

IATA Student Congress Monthly Report

**Aurora University**

The students at Aurora University are deep into their classes this semester. Our seniors are working hard in their Advanced Strength and Conditioning course, learning about FMS testing and functional movement screening. They’re perfecting their skills by practicing with all the AU athletes. In Administration they are discussing the roles of an Athletic Trainer, this is compounded by guest speakers that are experts in each role. The Juniors are going through Modalities and Uppers. In Modalities, we’re going through Electrical modalities. We experimented with all the different levels and different case studies that might require stim and what our goals might be. In Uppers, we’re going into the shoulder. We’ve reviewed all the palpation points and are going to start working through special tests next week. The Sophomores are working on their Prevention and care course. They’re going through emergency action plans and on the field examinations.

SATSO this month, has a lot of different things going on. We have several fun events planned, like going to a Haunted Corn Maze and we’re looking at hosting a movie night for all the AT students. We’ve already started talking about our Christmas party and where we’re going to have it. We have a large group of students planning on attending the IATA, I’m pleased to say, some are even volunteering! Our SATSO members made a large donation to our on-campus food bank, Libby’s Place. Driven by competition, our Seniors brought in more than 300 items to donate. Several of our students braved the rain and wind to volunteer at the Chicago Marathon. They had some great hands on experience, working with the runners completing the Marathon. SATSO is also fleshing out some fundraiser ideas, we’re working our athletic events and selling sunglasses. We also have some restaurant partnership fundraising events coming up with South Moon and Panera. For field trips, we’re working on three right now. We’re reaching out to Northwestern and NIU to see if we can’t come and visit their Athletic Training Rooms. We’re also contacting the Kane County Cougars to see if we can’t see what their Athletic training department looks like.

The ITA society have increased their meetings from once a month to twice a month. They are currently discussing different fundraising projects and educational events that they would like to host that could benefit all the AT students, like bringing back imaging workshops and hosting at least one educational event a semester.  The group is also looking at exclusive events for ITA members that would help concrete concepts that are being covered in class, for example, spine boarding on different surfaces. ITA is working on their induction ceremony and looking at guest speakers to speak to their members. They are also trying to make the induction ceremony special to Aurora University, so their members have a unique experience.

**Eastern Illinois University**

Eastern Illinois Athletic Training has had a pretty productive month. One of the main events that were held for the program was a guest speaker Athletic Trainer who is working full time in Texas. She gave us a run down about where she works, how she got there, and what she is doing on a day to day basis. We are also still continuing to fundraise for the Athletic Training program by selling “I Love My Athletic Trainer” shirts. In addition, we held an Athletic Training tailgate during the homecoming football game, which was a huge success. Some events coming up for Eastern Illinois Athletic Training are having a nutritionist come in to guest speak for our program and holding a SASTM class which includes certifying our students in SASTM who participate in the class. The Eastern Illinois Athletic Training students are keeping busy now that we are past midterm. The seniors are getting closer to their BOC test dates, and the observation students are getting closer to finding out if they will make it into the Athletic Training program or not. There is still a lot more to come for EIU Athletic Training!

**Illinois State University**

ISU is chugging along through the school year. Our Level 2s (juniors) have just started their 8-week seminar internship class. Our program requires an internship the summer between junior and senior year. The Level 4s (seniors) have presented their internships to the younger class to give them expectations and ideas of what to apply for. Our sophomore students have been getting their observation hours to accompany their application into the program.

On November 1st, a group of senior and junior students will be heading up to Chicago with the College of Applied Science and Technology to meet with alumni from our program.

We are pushing students to sign up for the IATA meeting and apply for the ILead grant.

**Lewis University**

Lewis University has been working hard at their clinical sites, for some wrapping up the fall season sports and getting ready for playoffs as others prep for some winter sports. Recently, our upper extremity AT students have been working on cervical-spine, head and face injuries. Clinical 1 students continue to take advantage of the different sports going on at their clinical sites and learning from the injuries coming from each sport. They are working on how to assess all sports individually and responding to the injuries acquired. Meanwhile, our seniors are finalizing internships and begin prepping to take the BOC. Our quiz bowl team is getting ready to participate next month at the IATA Symposium in Peoria, IL. We are also very excited to have our very own Dr. Gonzales be presenting this year on his mulligan mobilizations. Our students have been working hard and continue to work hard and can’t wait to see what the rest of this semester has instore for us.

**North Park University**

In the beginning of the month, North Park was focused on the Bank of America Chicago Marathon. We came together as a program to discuss common medical conditions and practiced acute care. The seniors and juniors were in charge of creating presentations with different medical conditions and educated the lower level students on what to expect on race day. We also had our 5th Annual Mock Marathon at school to help our students practice how they would handle live scenarios before the actual race.

We had our second Athletic Training Student Association (ATSA) meeting to discuss upcoming events. These include program bonding parties (Friendsgiving, Christmas, etc), the CAATE, and this year’s ATSA t-shirt. This is a big year for us because the CAATE is visiting our campus in November. In order to prepare for their visit, we made a cleaning schedule and each class is responsible to clean the facilities each week.

We then talked about the new ATSA t-shirt design. This year, however, we decided to order more shirts to sell it to students, family and friends. It’s exciting to see that a lot of people are willing to buy our shirts and it is also a great way to get our program out there. The last thing we discussed was the IATA Symposium in Peoria, IL. We are trying to get as many students to attend, for it will be a great opportunity for networking and to be able to represent North Park’s Athletic Training program.

**Northern Illinois University**

For Northern’s program the month of October has been filled of volunteer opportunities. Our big opportunity has been the Chicago Marathon. We were fortunate to have fifteen student volunteers who were part of the “sweep team.” The sweep team consisted of other school programs who all lined up at the end of the race and helped spotted runners who might’ve needed medical attention. Along with the marathon we had had a few volunteers at a Special Olympics flag football event. Our next volunteer event will the annual Sycamore Pumpkin Run on Sunday October 28.

**Trinity College**

Our Trinity Athletic Training students are getting back into the swing of things after a much needed few days off for fall break; we have students doing their rotations at a local high school and college as well as the men’s and women’s soccer teams, the football team and the volleyball team here on campus. We have six new students who joined us this year as part of the new athletic training master’s program we are offering. They have been adjusting to their new journey as an athletic trainer and are fitting in very well with our six undergraduate students. All six of our undergraduates’ students will be graduating this year, so they are busy studying for their BOC exams. It has been an exciting and new transition for our program as all twelve students work together not only in their rotations, but in the classroom as well.

Looking forward to the next few weeks we will have a number of students attending the IATA Conference for the first time. Most of the sports teams are starting to finish up their regular season so our students will keep busy making sure all the athletes are healthy for their playoffs.

**Western Illinois University**

This month at Western we have been pretty busy! We are ordering new AT apparel for our students and AT staff members, so we are excited about that! We have also organized a fundraiser for our local Humane Society in the form of having a pet costume party open to all as long as they bring a dog or cat food donation. We also are planning on having a bake sale to fundraise for our athletic training student association so that we can send students to the conference next month. We are also planning community service projects where we will go to the local forest preserves and parks to clean them up. This year we also have a new professor and clinical coordinator, Lacey Chapel, MS ATC. She has been certified and practicing for the past 15 years and is new to teaching. She is certified in the Graston Technique, we are happy to have her and are learning a lot from her. Our Program Director, Renee Polubinski EdD, ATC, CSCS, CES, has now been promoted to Department Chair of Kinesiology. Jenn Plos, EdD, ATC, is now our Program Director. Lastly, we cleaned out our old resource room and are now ordering new supplies with the funds we raised last semester. A lot of good going on over here at WIU! GO NECKS!