MESSAGE FROM THE HPS CHAIR: Dr. Ruth Ann Nyhus

The Human Performance and Sport Department is excited and honored to be a part of Metropolitan State University of Denver’s (MSU Denver) 50th Anniversary. We hope you take some time and come back to visit your old stomping grounds and experience the changes, as well as be reminded of the things that stay the same. While you’re on campus, stop by the department to see the renovations and new additions to the state-of-the-art equipment in the Teaching Weight Room, Exercise Physiology Lab, Athletic Training Lab, as well as our other teaching spaces. We also have several new faculty who would enjoy meeting HPS alumni and creating additional networking connections. Among all of the changes on campus and in the department, the one thing that stays the same is the commitment of the faculty and staff who prepare students to have an immediate impact in their chosen profession.

We hope your experience at MSU Denver transformed your life. Do you have memories, experiences or wisdom from your time at MSU Denver that you would like to share with our current students? Our students want to learn from people in the field, just like you, and make connections in their chosen industry. If you are interested, please contact us at hps@msudenver.edu. We want you to be a part of the next generation of students’ transformation!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/MSUDenverHPS

Adult Fitness/Exercise Science

Hello Metro State HPS-AFES graduates! On behalf of our entire faculty, I certainly hope all of you are doing well. It’s been another fast-paced year at MSU Denver. If you haven’t been to campus lately, you may not recognize it! Many changes have taken place to facilities and outdoor spaces. I’d encourage you to come for a visit. We’ve summarized some of the activities that have taken place since our last newsletter below.

Accreditation: We’ve reached the last year of our initial accreditation status. We were originally accredited in 2011 and will submit a bid for reaccreditation next year. Each year, we submit an annual report to maintain our status as one of the only accredited programs in the country. So far, so good! Thanks to those of you who were contacted recently to answer survey questions needed for our annual report!

Recent Graduates: We’ve had several recent graduates find employment after completing their internships. The following agencies have hired AFES interns recently (to name a few): Anschutz Health and Wellness Center, Steadman-Hawkins, Miller-Coors, and Rose Medical Center. Congratulations!
Faculty: Dr. Thompson, Julie Mancuso and Dr. Quatrochi are continuing to teach the bulk of the AFES major courses. You'll be interested to know that we were approved to hire a new full-time, tenure-track faculty member. The search for a new colleague has begun and we hope to have him/her on staff for the Fall 2016 term. Dr. Thompson continues to bring prestige to our department through his work with the ACSM on various important committees. He was granted ACSM “Fellow” status last year. Be sure to congratulate him on this impressive designation when you see him!

We continue to have outstanding adjunct faculty who contribute to our program as well. We are fortunate to have stability in this area of our faculty and very much appreciate their hard work and professionalism.

Curriculum: We've made a few changes over the past year to improve our major. You may be interested to know that our concentration will now be called “Exercise Science” – beginning in 2016. We chose to omit the words “adult fitness” to better reflect the comprehensive nature of our major. Additionally, we now have an on-campus pathway for students interested in gaining experience in the strength and conditioning niche. Metro alumnus (and AFES grad) Isaiah Castelleja was appointed as director of strength and conditioning by the department of athletics. He now supervises our field experience and internship students at the new Regency Athletics Complex. If you haven’t been there to see the fields and the new weight room for athletics, you should do so soon!

Department/Facility: Our department forged a relationship with Cybex that has afforded us benefits through replacement of weight room equipment and on-campus educational workshops.

All in all, it was another productive and enjoyable year in our department. We hope you’ve enjoyed reading about it. Please stay in touch and let us know how you’re doing!

Sport Industry Operations

Hello MSU Denver Sport Industry Operations Alumni!

The SIO program continues to grow and make exciting improvements. In August, 2015 the program was granted candidacy status by the Commission on Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA). We are currently completing a year long self-study and hope to achieve full accreditation by Spring, 2017. Two new electives have been approved for the SIO program: Leadership & Ethics in Sport and Global Sport. The new SIO curriculum, which was fully implemented in the fall 2014, has been receiving very positive feedback from current students.

Recent graduates of the SIO program have been excelling the field: Breianna Miller was recently hired to work with the Colorado Avalanche as an Inside Sales Representative for Kroenke Sports and Entertainment.
Dillon Barkman was hired by the Gold Crown Foundation and was recently promoted to Assistant Facilities Director.

Amy Wagner works for the Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association. Amy joined the Major League Alumni Marketing staff in August 2013 after interning with Major League Alumni Marketing in the summer of 2013. Amy manages online accounts, stadium auctions and exclusive player signings.

Drew Schneider and Jake Versaw work for the Denver Outlaws, the professional lacrosse team. Drew is an account executive and oversees ticket sales. This will be his second season with the Outlaws after finishing his first in the Inside Sales department. Jake is an Account Executive with the Denver Outlaws Lacrosse team. Included in his daily duties are interactions with new, former and current clients alike, building brand recognition and infinity through superior customer service and attention to detail, and theme night promotions. All of these SIO alums continue to support the SIO program by hiring and mentoring interns from MSU Denver.

The SIO Faculty have been active this past year. Colleen Colles continues to serve as an abstract reviewer for both the Sport & Recreation Law Association and COSMA conferences as well as serving as an external reviewer for sport management programs across the country. Troy Morgan is conducting research on student-athlete development and will defend his dissertation in the fall of 2015. In addition, Troy has been a guest speaker for various academic and private sport organizations in the Denver community, including sitting on the board of directors of two private sport performance / development organizations in Nashville, TN, and Manhattan, KS. Troy is a co-author of a sport sociology textbook that will be released next fall. Nicole Furuiye has been selected to serve on the Nominating Committee with USA Taekwando and continues her research on social media and sport along with NFL player transition. In addition to teaching full time, Nicole has been busy working on her doctoral studies in Sport Administration the University of Northern Colorado.

Be sure to follow us on social media!

[Links to Facebook and Twitter]

K12 Physical Education

MSU DENVER ALUMS & TEACHERS GIVING BACK TO THE PROFESSION:

Thank you to the following alums for being guest speakers, cooperating teachers and mentors for future teachers!

Chad Rail, Jason DeHerrera, Pam Smith, Sammy Chumacero, Jason Mondragon, Elizabeth Miner, Nick Walker, Tim Chavez, Tim DeBerry, Bonnie Walker, Terry Muilenburg,

Student’s presenting at 2015 SHAPE CO:

The following students presented and represented MSU Denver at 2015 SHAPE Convention

- **Rhythm and Beat for Elementary presentation**
  Bailey Levitt, Miles Higgenbotham, Henry Prescott III, Shana Martin

- **Outdoor Education presentation**
  Jill Pruett, Miles Higgenbotham, Shana Martin, Ali Hall

AWARDS/NEWS:
Jason Mondragon had a TV appearance on Channel 9 on “Making Kids More Active”.  

Congratulations to 2012 ALUM Natasha Jones for earning the 2015 SHAPE Colorado Young Professional Award for demonstrating outstanding potential in teaching, scholarships, and service. The recipient shall have demonstrated a quality of performance that, if continued, indicates that he/she will develop into a distinguished member of the profession.

The job placement numbers for MSU Denver Physical Education teachers continue to be high with 100% of job seekers obtaining physical education employment this past spring 2015.

Patricia Morrison, executive director of SHAPE CO received the HONOR AWARD 2015. Please see more: http://www.shapeamerica.org/pressroom/2015/honor-award-2015.cfm

Congratulations to Dr. Ruth Ann Nyhus (K12 professor & Department Chair) for receiving the Dr. Elizabeth Friot Award for Outstanding Contributions and Support to the Roadrunner Athletic Department

Thank you for being amazing alumni and proudly representing the MSU Denver family - please keep us updated on your whereabouts and come back for a visit!

In Good Health,

HPS Department Faculty