The academic year 2008-2009 is a dynamic one for the MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education program. New people are joining the program, both students and faculty, and there are some curricular revisions being proposed. The proposed changes in the curriculum are exciting ones, promising more opportunity to develop and refine skills with respect to physical education curriculum development, instruction, and assessment. More information will be distributed once the curriculum review is complete and the approvals are finalized.

Serving as a reminder, there are several resources available to prospective and current students. The program's website (http://www.csustan.edu/Physed_Health/Pages/MasterArt-PE.html) contains links to the University catalog and to the program handbook. The handbook is a narrative outline of the entire student process, from application to graduation, and it contains necessary program forms. In addition to the handbook, there is the graduate program board in the Field House lobby. The board contains announcements of upcoming thesis/project proposal or defense meetings, important deadlines for things such as graduate assistantship applications, and a posting of current job announcements of positions that require a master’s degree in physical education or a related field.

If you have any questions regarding the application process or the proposed program changes, or you would like other program information, please contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Shawna Young. The very best to you in your academic and professional pursuits as we engage in this dynamic and productive academic year.

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OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

Coree Brown was awarded the title “Outstanding Student” at the California State University, Stanislaus 2008 Student Achievers Awards Ceremony. Coree has achieved an overall GPA of 4.00 during her graduate work. She entered the MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education program Spring 2005 with a BS in Sports Medicine and Kinesiology from Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. Currently, Coree is a kindergarten teacher at Denair Elementary School as well as a Reading Recovery Specialist. Coree’s combined interest in kinesiology and elementary education has led her to her thesis where she is investigating the relationship between reading scores and physical fitness. She is expected to defend her thesis and graduate Fall 2008. Coree has interest in eventually teaching at the college level.
**RECENT GRADUATE MOVES ON TO DOCTORAL STUDY**

Andrew Alstot, graduate of the program Spring 2008 and previous recipient of the “Outstanding Student” award, is moving on to Middle Tennessee State University to pursue a doctoral degree in physical education with an emphasis in pedagogy. Andy will be working in the discipline at the University as a Graduate Assistant, which will cover the expense of his tuition and include a living stipend.

While a graduate student in the MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education program at CSU, Stanislaus, Andy was a physical education teacher, baseball coach, and athletic director at Stone Ridge Christian High School in Merced, CA. When he completes the doctoral program at Middle Tennessee, he plans to pursue a faculty position at a university where he can utilize his experiences in the secondary setting to train preservice physical educators.

**MEET ONE OF OUR NEW STUDENTS**

Gennaka Fox is entering the MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education program Fall 2008. Gennaka comes with a BA in Sport Sciences, Concentration in Sports Medicine, from University of the Pacific where she was an intercollegiate soccer player. While at UOP, she earned Big West Conference Scholar Athlete and UOP Scholar Athlete honors. Gennaka’s professional goals currently include teaching physical education and coaching soccer at the collegiate level.

**THIS YEAR’S GRADUATE ASSISTANT**

Jennifer Weller, a graduate of Humboldt State University, is this year’s Graduate Assistant (GA). She comes to the program with a BS in Kinesiology, Emphasis in Physical Education. She currently is the Assistant Women’s Volleyball Coach at Columbia College in Sonora, CA. Jennifer entered the MA program last spring.

While a GA at CSU, Stanislaus this year, Jennifer will primarily be working with Dr. Shawna Young on two research projects. One project involves qualitative research related to preservice physical education teachers’ perceptions related to school site teaching experiences. Jennifer will be assisting with coding and analysis of data. The other project that Jennifer will be involved in is survey research relating to assessment in secondary physical education. She will be assisting with data collection, input, and analysis. Jennifer’s professional goals currently include teaching physical education and coaching in either the high school or community college setting.

**FORMER GRADUATE STUDENTS: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

Anthony Salindong graduated from the MA program Summer 2006. He is currently in his third year at Butte College as Associate Faculty in the Department of Physical Education & Health and Head Women’s Soccer Coach. He is also participating in the Summer Connection program for a third year. The program is a collaborative with Area IV Migrant Education, Educational Talent Search through CSU Chico, and Butte College. The program is available for all 6th-8th grade students throughout Butte and Glenn Counties. Anthony designs and implements the physical education curriculum for the summer program. Additionally, Anthony has proposed an online physical education activity class in Karate which is currently undergoing the curricular review process at Butte College. He hopes to implement the course Spring 2009. Anthony’s wife Debra, who received her BA in Physical Education at CSU, Stanislaus, is also an assistant coach at Butte College. Anthony and Debra also coach a girls’ youth soccer team in the Butte United program, and they are expecting their first child.
Anthony Salafia, graduate from the MA program in 2004, has been a physical therapist since 1994. He did his undergraduate training in physical therapy at Daemen College in Amherst, NY. Anthony currently is the Physical Therapy Supervisor at Emanuel Medical Center, where he oversees both inpatient services at the hospital as well as outpatient services at the rehabilitation center. Since earning his MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education, Anthony has pursued a doctoral degree in physical therapy at University of South Alabama. He is expected to complete the program Spring 2010. In addition to his full-time responsibilities as a physical therapist at Emanuel Medical Center, Anthony has also been teaching various health courses for the Department of Physical Education and Health at CSU, Stanislaus.

Aaron Filbrun, another graduate from 2004, is a 7th and 8th grade science teacher at Big Valley Christian Middle School in Modesto, CA. Aaron is in his third year of coaching at Big Valley Christian High School, where he is the Varsity Boys Basketball Head Coach. Aaron has been considering working toward an Educational Administration Credential, perhaps to pursue a career as a principal, though he would also like to eventually coach men’s basketball at the university level.

FACULTY RESEARCH

The following is a brief introduction to the faculty members who teach and/or serve on thesis/project committees in the MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education program. Included is an abbreviated description of their most recent research endeavors.

Dr. Taylor Marcell, an exercise physiologist, is in his first year at CSU, Stanislaus. Dr. Marcell received his doctorate in exercise science from University of Southern California, where he specialized in aging, exercise, and endocrinology. Previous to his position at CSU, Stanislaus, Dr. Marcell taught at Eastern New Mexico University and University of Southern Mississippi. His current areas of research emphasis include: investigation of the role of hormone replacement and/or exercise intervention on the age-related decline in skeletal muscle mass & strength (sarcopenia); the investigation of the role of physical activity in decreasing systemic inflammation to help reduce cardiovascular risk; and the investigation of possible molecular mechanisms of IGF-1 and myostatin on protein synthesis and degradation of skeletal muscle. Dr. Marcell, a professional motocross/Supercross racer from the mid 1980’s, recently became National Champion in the over-40-year-old division.

Dr. Heather Deaner is a specialist in sport psychology. Her general research interests include sport performance enhancement, sport disengagement, and team dynamics (leadership/communication). Dr. Deaner has been focusing her research on sport psychology consultant characteristic preferences of athletes from different cultural backgrounds as well as the integration of sport psychology principles and skills (e.g., goal setting, motivation) with other P.E. related disciplines. Dr. Deaner has shared her recent research at the Association of Applied Sport Psychology National Conference and the California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance statewide conference.

Dr. Erin Hall, a specialist in elementary physical education, has been conducting and presenting research over the past 2 years with colleagues Janice Herring and Sue Eastham relating to test administration practices of the state-adopted physical fitness test, the FITNESSGRAM. Research results have been shared at the California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance statewide conference and the Regional South West District American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance conference. Dr. Hall and colleagues have not only shared research results, but also have conducted statewide workshops teaching correct test administration procedures.

Dr. J. Sue Fletcher is a specialist in sexual health education. Over the past 2 years, Dr. Fletcher has been sharing her research at international venues, including the 1st World Congress for Sexual Health in Sydney, Australia, the Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights in Abuja, Africa, and the World International Family Therapy Association Congress in Porto, Portugal. Dr. Fletcher’s recent research emphasis has been related to sexual health among diverse populations of university students.

Dr. Ping Luo, on sabbatical leave Fall 2008, has focused his research agenda over the past several years in the direction of holistic health. Dr. Luo has been investigating complementary and alternative medicine practices, bringing him to places such as India, Far East countries, and the High Andean Mountains in South
America. As part of his sabbatical project, Dr. Luo is currently working on an experiential-based book series related to practices such as energy therapies, herbal-based therapies, and mind-body interventions.

**Dr. Shawna Young**, a specialist in secondary physical education curriculum and instruction, recently conducted research related to the implementation of combative activities in secondary physical education programs in California. The research was presented at the California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance statewide conference and was published in the Summer 2008 *CAHPERD Journal*. Dr. Young’s three current research projects relate to assessment in secondary physical education, the implementation of a dynamic warm-up routine in secondary physical education settings, and preservice physical education teachers’ perceptions related to school site teaching experiences.

**RECENT THESIS & PROJECT DEFENSES**

The following is a list of recent successfully defended master’s theses/projects by students in the MA in Education, Concentration in Physical Education program. These documents can be accessed through the University Library.

**Name:** Alstot, Andrew  
**Defense Date:** Spring, 2008  
**Title:** A Study of the Frequency of the Incorporation of Nutrition Concepts into the Physical Education Curriculum in San Joaquin County, California  
**Chair:** Dr. Shawna Young

**Name:** Salindong, Anthony  
**Defense Date:** Summer, 2006  
**Title:** The Effectiveness of Videotape Instruction of a Karate Skill Compared to that of Live Instruction on the Novice Learner  
**Chair:** Dr. Shawna Young

**Name:** Gil, Bo  
**Defense Date:** Spring, 2006  
**Title:** A Modern Dance Handbook for Teachers Designed to Help High School Students Meet Standards in Dance  
**Chair:** Dr. Shawna Young

**Name:** Michelena, Joseph  
**Defense Date:** Spring, 2005  
**Title:** An Off-Season Handbook for High School Soccer Players in Preparation for a Competitive Collegiate Soccer Season  
**Chair:** Dr. Shawna Young

**Name:** Salafia, Anthony  
**Defense Date:** Spring, 2004  
**Title:** The Development of a Student Physical Therapist Handbook for Use at Emanuel Rehabilitation Center  
**Chair:** Dr. J. Sue Fletcher

**Name:** Filbrun, Aaron  
**Defense Date:** Spring, 2004  
**Title:** High School Sport Specialization and its Effect on Participation in Men’s Basketball at the Community College Level in California  
**Chair:** Dr. Erin Hall