

RPTA NEWS



Department of Recreation Park & Tourism Administration
Western Illinois University

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ADVISING APPTS. FOR SPRING 2010 BEGIN WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9, 2009

It may seem early to think about your classes for next semester, but the **Spring 2010 Class Schedule** will be available in late September. Beat the rush & schedule your advising appt. **NOW** to see Holly Garbo. She is located in 403A Currens. Please call the RPTA office at 298-1967, or stop in room 400 Currens Hall, to schedule your appointment. Registration for Spring 2010 begins Nov.2, 2009. Remember, you CANNOT register for your classes until you have met with Holly to have your advising hold removed.

HORN FIELD CAMPUS NEWS & ACTIVITIES

ALL WIU students should visit WIU's Horn Field Campus at least once! Located within a mile of Macomb, Horn Field Campus (HFC) offers a Climbing Tower, a Teams Course, and a High Ropes course for students to come out and test their mettle. Here are a few upcoming HFC events:

Mom's Weekend Special! Open Climbing Saturday, Sept. 12, 1-4 p.m. Mom's climb **FREE**, everyone else is \$5.

The Corn Maze will be open **EVERY Saturday & Sunday in October** from **1-4 p.m.** *In addition*, the Corn Maze can also be rented out for student organizations. Please contact the Horn Field Campus office for more information!

Open High Ropes Dates: 1-4 p.m. Oct. 10, 24, and 31 \$10 per person.

Open Climbing Tower Dates: 1-4 p.m. Sept. 5, 12, Oct. 3, 10, 24, and 31.

Students, are YOU interested in training to become a challenge course facilitator at HFC? Contact Mindy Pheiffer at: mj-pheiffer@wiu.edu or 833-5798. Eligible for work-study employment and/or looking for a job site? Contact Horn Field at 833-5798.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The **NRPA (National Recreation and Park Association) Congress & Exposition** will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah October 13-16, 2009. All RPTA Graduate students, Juniors and Seniors should **SERIOUSLY** consider attending this conference if possible. There will be career and internship fairs, and plenty of Educational Sessions. Dr. Yoder is offering a 1 hr. Travel Workshop for students that want to attend. See additional information below about the Travel Workshop.

The **IAPD/IPRA (Illinois Association of Park Districts/Illinois Park & Recreation Association) Annual Conference & Exhibition** will be held Jan. 28-30, 2010 at the Hilton Chicago in Chicago, IL. Juniors and Seniors should **definitely** plan to attend this conference as it offers students tremendous opportunities to look for internships and jobs as well as network with professionals in the recreation field. Read below under "Scholarships" to find out how you can attend this conference for **FREE!**

RPTA 450 –FALL TRAVEL WORKSHOPS STILL HAVE OPENINGS!

RPTA 450(G), FALL 2009. Dr. Yoder is offering a **1-hour Travel Workshop** for graduate and undergraduate students to attend the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) Congress in Salt Lake City October 13-16. This is the **LARGEST** parks and recreation conference in the world, and a great place to make invaluable connections for internships and careers. Many parks and recreation agencies, organizations and businesses will be advertising internships and jobs. Several educational sessions are designed specifically for college students and include sessions such as "I'm New to Congress and Networking: What Do I Do?", "Extreme Makeover: Social Networking and You", and "Strategies for Navigating for First Ten Years of Your Career". There is also a Career Fair offering professional and educational opportunities. Lodging will be approximately \$150 for three nights. The conference fee is waived for full-time time students who are or become members of NRPA. Transportation and meals are up to the students. For more information about the conference go to www.nrpacongress.org/display.asp?eid=2. For additional information about this 450G Travel Workshop, contact Dr. Yoder. Registration is limited to ten students and can be done in the RPTA Office.

RPTA 450(G), FALL 2009. Dr. Doh will be offering a **1-hour travel workshop (Tourism Destination Promotion)** for both undergraduate & graduate students on Sept.29 & 30 to travel to Chicago to experience how attractions in Chicago market themselves towards an international market. The 2-day trip will involve a 1-night stay in Chicago with visits to Soldier Field, Navy Pier, Millennium Park & the Motivation Show. We'll do site tours and meet marketing directors from each site. We'll have 2 class meetings before and 1 after the travel with the first two at 5 p.m. on Sept. 16 & 23 and the last at 5 p.m. on Oct. 14th. Transportation will be on Amtrak leaving Tuesday morning and returning Wednesday evening. Grad students can earn one extra hr. w/extra work. The cost is \$195 which includes transportation to and around Chicago, accommodations, and admissions. A nonrefundable deposit of \$50 is due to Dr. Doh by August 28th. Questions? Contact Dr. Minsun Doh.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Brenda Sayre IPRA Scholarship will again be offered by the Macomb Park District to one RPTA major who would like to attend the Illinois Association of Park Districts/Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IAPD/IPRA) Soaring to New Heights Conference at the Hilton Chicago. This scholarship covers cost of conference registration, transportation and lodging with a Macomb Park District staff, and meal stipends. Criteria include being a major in RPTA w/an emphasis in public recreation and being a member of IPRA or IAPD. Contact Holly Garbo or the Macomb Park District for applications. *DEADLINE to turn in applications at the Macomb Park District is Friday, October 16th at 4 p.m.*

Illinois Recreational Therapy Association (ILRTA) Ann Zito Student Scholarship. The Illinois Recreational Therapy Association is pleased to announce the availability of the Ann Zito Scholarship. This scholarship was developed to commemorate the many years of service that Ann Zito dedicated to ILRTA. There are six scholarships available to assist therapeutic recreation students in attending the annual ILRTA State Conference. The student scholarship will cover the cost of registration including conference meals. Scholarship recipients also receive a complementary student membership to ILRTA. The 2009 conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Alsip IL on October 26 & 27. Conference information can be found at www.iltra.org. See Holly Garbo in 403A Currens Hall (or Marcia Carter at the QC campus) to pick up an application. *Applications must be postmarked by October 2, 2009, and need to be signed by the RPTA Academic Advisor.*

“FREE” STUDY SKILLS SEMINARS

WHEN? Mondays @ 4 p.m. in the University Counseling Center, Olson Hall-Special Dining Room.

September 14	Time Management & Motivation	September 21	Reading Comprehension & Memory
September 28	Managing Test Distractions & Anxiety	October 5	Preparing for Midterms

DO YOU ENJOY OUTDOOR ADVENTURE RECREATION?

Then **ECOEE 2010** (The Environmental Conservation & Outdoor Education Expedition) may be just what you're looking for. ECOEE is a unique, student-oriented, semester-long field studies program offered by the RPTA department each Fall semester. WIU students from **ALL** majors may apply to participate in this experience. All students participating in ECOEE are enrolled as full-time students. The courses focus on leadership/teaching, environmental conservation/minimum impact, wilderness travel, camping skills, outdoor recreation/adventure education, and outdoor education/interpretation. For more information about ECOEE, go to: www.wiu.edu/ecoe. Applications for ECOEE are also available on this site. If you'd like more information about this program, please contact Dr. Mike McGowan, 411A Currens Hall.

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS!

The Student Rec Society (SRS) is *YOUR* majors club. SRS meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Currens 206 with the **FIRST** meeting on **Wednesday, September 9th**. This club is a great way to get involved with students in your major. And serving in a leadership position in SRS provides you with a great opportunity to build your resume. Elizabeth Leonard is this year's SRS President, and Brittany Palmer is the Vice-President. Everyone is welcome to attend! Questions? Contact Elizabeth at: EM-Leonard@wiu.edu.

H.E.L.P. (Horn Environmental Learning Project) This club helps with the upkeep and maintenance of WIU's Horn Field Campus. Some of the activities that students become involved in include prairie planting, prescribed burns, trail building, Earth Day projects, Outdoor Skills seminars, etc. Upcoming activities include the Corn Maze; Earth Musings Programs; V.I.P.Days; Open Climbing Tower, and much more!! **Meetings are at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Horn Field Campus.** Officers this year are: Derek Hofeldt, President; Sean Hazell, Vice-President; and Ryan Croegaert, Treasurer. Questions? Derek can be reached at: DJ-Hofeldt@wiu.edu.

STRS (the Student Therapeutic Rec Society) is a club for RPTA majors with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation, but is also open to anyone with an interest in working with special needs individuals. Rachel Smith, CTRS, is the faculty advisor, and Dana Kroeger is the STRS President for 2009-10. She can be reached at: DE-Kroeger@wiu.edu

The Student Commercial Recreation & Tourism Society (SCRTS) Anyone interested in commercial recreation & tourism is invited to attend. Meeting dates will be posted when available. Dr. Minsun Doh is the faculty advisor. Everyone is welcome!!

The Bureau of Cultural Affairs (BCA) is a student lead organization that advances the arts by bringing quality entertainment to WIU and the surrounding community. Becoming a member allows you to network, boost your resume, enjoy free events, take part in great volunteer experiences and more importantly have fun! For more information, visit us online at www.wiu.edu/bca

Paddlers Canoe and Kayak Club For more information on meeting times, contact Dr. McGowan at: ML-McGowan@wiu.edu

Also, check the board outside of the RPTA Department to find out when various clubs meet. Consider joining one or more of these to meet new people and gain valuable leadership skills.

Got information for the next RPTA News? Email it to: HJ-Garbo@wiu.edu
Holly Garbo, RPTA News Editor

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: “In a world that is constantly changing, there is no one subject or set of subjects that will serve you for the foreseeable future, let alone for the rest of your life. The most important skill to acquire now is learning *how* to learn.” – John Naisbitt