A message from Bob Baker, Conference Chair:

We are looking forward to a great conference in Pittsburgh. Thank you to all of the NASSM members who served as Reviewers and Section Heads in the areas of Communication, Diversity, Economics, Ethics, Finance, Governance, Legal Aspects, Management and Leadership, Marketing, Organizational Theory/Culture, Professional Preparation, Research and Statistical Methodology, Socio-cultural, Sport Tourism, and Teaching. A total 974 blind reviews were performed. Of the 487 abstracts submitted, 300 were accepted, making for a very full conference program once again. In addition to the presentations, posters, and teaching & learning fair, we have the International Reception, the Awards Night, the President’s Luncheon, the Zeigler Banquet, and an optional river cruise on Friday night. The NASSM conference provides a great opportunity to catch up with old friends, exchange insights, learn what your colleagues are doing, and push the envelope of the sport management knowledge base. I hope to see you in Pittsburgh. Visit the conference website for more information. http://www.nassm.com/NASSM2014/

Regards,
Bob Baker
NASSM 2014 Awards

Earle F. Zeigler Lecture Award
James Zhang
University of Georgia

Garth Paton Distinguished Service Award
Ming Li
Western Michigan University

Distinguished Sport Management Educator Award
Brenda Pitts
Georgia State University

Diversity Award
Mary Hums
University of Louisville

Research Fellows
Dae Hee Kwak
University of Michigan
Sheranne Fairley
The University of Queensland

Doctoral Student Grants
Per Svensson
University of Louisville
Noni Zaharia
University of Northern Colorado

Student Research Award Winner
Christine Wegner
Temple University

Student Research Award Runners-Up
Elizabeth Delia
Florida State University
Benjamin Larkin
University of Massachusetts
Richard Buning
University of Florida

NASSM Officers

Dr. Larena Hoeber
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Dr. B. Christine Green
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Dr. Tim DeSchriver
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Dr. Brian McCullough
Secretary
Bowling Green State University
COSMA Update

COSMA is busy as spring is underway. Four member institutions have hosted site visits this spring and four others will host site visits in the fall. COSMA has applied officially for the first step in the CHEA (Council on Higher Education Accreditation) recognition process: Eligibility. We will find out in June if we have passed this first hurdle.

The COSMA Board of Directors would like to welcome Elizabeth Taylor, a graduate student at the University of Tennessee, as the newly-elected Student Director. Ms. Taylor will serve a two-year term. And the COSMA Board of Commissioners welcomes back Colleen Colles (Metropolitan State University of Denver) and Tim Newman (York College of Pennsylvania) for their second, three-year term. Curt Laird of Wingate University is the newly elected member to the BOC; his three-year term will run through 2017.

The Board of Commissioners is working through a revision of the Accreditation Principles and Self-Study Preparation manual. Revisions of the accreditation documents occur about every five years and this iteration will streamline some processes and make modifications to the Common Professional Component (CPC) areas and how faculty are defined in terms of their participation levels. The draft adds a sub-principle that specifically examines internships programs (if an institution has one), and all principles are revised to focus on “closing the loop” – a reflection by the sport management program on how well they are meeting each principle.

In 2015, COSMA will host its own two-day conference in Philadelphia, PA. While specific details are not yet available, the conference will provide an opportunity for new and prospective members to learn about the accreditation process; acknowledge accredited members for their accomplishments; provide a forum for faculty to present their research on topics related to accreditation; and offer an opportunity for attendees to workshop their outcomes assessment plans, candidacy status applications, and self study documents.

Upcoming COSMA Events/Training:
May 28, 2014, 12:30-2:00pm: 6th Annual COSMA Member Meeting (all welcome) @2014 NASSM Conference
May 28, 2014, 2:00 – 3:30pm: Rubric Development Workshop @2014 NASSM Conference
Dates TBD: Webinars on writing Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), and “Principle of the Month.”
February 2015: First Annual COSMA Conference, Philadelphia, PA. Dates TBD.

Contact Heather Alderman at cosma@cosmaweb.org or 202-329-1189.
Update from the Student Board

The 2014 NASSM Conference is just around the corner and the Student Board is very excited for this year’s student initiatives! Mark your calendars for four student events happening in Pittsburgh – Student Luncheon (Thursday), Faculty-Student Mentor Luncheon (Friday), Student Social (Friday), and Student Symposium (Saturday). The student initiatives will provide valuable opportunities for networking, professional development, and of course fun!!

The Student Luncheon will take place at Duquesne University’s Power Center, for which transportation will be provided. We are excited to announce that Charlie Batch, former Steelers’ player and founder of Best of the Batch Foundation, will be speaking at the luncheon this year. Additionally, the election for student representative positions will take place at this time. We will be raffling off several books from FiT publishing and providing free lunch for all who attend!

The Faculty-Student Mentor Luncheon presents a great professional development opportunity for NASSM’s student members by providing an opportunity to network with faculty members. This initiative also provides an opportunity for faculty to develop meaningful collaborations with fellow faculty members, while sharing knowledge and experience with current students based on shared research interests. Faculty and students sit together during the President's Luncheon, providing an opportunity to discuss various interests in a relaxed, inviting atmosphere that benefits both students and faculty.

The student symposium this year will focus on a topic that commonly causes high anxiety among students: preparing for the right career path after graduation. A distinguished and diverse panel of sport management faculty will help address this issue in a more intimate, roundtable discussion where each student can speak directly to each faculty member. They will help clarify your aspirations by speaking on such topics like: research vs. non-research positions; essential job skills; alternative career paths outside of academia; and recent trends in candidate selections.

The student social will be hosted at Easy Street Pittsburgh Bar & Restaurant, Friday night from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Easy Street is located a short walking distance from the conference hotel (4 blocks). The venue will be providing us with great specials in addition to their existing happy hour menu. There will be a socially informal “business card speed networking” session for the first hour, so bring your business cards! The student social will be a great time to relax, meet student members, and form potential collaborations for future projects. If you have any questions about the upcoming conference, feel free to contact us. We are excited to see you in Pittsburgh!

Student Board
Lee Lower (lower.34@osu.edu) – Student Luncheon
Dave Walsh (davewwalsh@gmail.com) – Student Symposium
Patti Millar (pmillar@uwo.ca) – Faculty-Student Mentor Luncheon
Josh Lupinek (lupi0017@umn.edu) – Student Social
Program News

NFL Media Boot Camp @ Bowling Green State University

Bowling Green State University’s Richard A. Maxwell Sport Media Project will host the NFL Sport Journalism and Communications Boot Camp, May 12-15, 2014. This is the second year that the boot camp has been offered as one of several programs developed by NFL Player Engagement to prepare current and former players for post-NFL careers.

This year’s participants will be 23 NFL players interested in post-playing careers as reporters, columnists or bloggers in sport media. The Maxwell Project was established for the BGSU sport management and communication students to learn the crafts of sports writing, broadcasting, media relations, and production. The project is named for a BGSU alumnus Dick Maxwell, who retired in 2006 as the NFL’s Senior Director of Broadcast Services. During his 35-year career with the NFL, Dick was instrumental in the production of numerous events including 32 Super Bowls.

Department Name Change @ Gordon College

The Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at Gordon College is now the Department of Recreation, Sport and Wellness. Gordon College is located on the Princemere Estate, which is 25 miles north of downtown Boston. Contact Lequez Spearman at lequez.spearman@gordon.edu for more information.