Overview
The 2007-2008 year was marked by new leadership and directives. In addition to the hiring of a new Director of Athletics, Campus Recreation was combined into one unit with Athletics. This change was naturally efficient, particularly as it relates to the use of facilities. As these changes were implemented new staff members were acquired and many existing staff were given new or redefined areas of responsibility. New leadership initiatives were also adopted to set the direction and goals for the future. Many new areas of improvement were identified and these areas are being addressed and solutions are being implemented in new goals and objectives for the unit.

Mission Statements
Athletics
The mission of the department of athletics is to provide a program of intercollegiate athletics that fosters and supports a positive educational and athletic experience, not only for student-athletes, but also for the entire University of Missouri-St. Louis community. The athletics program is guided by the highest standards and ideals of integrity, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, equitable opportunities for all students and staff, including women and minorities, academic excellence and athletics achievement.

Recreation
The mission of Campus Recreation is to contribute to and enrich the academic mission of the University by supporting the total development and well-being of all members of our diverse UMSL community. We enhance the quality of campus life by providing broad recreational, physical, social, and educational enrichment opportunities and experiences that promote and develop wellness and a sense of community at the University.

Goals – Athletic Department/Campus Recreation/Club Sports 2008 - 2009

Administration
- Develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan
- Develop a comprehensive Marketing Plan
- Develop a comprehensive Development Plan
- Work closely with Athletics Leadership Council
- Continue to centralize administrative items for sports and supporting programs
- Continue to revise Staff Policy & Procedure Manual
- Host second annual (we do not announce year of event) orientation program for all staff

Academics
- Maintain Graduation at 90% or above
- Build an Athletic Department Study Center

Fiscal, Business & Finance
- Coaches to continue to work with Senior Assoc. in creating more accurate budget lines
- Coaches to continue to work with Senior Assoc. in maintaining balanced budgets

Athletics Competition
- Winning percentage for each team no lower than 65%
- Win a conference championship an minimum of very four years
- Win a national championship a minimum of every eight years

Student-Athlete Welfare & Service Leadership Development
- Obtain input from the SAAC members about the needs of our student athletes and pressing issues.
- Provide athletes with an positive athletic experience and promotes leadership development that will last a lifetime

Development
- Build the annual corporate sponsorships to a minimum of 120 thousand
- Build the annual giving program to a minimum of 30 thousand
- Effectively raise the funds for all needed amount for all identified capital needs for the unit

Recreation
- We provide more opportunities for students to engage in student leadership and out-of-classroom learning opportunities.
• Continue offering a wide range of recreational activities that appeal to all students to develop transferable skills they can use in any employment setting:
  o Interpersonal Skills: Assertiveness, Cultural Awareness, Respect, Conflict Resolution,
  o Professionalism: Accountability, Responsibility; Attitude
  o Intrapersonal Skills: Self-Awareness, Self-Confidence; Integrity, Wellness
  o Intellectual Skills: Problem Solving, Decision-Making, Judgment
  o Student Staff will learn and develop field specific skills.

• Work with Director of Athletics to develop a strategic plan for the acquisition of improved and increased facilities for campus recreation.

  
  Club Sports
  • Add In-line Hockey as our first club program
  • Maintain greater control of program
  • Assist program in attempt to contend for a national championship and sustain long-term success

I. Accomplishments

Recreation
• Successfully offered conducted over 27 separate categories of sporting events for students

New Leadership Initiatives
• Regular staff meetings to discussing specific leadership concepts and improvement
• New areas assigned for staff responsibilities and reporting
• Development of “Operational Teams” for the development of new ideas, problem solving and program ownership
• Developed a plan for alternative funding paradigm for Athletics
• Established benchmarks for coaches and their respective programs
• Formation of a new Athletic Leadership Council

Facilities
• Engaged in a facilities “clean up day” with the staff
• Hosted over 24 rentals of the Athletic and Recreation facilities the generated over $30,000 in net revenue
• Developed an new reporting plan and accountability structure for facility maintenance and improvement
• Started the new baseball field construction to be complete by February 1, 2009
• Finished renovations on the newly resurfaced Intramural field
• Purchased a new tarp for the softball field

Marketing/Promotions
• Co-hosted, with SIUE, the 2008 NCAA II baseball national championship
• Developed and implemented a new Athletic Department web site
• Implemented new game promotions and events
• Broadcasted fifteen (Men – 12 & Women -3) home basketball games
• Started a new weekly Athletic Department Radio Show
• Developed and implemented a new table banner for information and marketing
• Developed and successfully implemented a new weekly e – newsletter, Tritons Weekly with distribution of over 32,000
• Incorporated sponsorships within the new web site and newsletter
• Established a new annual giving program call “The Triton Alliance”
• Producing a new style guide to Athletic Department Marks

Sponsorship and Fund Raising
• Successfully hosted the inaugural Tritons Celebrity Weekend - the “50 Anniversary of the St. Louis Hawks NBA Championship”
• Presented two major opportunity programs (State Farm & Edward Jones) for corporate giving and naming rights & one mixed usage opportunity (Pace Properties)
• Increased cooperate sponsorship contracts by over 250%
Sports Teams Accomplishments and Results

- **VOLLEYBALL**: Overall Record: 14-19, Conference Record: 10-9 (3rd in West Division) **Highlights**: Earned bid to GLVC Tournament, falling in first round to Lewis **Honors**: Christy Trame, First Team All/GLVC; Claudia Medina, Third Team All/GLVC

- **WOMEN’S SOCCER**: Overall Record: 12-7-3, Conference Record: 7-5-1 (Tied for 5th) **Highlights**: Advanced to GLVC Tournament Championship game, falling in penalty kicks to Drury **Honors**: Tara Reitz – First Team All/GLVC, Second Team All-NSCAA All-Region, Second Team Daktronics Great Lakes Region; Rachel Lee – Third Team All/GLVC, Second Team Daktronics Great Lakes Region; Amy Fox, Third Team All/GLVC; Maggie Gabris, Third Team All/GLVC

- **MEN’S SOCCER**: Overall Record: 8-10-1, Conference Record: 4-8-1 (10th)

- **WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**: Overall Record: 7-20, Conference Record: 4-15 (6th in West Division) **Highlights**: Defeated No. 14 Northern Kentucky at home, who then went on to win national championship

- **MEN’S BASKETBALL**: Overall Record: 10-17, Conference Record: 5-14 (Tied for 5th in West Division) **Highlights**: Defeated No. 24 Northern Kentucky at home

- **SOFTBALL**: Overall Record: 28-26, Conference Record: 13-13 (Tied for 6th) **Highlights**: Earned bid to GLVC Tournament for first time since 2005, posting 2-2 mark in tourney play **Honors**: Megan Riggs, Third Team All/GLVC

- **BASEBALL**: Overall Record: 18-30, Conference Record: 12-20 (6th in West Division)

- **MEN’S TENNIS**: Overall Record: 15-6, Conference Record: 9-1 (2nd) **Highlights**: Earned No. 2 seed in GLVC Tourney; Gained berth to NCAA Tournament **Honors**: Andreas Dimke, All/GLVC, ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District; Boris Simic, All/GLVC

- **WOMEN’S TENNIS**: Overall Record: 5-12, Conference Record: 2-9 (10th)

- **WOMEN’S GOLF**: **Highlights**: Earned 7th place finish at GLVC Tournament **Honors**: Erin Konkol, ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District

- **MEN’S GOLF**: **Highlights**: Earned 8th place finish at GLVC Tournament **Honors**: Matt Thomas, All/GLVC

**Staffing**

- Part-time Director of Student Success became a full-time position
- Head Athletic Trainer and Assistant Athletic Trainer positions had other responsibilities (Concessions and Asst. Sports Information Director) eliminated as responsibilities
- Hired a new Sports Information Director
- Lost a full time Development officer and hired a new Assistant Athletic Director for External Relations
- Hired a new part-time Director of Corporate Sales
- Hired a new Head Coach for Volleyball

**Student Learning /Academic Success**

- Formation and Oversight of the PASS program and the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program
- Provided programming or leadership in all 5 areas of the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program
- Established and standardized the PASS Program requirements and consequences for missed sessions.
- Academic success has the department with:
  - Cumulative grade point average of over 3.0
  - Graduation rate is 68%

**Community Service Projects**
• Formed a partnership with Centenary Cares program in St. Louis City. Provided more than a half dozen opportunities for Triton Athletics to serve meals and connect with the less fortunate of the area.
• Aided students in setting records for their participation in the National Student Athlete Advisory Committee’s Make-a-Wish campaign.
• Formed 20 Days of Service Campaign – A concentrated effort to involve representative from all teams in community service projects in the fall. Kick off event was the coordination of a Habitat for Humanity Build.
• Coordinated athlete participation in campus project with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America
• Coordinated Women’s Basketball participation in volunteering at the Child Advocacy Center Run/Walk
• Staff participation in UMSL Relay for Life program.
• Coordinated various Skill Drill events for the kids of St. Vincent’s children’s home, where kids from the facility would come to UMSL to get instruction in sports from various teams.

II. Continuous Improvement

Five Year Plans
• Complete the construction for a new Fitness Center
• Complete the construction for the new Athletic Study Center
• Explore the possibility of adding sports programs to the Athletic Department
• Continued expansion of marketing inventory and corporate sponsorships
• Complete all desired peripheral improvements to the new baseball field
• Stabilize and see a yearly increase in annual giving
• Stabilize and see a yearly increase in corporate sponsorships
• Creating department unity and a passion for success

Challenges
• Increased operating costs
• Creating a deficit free budget with increased operating costs
• Providing facilities comparable to recruiting competitors
• Building trust for implementing change
• Maintaining competitive salaries for staff