

Experiential Learning Inventory  
Office of Recreational Sports

The Office of Recreational Sports provides many opportunities for experiential learning.

The mission statement for the recreational sports program states:

The Department of Recreational Sports through a comprehensive and balanced menu of organized and informal sports activities and varied leadership opportunities supported by staff, equipment, and facilities contributes to the quality of campus life and enhances the total development and well-being of the individual.

Although our main program goals are to satisfy the needs of our student participants, the reality is that we have a significant number of student employees and graduate assistants. A number of these individuals utilize the experiences they gain from working with the recreational sports program for their career goals. 15 former graduate assistants and undergraduate employees have found employment in the field of Recreational Sports in Higher Education. Two of those 15 were simply participants. Five have been, or continue, in the capacity of director of recreational sports at various colleges and universities. Therefore, the recreational sports program at Indiana State University has become a laboratory for professional development in the field. The attached document illustrates the various experiences and opportunities that student employees and participants gain from the program.

Experiential Learning Inventory  
Office of Recreational Sports

Inventory of Experiences

Student Employment

Program: Intramural Sports

Student Staff: Program coordinated by graduate assistants with onsite leadership by student sport supervisors and student officials.

Experiences: G.A.s: recruiting, hiring, training and evaluating of officials; marketing; scheduling of leagues, tournaments, facilities; supervision of staff; customer service; limited budgeting; program evaluation and follow-up; risk management; professional development opportunities through national and state organizations, interacting with diverse populations

Skills: professional appearance, etiquette, business writing skills, computer applications, public speaking, delegating, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Sport Supervisors: staff/participant supervision; leadership; risk management; documentation and follow-up; conflict resolution, interacting with diverse populations Skills: public speaking, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Officials: leadership, supervision, risk management, conflict resolution Skills: public speaking, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Program: Informal Recreation

Student Staff: One G.A. assists in staff supervision. Front line staff comprised of students as building supervisors, lifeguards and station attendants.

Experiences: G.A.: recruiting, hiring, training, scheduling and evaluating of student staff; facility management; customer service, reporting and follow-up; limited budgeting, interacting with diverse populations Skills: professional appearance, etiquette, business writing skills, computer applications, public speaking, delegating, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Building Supervisors: staff supervision, facility supervision, risk management, conflict resolution, customer service, documentation and reporting, interacting with diverse populations Skills: public speaking, problem solving, assertiveness, delegating, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Lifeguards/Station Attendants: facility and participant supervision, risk management, documentation and reporting, interacting with diverse populations Skills: problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Program: Get Fit

Student Staff: One G.A. coordinates group fitness instruction program with student instructors.

Experiences: G.A.: recruiting, hiring, training, scheduling and evaluating of student staff, program evaluation and enhancement, risk management, customer service; course scheduling, interacting with diverse populations Skills: professional appearance, etiquette, business writing skills, computer applications, public speaking, delegating, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Instructors: teaching, class preparation, risk management, customer service, interacting with diverse populations Skills: professional appearance, public speaking, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

Program: Climbing Wall

Student Staff: Student staff is comprised of student instructors and wall managers.

Experiences: Teaching, supervision, documentation, reporting, risk management, customer service, interacting with diverse populations Skills: computer applications, public speaking, delegating, problem solving, assertiveness, teamwork, flexibility, analytical skills

### Participants

Program: Intramural Sports

Experiences: Team captains and intramural reps gain team building skills, organizational skills, group leadership, conflict resolution, healthy lifestyles, rules knowledge, participating with diverse populations

Program: Informal Recreation

Experiences: Learning healthy lifestyles, group cooperation, conflict resolution, rules knowledge, participating in stressful atmosphere, participating with diverse populations

Program: Get Fit  
Experiences Learning healthy lifestyle, participating with diverse populations

Program: Wall Climbing  
Experiences: Risk management, belayers supervise, healthy lifestyles, participating with diverse populations

### Assessment

Due to this being the initial effort, the Office of Recreational Sports will concentrate on assessing graduate assistant and student staff experiential educational aspects. In the future, efforts will be made to assess participant experiences.

The assessment will be given Questions will cover topics heavy on professional development. Many former ISU graduate assistants and some undergraduate student staff have been successful in finding employment in the recreational sports field. Their experiences with the ISU recreational sports program are truly ones of professional preparation. Although it would be advantageous to administer both a pretest and post test, due to the fact that most student employees have at least a semester's experience, the questionnaire will be worded in a way that desirable inferences will be possible.