Club Hosts Sport Management Symposium

The Sport Management Club recently hosted the first Sport Management Symposium titled Getting a Foot in the Door: Entering the Sports Industry. Four sport professionals were invited for a panel-style event with proctored questions and a chance for questions from the student audience. Jonah Beck, Director of Operations for Sanderson Farms PGA Championship; Bryan Caldwell, Athletic Director for Gulfport High School; Deven Matthews, Director of Ticket Sales for Southern Miss; and DJ Pulley, Athletic Director for William Carey were the professionals in attendance and provided their advice for students in attendance on how to have a successful professional life. The panel discussion was proctored by the Sport Management graduate assistant Leah Williams. Some questions that were asked were “What are steps students can take now to prepare for their careers?” and “What one single, most important piece of advice would you give a young professional that you yourself were given?” Students were also able to meet each guest speaker after the event one-on-one to develop a professional network.
Megan Lomenick
Graduation Year: May 2018
Current Employer & Position: Graduate Assistant at The University of Memphis Athletic Business Office

How did the USM Sport Management program prepare you for the career you have now?
This program prepared me because the classes that I took during my time at Southern are very similar to the classes I am taking now, as a graduate student at the University of Memphis. I have been able to apply the knowledge I gained and excel in my current classes, proving that the USM Sport Management program prepares their students for success.

What is one of your favorite memories from your time in the program?
I do not have one specific favorite memory from my time in the program. I loved everything about being a Sport Management major and every opportunity given to me. There is no way to pinpoint one specific memory when this program has done so much for me.

What advice would you give to students in the program now?
My advice to students in the program would be to take advantage of every opportunity offered. This program provides so many opportunities to get involved and to gain valuable knowledge and experience. I know that without this program, and the people I met throughout, I would not have been as involved in athletics, gained such worth-while experience, or been as prepared for my future.
Recently, the Sport Management office had three faculty members who presented at the Mississippi Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (MAHPERD) Conference. There were three total presentations, and each professor led on his own presentation with supporting help from the others. Dr. Brandon Allen presented "Case Study on Implementing Archery at Mississippi High Schools," Dr. Chris Croft presented "Planning for a Successful Youth Sports Camp," and Dr. John Miller's presentation was titled "Buffer Zones in Basketball and Beyond: Providing a Safe Environment for Young Athletes. We are extremely proud of each of them for their hard work during the preparation for this conference!

On November 16, the College of Business and Economic Development hosted the annual Fall 2018 student awards. Various awards were presented to top students in each area of the College. Sport Management was represented by two impressive students. Andrew O'Dell was honored with the Outstanding Student in Sport Management undergraduate award, and Carly Della Sala received the Outstanding Student Sport Management award for the graduate program. Congratulations to you both, and thanks for your hard work!
UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

- Full Term Final Exams- December 3-6
- Fall Commencement Ceremonies (9 a.m. & 3 p.m.)- December 7
- Grades Available for Viewing- December 12
- Winter Intersession Classes Begin- January 3
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday- January 21
- Winter Intersession Classes Final Exams- January 23
- Classes Resume for Spring Semester- January 24

For more information on these dates, please contact the department Graduate Assistant, Leah Williams, at leah.d.williams@usm.edu.

CONGRATULATIONS
to our Fall 2018 graduates!

&

Happy Holidays from USM
Sport Management!