Master of Athletic Training (MATrg) Professional Program

The Master of Athletic Training (MATrg) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The MATrg will prepare students to take the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) examination and earn the ‘ATC’ credential. Didactic courses and clinical experience courses focus on prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries resulting from physical activity. Students who are interested in this two year (40 credits) program must have a conferred baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.

Option 1: Five year program. This unique option allows the student to complete a baccalaureate degree in Exercise Science and Master of Athletic Training in Athletic Training degree in 5 years.

◊ At the end of the students third year, the student will apply and must be accepted into the NDSU Graduate School.
◊ Students will start their fourth year in the program in July, and will be taking both undergraduate and graduate courses during the fall and spring semesters.
◊ After meeting all required degree requirements and completing the Exercise Science Internship in the summer after their fourth year, the student will be awarded the BS in Exercise Science Degree.
◊ The end of the 5th year the student will complete the MATrg degree.
◊ This program is recommended for entering freshmen, student athletes, transfer students who want to pursue and athletic training degree at NDSU.

Option 2: Two year program. This program is for the students who already have baccalaureate degree (in a related major) from another institution.

◊ Students must also meet the admission requirement and be admitted into the NDSU Graduate School.
◊ This two year program starts in July and is recommended for students who want to change professions and already have a baccalaureate degree or for student-athletes.

Congratulations Class of 2011!
100% first time past rate was achieved by both (BS and MATrg) graduating classes!
The Master of Science in Advanced Athletic Training (40 credits) is a post-professional/post certification degree for the certified athletic trainer (ATC). The student will be exposed to didactic content in the advanced skills and knowledge of diagnostic evaluation, modalities, technology and leadership. The program involves extensive research and application of the latest theories and techniques in athletic training and related fields. Clinical practice will enable students to be proactive in the application of new knowledge and skills.

Meet the 1st year MATrg Students

Samantha (Sam) Bourcy is from Moorhead, MN and is a graduate of Minnesota State University– Moorhead. “I chose NDSU because it was close to home and I’ve always wanted to be a Bison!”

Ashley Palmer is from Floodwood, MN and graduated from Bemidji State University. “My BSU professors spoke very highly of the program throughout my two years there. It’s also a program close to home.”

Bradley Kumimoto is from San Bruno, CA and is a graduate of San Francisco State University. “It’s a D1 school that offers a wide variety of experiences in athletic training including hockey and medical sites. It is also a chance to get away from the big city life for a bit and experience life at different place.”

Tiara Fuhrmann is from Rapid City SD and graduated from Black Hills State University. “The head athletic trainer at BHSU went to school with Dr. Hansen and he informed me about the program. I really enjoyed the school on my visit and I wanted a D1 experience.”

Tiffany Giese is from Ortonville, MN and will be a graduate from NDSU. “I chose to do my undergrad at NDSU because I liked the campus. I chose the graduate school here, because I liked the idea of the 3-2 [Option 1] athletic training program.”

Zack Peters is from Aberdeen, SD and will be a graduate from NDSU. “NDSU is a great school in a fun town that’s not too far and not too close to home.”

Jessica Rundall is from Minot, ND and graduated from the University of North Dakota. “I came to NDSU to achieve and advanced education. I’ve always wanted to be an Athletic Trainer.”
Dear Alumni ~

There is a new look for Athletic Training Education at NDSU this year. The last undergraduate class graduated in May 2011! Although, we were sad to close that chapter, we are excited about the future. We are currently one of six institutions across the country to have a professional (MATrg) and post professional (MS in Advance Athletic Training) program.

The professional program (MATrg) is currently accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). We currently have 11 students in the program and are in the process of writing our accreditation self-study which is due July 2012. The self-study is a great way for us to fine tune the program and assess our strengths and weaknesses!

We will continue to prepare students to successfully pass the BOC, Inc exam through exceptional didactic and clinical education experiences. In addition, perfecting skills and techniques required of an entry-level athletic trainer, professional characteristics and critical thinking skills will be enhanced to aid the student in becoming a productive and competent member of the athletic training profession.

The post professional program will graduate its first class in May 2012. We have 11 students in this program and all of them have graduate assistantships.

The goal of the MS in Advanced Athletic Training program is to prepare students with didactic content in the advanced skills and knowledge of diagnostic evaluation, modalities, technology and leadership. The combination of research theory and clinical practice will be emphasized in preparing the post professional student for the job market. Emphasis will also be focused on professionalism and importance of being an active member in the professional organizations.

Pamela Hansen is the Athletic Training Program Director.

Clinical Corner

Greetings Athletic Training Alumni...

What a year of change... After ten years with NDSU athletics, I made the poignant decision to leave the clinical aspect of athletic training and shift to the academic realm of the profession. While I do miss working with the student-athletes, I am excited to work with our students and the athletic trainers at the various clinical sites. Current clinical sites for the athletic training programs include: NDSU Athletics, Concordia College Athletics, MSUM Athletics, American Gold Gymnastics, Fargo North High School, Fargo South High School, Davies High School, Ben Franklin Middle School, Fargo Force Hockey, and Sanford Health (General Medicine, Orthopedics, Physical Therapy). We are exploring potential partnerships with Oak Grove High School, Valley City State University, Mayville State University, North Dakota State College of Science as well as increasing student opportunities with Sanford Health.

We are continually looking for clinical experiences to enhance student learning. If you are working as an athletic trainer in a unique or “non-traditional” environment (industrial, military, arts, etc.), please let us know. We would welcome the opportunity to utilize your expertise in that area or possibly set up a field experience for a student.

Nikki German is the Clinical Education Coordinator.
Greetings from Bison Athletics,
Hello NDSU Athletic Training Alumni.

Hope all is well. Bison Athletics continues to be very successful on and off the field. Last fall NDSU was the only team at the FCS level (meaning 1AA football and 1A in all other sports) to qualify ALL of our teams for NCAA post season competition. Men’s and Women’s cross country, volleyball, soccer and football all participated in post season play. What an accomplishment for the teams. Last spring the softball team made their 3rd consecutive trip to the NCAA tournament. They have had quite a run. Our fall sports are off to another great start and the winter sports season has started for women’s basketball and wrestling and men’s basketball and track and field will start shortly. We have a new member to our Athletic Training Staff. Danielle Pulkrabek has filled the vacancy created when Nikki German accepted a position with the NDSU Athletic Training Education Program. Danielle has been an ATC at the University of Minnesota-Duluth for the past six years. She was responsible for the Women’s volleyball and Men’s basketball teams there. Her team responsibility at NDSU will be with the Men’s basketball team. Fortunately we still get to see Nikki quite often as she visits the clinical sites on a daily basis. As always, be sure to stop by if you are in the area, and check the schedules to see if a Bison team will be traveling to your area. Enjoy the rest of the fall. Scott

Scott Woken is the Director of Sports Medicine, Department of Athletics.