

# Point of View

## UA Division of Student Affairs, Newsletter



Student Life and Rec. Services Staff at the Zipnic.

### Adaptive Adventures & Funding

By John MacDonald

Student Recreation and Wellness Services Outdoor Adventure program has been the proud recipient of two Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Watercraft Education Grants. These grants help support the Adaptive Paddling Workshop (APW) which is an American Canoe Association (ACA) certified program. This intense 4 day program teaches the medical, legal and social aspects of working with people that have disabilities and the risk management, administrative, and programmatic issues that can be involved. It also teaches how to adapt teaching styles and equipment to meet the specific and unique needs of a paddler who has a disability.

The first grant was written by John MacDonald, Assistant Director of Sport and Adventure for \$26,550 which was specifically written to fund and support The University of Akron Adaptive Paddling program with instructor certification and

equipment. The second grant was written by Andrew Loue, Manager of Outdoor Adventure for \$16,626 and included the improvement and replacement of existing equipment. A portion of both grants have been used to support the high costs of instructor certifications. By reducing the costs of instructor development workshops and exams we have been able to certify eight instructors and plan on certifying more in the fall of 2009. This is a great opportunity for students interested in canoeing and kayaking to receive a national certification and obtain great teaching and leadership experiences.

The University of Akron Adaptive paddling program is the longest running APW in the country and is the only program who endorses instructors in both canoeing and kayaking. This program has seen great growth over the years and continues to grow. We look forward to expanding this program and train more students as certified instructors. Our program and facility are pictured in the new book by Janet Zeller called Canoeing and Kayaking for People with Disabilities.

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Dr. Fey Serving Hot Dogs at the Zipnic!

### Vision Statement:

Engage **all** students to achieve their dreams, develop pride and celebrate success.

Go to UA's "you and the flu" webpage to get information and answers to questions about the flu.  
<http://www.uakron.edu/safety/flu.dot>

## Vaccination Update

By Diane Fashinpaur, MSN, CRNP, CS

Incidence of pertussis (Whooping cough) has increased steadily since the 1980s according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Cases in the Akron area have also been on the rise. Several infants aged 4 weeks to 2 months, were recently hospitalized due to this disease. It is most likely that they contracted the illness from adults with whom they had been in close contact.

The Tdap vaccine, available since 2005, offers booster protection against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. It is required for students entering clinicals in UA's health science and early child education programs.

To increase their immunity to pertussis, adolescents and adults are recommended to receive Tdap once. Tdap is particularly important for new parents or close contacts of infants to prevent the spread of the illness to babies in their care. Infants are at risk of getting severe pertussis until they are immunized.

In the past, it was recommended that adults receive a tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster

every 10 years. Td is often automatically given in emergency rooms and urgent care centers when a patient presents with a deep cut or wound.

Adults may receive a Tdap booster as soon as two years after the last Td shot instead of waiting the usual 10 years. Women of childbearing age should receive Tdap before they become pregnant or right after delivery. Other adults should be vaccinated at least two weeks prior to close contact with infants under one year of age.

You may wish to check on the date of your last Td booster. If it has been more than 2 years since your last one, you may wish to contact your physician or local health department to obtain a dose of Tdap. UA Students may obtain a Tdap booster at Student Health Services for the at-cost fee of \$40. If you are a UA employee, this service at your physician's office may be covered by your insurance.

For more information go to: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

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Denise Montanari and Thad Doyle arm wrestling at the SA Pep Rally!

## Outstanding Student Affairs' Student of the Year—Jay Rocha

Jay Rocha was selected as the Student Affairs 2008-2009 outstanding Student of the Year. Since coming to The University of Akron in the Fall of 2005 as a member of the Ritchie Emerging Leaders Community, Jay has remained very active! He has been a student assistant in the Department of Residence Life and Housing for the past four years.

He became a member of the Residence Hall

Program Board's (RHPB) tech crew, served as RHPB's treasurer, was inducted into the National Residence Hall Honorary and has been president of UA's Campus Focus for many years.

As a student assistant Jay plays a key role in many events, including Welcome Week-end preparations and planning the department's end of the year banquet. He helps with resident assistant (RA) training and

prepares the timecards.

Jay is majoring in International Business and was able to spend time in China in the Summer of 2007 in a cultural exchange program. Jay is not absolutely certain as to what he wants to do after graduation, but is considering pursuing a master's in higher education!

Thank you for all you do for Student Affairs, Jay, and best of luck in all you do!

Save the date: November 10th for SA Professional  
 Development Day

## Integrating Our Strategic Priorities with the World of Work

By Dr. Kim Beyer

Career planning is important for everyone. Most people change jobs 7-10 times in a lifetime, and go through 2-3 career changes. These changes occur for varied reasons including movement, advancement, downsizing/lay off's, being passed over, jump starting a stalled career, personal self-development, or a second career. Our roles as professionals and the way we manage our careers change over time as well.

According to NACE (National Association of College and Employers, 2008), job seekers must be able to demonstrate a variety of skills and attributes and show their fit with an employer. The top qualities and skills that employers seek in candidates are:

- ~Communication (oral and written)
- ~Teamwork and ability to work with diverse groups of people
- ~Analytical
- ~Technical
- ~Leadership/Management
- ~Interpersonal/Customer Service
- ~Problem-solving/decision-making
- ~Creativity

- ~Adaptability/Flexibility
- ~Relevant work experience
- ~Motivation/Initiative/Strong Work Ethic/Positive Attitude
- ~Entrepreneurial skills/risk-taker
- ~Sense of humor

What do these skills and qualities have in common with Student Affairs, and with our Strategic Priorities? Everything! As Student Affairs professionals, we practice these skills every day. These skills are what put the priorities into action with regard to the service that we provide our students, the university as a whole, and the community. As a result, we help students continually develop these skills so that when they leave our campus they have the qualities necessary to find their ideal career.

Student Affairs professionals typically have high ideals, purpose, enthusiasm and commitment to students as well as other important constituents. As professionals, we need to be able to tell our stories, just like a job seeker must do to secure employment. Our strategic priorities provide us with the opportunity to tell our stories about our experiences, achievements, and contributions

within the Division. They provide us with a purpose to tell and market our successes, personal mission, core values/strengths, vision/strategy, the performance standards we hold for ourselves, professional goals, leadership philosophy, new technologies, communication capabilities, and collaboration efforts inside and outside of the university. These are the very same items that job seekers need to sell to an employer in order to secure their ideal position. The skills and attributes listed above as being important to employers are also clearly defined in each one of our ten strategic priorities. Our priorities guide our work. Our business is to recruit the best and brightest students to our campus; an employer's business is to recruit the best and brightest candidates to their organization.

Our job as professionals is to show our fit within The University of Akron. It takes each one of us individually, coming together to work as a team within the Division, to showcase our unique talents, skills and special attributes to provide the best experiences for our students.

The SA's Strategic Priorities are in the division's Strategic Plan found at <http://www.uakron.edu/studentaff/>

## Schools of Public Affairs Benefit From Obama's Call to Service

BY Katherine Mangan

Article from The Chronicle of Higher

Discouraged by layoffs in the private sector and inspired by President Obama's call to public service, students are flocking in record numbers to graduate programs in public affairs and public service, according to program directors who are reporting application increases as high as 52 percent for this fall.

Admissions officers were working overtime this spring at the University of Texas' Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, where the number of applications to its two master's programs jumped 35 percent over last year.

To get the full article go to:

<http://chronicle.com/article/Schools-of-Public-Affairs-B/47245/>



Don't forget about the Kent Game (also Family Weekend) on November 7 at 3:30pm!