

Several students from the Sport Management Student Association gave up their Friday afternoon on Sept. 30 to participate in the organization's premier fall service event in helping finish a Habitat for Humanity home in southeast Wichita.

Students were treated to lunch before working on Day 19 of the 20-day build that will provide another house in the soon-to-be renamed Stewart Village of Habitat housing. Students and faculty assisted in placing countertops in the kitchen as well as preparing the yard to be seeded with grass the following day. Students also assisted Habitat for Humanity staff in moving in light fixtures and touching up the ceiling with paint.

"As Wichita State is an urban-serving institution, we felt this was a great way to help build the area, help fulfill that mission and leave our imprint on this area too," SMSA President Drew Haden said. "Years from now we can come back and drive by this area and this house will be a reminder of what we were able to do today which is give back."

Students were also invited to attend the dedication ceremony of the house next door at the end of the afternoon, an emotionally moving experience where the new owner is given the keys to their home.

Habitat for Humanity International celebrated World Habitat Day on October 3, marking a major milestone as it dedicates its 500,000th house in Maai Mahiu, Kenya and began construction on its 500,001st house in Paterson, N.J.

SMSA students started the tradition of a signature service event each fall, and hope to continue the effort next year.

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Q&A Session with Korey Torgerson

The first-ever WSU Sport Management Alumni Reunion will be held April 20 and 21, 2012. Korey Torgerson, associate AD for student services at WSU and president of the Sport Management Alumni Association (SMAA), took time recently to answer a few questions about the event.



The SMAA is planning a reunion to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of Sport Management being a stand-alone degree at Wichita State University. The reunion is also planned to continue to build the Wichita State University Sport Management brand. A highly effective Sport Management program periodically invites its alumni back to campus to reunite with the faculty and provide current information to undergraduate and graduate students who want to pursue a career in the Sport Management field. The reunion is a great way to celebrate the success of the Sport Management program and to reconnect with our classmates with whom we may not have regular communication. The alumni of this program have valuable information they can share with the undergraduate and graduate students to hopefully help them pursue a career of their choosing.

The activities that have been planned for the Alumni Reunion include roundtables and discussions relative to college athletics, professional athletics, high school athletics, and event leadership activities outside of the field of Sport Management. The roundtable discussions will begin on Friday afternoon. There will also be roundtable discussions on Saturday morning. The faculty and alumni association recognize there are graduates who do not work in the Sport Management field but can provide leadership education to WSU students and alumni. It is our hope that all graduates of the Sport Management program will have the desire to return to campus and interact with their fellow alumni and bestow wisdom to the students.

In addition to the roundtables, there will be a Bar-B-Que at the baseball game on Friday night. The Bar-B-Que will be open to all Sport Management alumni, students, and their families. The Shocker baseball team will be hosting Missouri Valley Conference rival Missouri State during the weekend. A golf outing is planned for Saturday afternoon after the roundtables have completed. The closing event will be a dinner on Saturday evening.

The students will be able to attend all of the events planned for the reunion. The students will be highly encouraged to attend the roundtable discussions on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

For now, we're just asking that they save the dates and share the news about the reunion with their classmates. We'll distribute registration information in a few months.

The most exciting part of the event will be to see all of the alumni who will come back. I hope the WSU students will get an understanding of the close connection we have with our fellow alumni and their accomplishments since we completed our degree programs. We are also inviting past Sport Management faculty members to the reunion. We hope the former faculty will be able to come back to share their stories and to talk about the history of the Sport Management program at Wichita State.

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