. The semester is going by fast and the seniors are already preparing for our Research project they will be presenting in the spring. Some ideas for these projects include the return to learn protocol, manual therapy, Normatec and even the effects of malnutrition on injuries.

**Trinity International University**

Our Student Athletic Trainers are close to finishing their regular season clinical rotations. Within the next week or two, the students will be receiving winter and spring clinical rotations for next semester. The seniors, who will be graduating in the spring, will receive or choose an off campus internship. Also, the last weekend of October was Trinity’s homecoming where Student Athletic Trainers covered multiple sports over three days, which included men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer, and football. Lastly, the juniors and seniors presented a miniature case study of an injury they have seen during their clinical rotations.

**Western Illinois University**

 This month at Western Illinois, we have been fine-tuning our skills in preparation for our final comps coming up in the next few weeks. Our Athletic Training Student Association helped sponsor Brandon Cook’s (WIU Athletic Training Student) participation in the Relentless Detroit powerlifting meet by donating $250 to the Relentless Detroit Foundation. This foundation raises money, awareness, and support for families with children diagnosed with life threatening illnesses. We would like to recognize Dr. Jenn Plos, Clinical Coordinator and professor, on being awarded with the College of Education & Human Services Award for Outstanding Teaching, as well as the Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching. We are proud to have such an influential and wonderful professor! We have a new location for our Athletic Training resource room that we are trying to renovate. We have been fundraising by holding a bake sale and we setting up a raffle with the proceeds going towards the resource room. So, we hope to have a great turnout that will ultimately benefit the future Athletic Training students coming to WIU.