

## **Department of Recreation, Exercise Science, and Athletics Statement of Significant Professional Activities**

Faculty within the RESA department have multi-faceted roles – we are teachers, coaches, administrators, and recreation specialists. Thus, our statement of significant professional activity reflects our many responsibilities.

The faculty manual (section 4.VII) states that there are three primary areas of responsibility for St. Olaf faculty: effective teaching, significant professional activity, and other contributions to the purposes of the college. The three areas of criteria are listed in descending order of priority. The third area is subordinate to the first two, but it is a category in which faculty are expected to make a contribution.

In keeping with the college's mission, the RESA department holds the conviction that quality teaching is our most important professional activity and that scholarship and service are essential in support of teaching excellence. We believe that teaching is not restricted to the formal classroom (the exercise science major and the general education curriculum); we are committed to providing excellent instruction in athletics and recreation as well as physical education. The words "classroom" and "courses" are used below to represent the teaching that occurs in all areas.

### **Teaching**

- Ability to stimulate the intellectual development of students in the area of one's discipline; effectiveness in communicating the skills, methods, and intellectual content appropriate to one's discipline.
- Offering high-quality courses as evidenced by challenging, imaginative, and appropriate syllabi, assignments, lectures, discussions, practices, feedback on student performance, etc.
- Enhancing one's teaching through the development of new courses, significant revision of existing courses, integration of innovative teaching methods into existing courses, participating in teaching-related faculty development programs, and the preparation of computer-assisted learning devices for classroom use.
- Effectiveness in classroom teaching, in informal academic contact with students, in supervision of tutorials and independent study, and in evaluation of student work.
- Effectiveness in advising students, including being available for advisee meetings and being well-informed about college and departmental requirements and programs.
- Achievement or maintenance of professional certification directly related to teaching, e.g., Red Cross First Aid, W.S.I, etc.
- Membership in professional organizations (e.g., AAHPERD, ACSM, NIRSA, NSCA).

## Scholarship

Scholarship involves the preparation of research-based material for presentation to scholarly and professional audiences in either written or oral form. This includes but is not limited to:

- Articles in refereed journals.
- Articles in non-refereed or quasi-refereed publications.
- Papers presented at international, national, regional, or state professional association meetings.
- Submission of grant proposals written in support of research activities.
- Participation in the preparation of credentialing reports (national accreditation and state approval).
- Participation on an accreditation team.
- Publication of books, chapters of books, monographs.
- Reviews of books or articles, evaluations of books, papers, or grant applications.
- Authorship of grant proposals.
- Presenter/clinician at physical education meetings, coaching meetings, recreation meetings, clinics, workshops, and sport camps.
- Papers read at conventions, contributions to professional conferences, e.g., participation in seminars, workshops, and panels.
- Completion of coaching certifications for a national or international sport group (e.g., USTF Level I) falls under scholarship.

## Service

Service to the profession, the College, and the community is also a vital area for professional activity. The RESA department serves the students, faculty, and staff within the St. Olaf community in the following ways:

- All students take SPM classes for general education fulfillment
- Approximately 700 students are athletes
- About 70% of the student body is involved in intramurals and club sports
- A large percentage of our faculty, staff, emeriti, and alumni exercise within our area of the campus
- Active recruiting of top-quality students to St. Olaf

Other service-related activities include:

- Serving on committees, task forces, work groups within the St. Olaf community
- Leadership in professional organizations - offices, advisory positions, committee work, and attendance at professional meetings
- Professional recognition for honors, awards, service performed, and grants received
- Professional involvement in recreation, physical education and athletics activities, e.g., invitational meets, sports days, and health fairs
- Officiating at state, regional, national or international athletic contests
- Administration of programs within RESA (department chair, athletics director, recreation director)
- Holding offices in local, regional, and national organizations related to RESA

- Hosting educational programs for student, faculty, and staff

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