



The Pacific Sport Institute at Camosun College

Integrated, Interactive and Flexible Academic Programs

Over the past two years, a large group of Camosun administrators, faculty members and external representatives, under the leadership of the College's curriculum development specialist, have worked together on a proposal for Camosun's new sport education program consisting of a Diploma in Sport Management, a Diploma in Sport Coaching and an Applied Degree in Sport Leadership.

The birth of the Pacific Sport Institute, our centre of athletic and academic excellence and community partnership, calls for integrated, cooperative, interactive and flexible academic programs. It calls for programs strongly connected to the pursuit of athletic excellence, and yet of equal importance, responsive to the national health agenda and the immediate needs of our community.

Because of this, further curriculum development efforts have recently been aimed at the creation of a third sport education diploma in the field of Exercise and Wellness. This new diploma, as well as the Sport Management Diploma and the Sport Coaching Diploma will integrate into solid underpinning for the proposed Applied Degree in Sport Leadership. These three diplomas will each be of a four-semester duration and the applied degree program will consist of four years full-time equivalent study.

A tentative schedule for implementation is as follows:

- Exercise and Wellness Diploma – commencing in September 2006
- Sport Management Diploma – commencing in September 2007
- Athlete and Coach Development Diploma – commencing in September 2008
- Sport Leadership Applied Degree – commencing in September 2008

Exercise and Wellness

The purpose of the Exercise and Wellness program is to prepare leaders for various fields related to health, fitness, and wellness to foster positive, lasting change in their communities. The Exercise and Wellness Diploma at Camosun College emphasizes the relationship of physical activity and healthy lifestyles as they contribute to optimal health and wellness throughout the lifespan. Although physical activity and exercise are the central focus of our study, the program includes a broader landscape that encompasses healthy lifestyle promotion including healthy nutrition, smoking cessation, stress management and successful aging.

Sport Management

The Sport Management Diploma program prepares graduates to function as managers of facilities, programs, services and events that support and provide physical activity,

sport, and exercise for individuals and groups in the community and other settings. Graduates will have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to support sport programs across the lifespan and make contributions to the four key areas this sector: social context and public policy, research and development, resources and growth, and the program and service delivery. Possible career options for the graduates of the diploma program include municipal positions in recreation, sporting organizations at all levels, YM/YWCA's and sport tourism.

Coach and Athlete Development

The purpose of the Coach and Athlete Development Diploma program is to provide skills, knowledge and resources for athletes and coaches to maximize their and other's performance in a variety of sports. The graduates will function as professional coaches in athletic development across the lifespan with opportunities to focus on the development of athletes of all levels or on age specific psychological, nutritional and physiological issues. Upon graduation students will possess sound knowledge and experience in coaching practice. Furthermore, they will have had opportunities to develop coaching skills through practical experience and exposure to a variety of leading Canadian and International coaches in selected sports such as triathlon, swimming, middle distance athletics, rowing and cycling.

The Sport and Fitness Leadership Applied Degree

This applied degree program is intended to prepare graduates to undertake leadership roles and influence change in diverse sport-related organizations. The graduates will be able to participate within the social context of sport programming, make contributions to the development and implementation of public policies as they relate to access to and opportunity for excellence and participation. They are also expected to act as research/development coordinators, resource persons to schools, communities and corporations and possess expertise in sport and fitness programming and service delivery.

The Immediate Future

With the intake of Exercise and Wellness students planned for the September 2006, the last two month's efforts have focused on course development of this new diploma. Some Schools have been contacted and asked to identify faculty members and others interested in developing specific courses of instruction. In addition, the College's Sport Education Committee is providing excellent input into the formulation of a curriculum framework and at the same time an external curriculum advisory committee is being formed to provide additional expertise, connection to community, articulation with high schools and degree-granting institutions.

For More Information

For more details and the opportunity to provide your input, expertise and to register your interest in getting involved with the development of this exciting program, please contact: sported@camosun.bc.ca.