

# HELP US UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!!!

SEND US YOUR UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION AND NOTICE OF RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS!

Hello all! We are excited to provide information to you about our graduate program and specifically about some past and present students. For this issue, we are highlighting some of our recent graduates and their success once leaving LSU as well as introducing you to our new faculty member. If any of you are coming back to campus this fall for athletic events or any other reason, please let us know.

As mentioned in the Spring newsletter, we are excited to launch a sport management online program. The first step is the hiring of Dr. Mike Martinez as the Director of Online Programs. We are still working on expanding into social media to provide constant updates regarding our program and the success of our current students and alumni.



For more information about LSU Sport Management please see our new webpages to be loaded soon. Within, you will see attached Curriculum Vitae of the Graduate Faculty, Courses taught, and awards.  
[http://uiswcmweb.prod.lsu.edu/kinesiology/Kinesiology\\_Faculty\\_Listing/item49177.html](http://uiswcmweb.prod.lsu.edu/kinesiology/Kinesiology_Faculty_Listing/item49177.html)

This year marks the 15 year that the LSU Sport Management program graduates masters students. As of now, we have over 200 alumni working throughout the sport industry. Throughout the next school year, we are hoping to highlight graduates throughout our 15 years.

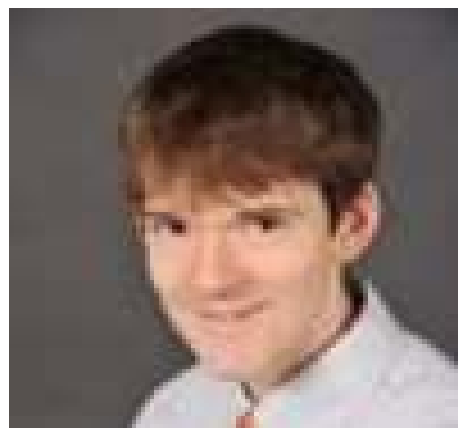
This summer, the LSU Ph.D. program graduated its second Ph.D. student. Dylan Williams successfully defended his Ph.D. and begins this fall at the University of Alabama.

As always, please provide us an update regarding your current employment situation and forward this newsletter to others you were classmates with if possible. Finally, if there is anything you would like to see in future issues, please let us know. **Your updated information and comments can be sent to: Dr. Brian Soebbing at: [bsoebb1@lsu.edu](mailto:bsoebb1@lsu.edu)**

## Alumni Job Update: Mark Slavich

Mark Slavich, a 2011 graduate of the LSU Sport Management Master's program, is a proud member of the inaugural group of doctoral students at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va. Originally from Trussville, Ala., Mark earned a B.S. in Marketing from LSU in 2009 prior to obtaining a graduate degree in Sport Management. While at LSU, Mark worked for the Sports Information Department. He also spent time working in athletic communications at Middle Tennessee before deciding to pursue his Ph.D.

He credits Dr. Chad Seifried and former faculty member Dr. Aaron Clopton for instilling his passion for further study. "Without the tremendous passion and pursuit of excellence in both research and instruction displayed by Dr. Seifried and others, I certainly would not be embarking on this journey



Mark Slavich

### LSU Experience:

"LSU's Sport Management program was a great experience for me during my two years at the university. The Sport Management program gave me a good foundation to work from in the classroom and also helped me gain endless connections through the athletic department. The networking was the most beneficial aspect of the program since it ultimately led me to acquiring the Director of Softball Operations position at the University of Houston. "

Michael Palmer (2014)



### Important Notice!

These are the recent 2014 masters program graduates in LSU Sport Management. Congrats to you all and best of luck!

Travis Roy  
Ben Waggoner  
Yifei Deng  
Lauren Exnicios  
David Favaloro  
Allison Young  
Kellyn Fogarty  
Cari Gold  
Billy Marcantel  
Mallory McGuffey  
Shannon Miles  
Brad Morales  
Michael Palmer  
Lauren Parker  
Joshua Pratt

## Current LSU SM Masters Students



Desmond Howard and current Ph.D. student Patrick Tutka at the 2014 Rose Bowl

Patrick Adams	Vanessa Mejia
Kristian Austin	Allison Mosso
Samantha Baker	Lauren Norton
Cassidy Bell	James Piker
Phil Blanchard	Ricky Preau*
Aaron Brent*	Jonathan Ramsey
Daniel Cadavid	Michael Ann Riley
Christine Colwell	Erin Sims
Richard Dempsey	Wei-Chien Tsai
Taylor Dennehy	Amy Werdine
Emily Dixon	Carli Wheeler
James Evans	Sam Wheelock
Savannah French	Daniel Wines*
John Gandy	Kailin Xia*
Pei Lun Ho	
Kyle Huber	
Jacob Martinez	

## Recent Graduate Bio: Quinlan Duhon

I am originally from Youngsville, Louisiana – a small town just south of Lafayette. In 2004 I received an athletics scholarship to compete at LSU and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2008. I complete my master's degree in Fall 2013 and have been the Director of Softball Operations at LSU since the summer of 2009.

LSU Experience: "Joining the LSU Sport Management program was one of the most rewarding life decisions I could have possibly ever made. The program is designed to allow students to grow their knowledge base of the entire sports industry. Courses are designed to promote both a research and practical, everyday approach to subjects. The faculty challenges students to take an active role in their own learning experience."



LOVE PURPLE  
LIVE GOLD

## New Faculty: Dr. Michael Martinez

Dr. J. Michael Martinez is the newest member of the Sport Management program, beginning as an Assistant Professor this semester. Dr. Martinez also serves as the Director of Online Programs with the School of Kinesiology, and is charged with the administration and implementation of the forthcoming online master's degree, tentatively scheduled to begin in Spring 2015, as well as the prospective upper level undergraduate courses in the Sport Administration major.

Dr. Martinez primarily conducts research in organizational management settings within the areas of branding, internal marketing, and organizational commitment. Additionally, he has published manuscripts exploring the benefits of intercollegiate athletics and sportsmanship education. Dr. Martinez has published research in the *Journal of Issues in Intercollegiate Athletics*, the *International Journal of Sport Management*, *Sport Marketing Quarterly*, and the *Journal of Contemporary Athletics*. He helped found the *Journal of Sport Administration and Supervision*, serving as editor shortly after, and also was a guest editor for the *Journal of Applied Sport Management*.

Prior to joining the LSU faculty, Dr. Martinez served on the faculty at Troy University and directed the sport management online programs for both the undergraduate and graduate programs. In his final year, he was selected as a Chancellor's Fellow, an honor given to faculty and staff members who exhibit leadership potential.

A native of New Orleans, Dr. Martinez earned both a bachelor's (B.S., Sport Administration) and master's (M.S., Public Relations) from the University of Southern Mississippi. While finishing up his education, he was an award-winning sportswriter for *The Times of South Mississippi*. Upon graduation, Dr. Martinez joined the Athletic Media Relations staff at Southern Miss, serving as the primary contact for Men's Basketball and Softball, while also serving as the secondary contact for Football.

Dr. Martinez earned his Ph.D., from Middle Tennessee State University in 2009. As a graduate assistant at MTSU, he was instrumental in the creation of the Center for Sport Policy & Research and also served as a media and marketing consultant for Learning Through Sports.

Dr. Martinez and his wife, Kim, have three children and reside in Zachary, La.



Martinez



Jeremy Foreman

### Meet Jeremy Foreman

Jeremy Foreman is a second year Ph.D. student. He has a B.S. in Economics with a minor in Nonviolence Studies for Cal Poly Pomona, and a M.S. in Sport Management from Florida State University. He also has eight years of military experience and work experience in finance and insurance. At Florida State University, Jeremy completed his thesis *Effects of Time-Off on Performance in the National Football League*. At Louisiana State University, Jeremy has been the sole instructor of two undergraduate Sport Management courses per semester. His current research interest centers on human resource management and labor economics. Specifically, Jeremy has presented research on the role of candidate availability in involuntary dismissals of top managers and intends to examine related issues for his dissertation.

### College Pick 'em!

Please join us for our annual College Football Pick 'em Challenge through ESPN. There is no entry fee and no prizes (outside of bragging rights of course). Matthew Katz (2011) looks to defend his regular season title. To participate, go to <http://games.espn.go.com/college-football-pickem/2014/en/>

The group name is: **Mano-a-Mano Title Belt**. There is no password.

## Alumni Job Update: Michael Palmer

Michael Palmer joins the University of Houston Softball program as the new Director of Operations for the 2014-15 season. As the new director of operations, Palmer will assist with day-to-day operations, equipment distribution, travel coordination and academics. At LSU, he served as the LSU Softball graduate assistant manager. In that role, Palmer helped with game day and practice operations, distribution of equipment, coordinated team travel and worked with video.

A Dayton, Ohio native, Palmer graduated from LSU this May with a Master's degree in Sports Management and earned a Bachelor's of Science in Sport and Leisure Studies at The Ohio State University in Aug. 2012. During his time at Ohio State, Palmer worked with the Rec Sports Department and the Columbus Crew Major League Soccer (MLS) team.



Michael Palmer

## Alumni Bio: Andrea Sebastien-Roberts

I am originally from Opelousas, Louisiana, and I moved to Baton Rouge in 2002 to complete my undergrad degree in Economics. After I attained my Bachelors degree in 2004, I went to work for IBM. At IBM, I held various positions over the course of eight and a half years, including Internal Auditor, Outsourcing Account Manager, and Global Business Coordinator. After achieving a certification in group fitness and instructing bootcamps in my free time for a year, I decided to go back to school for my MS in Sport Management with the goal of opening my own gym. I earned my Sport Management degree in 2013, along with several other fitness certifications, including ACE Personal Trainer, Crossfit L1, Crossfit Kids, and USAW Sports Performance. Currently, I'm a personal trainer at a local gym, and I am in the process of opening my business (Family Fit Athletics) in Baton Rouge.

Note: Family Fit Athletics was one of the final round winners in this past April's Venture Challenge through the LSU Student Incubator Program. We wish Andrea continued success as she opens her business here in Baton Rouge.

