As a student in STHM, we are required to be a member of a professional organization and to attend a conference before we leave for our senior internships. Ever since I was a freshman, I have been involved with different student professional organizations within the school. When I became a sophomore I served as the Volunteer and Community Service Coordinator (Leader in Training) for PCMA, the Professional Convention Management Association. That January, I was fortunate enough to attend their annual conference Convening Leaders, being held in Las Vegas that year. It was an amazing opportunity to network with professionals from all over the country and not just from the Philadelphia area. At the same time though, since I was so young and wasn’t accustomed to being at that type of event, I was a bit overwhelmed by the experience.

Near the end of my junior year I became the President of the student chapter of PCMA. I was so grateful for this chance to prove myself as a leader and to make my mark on the organization. I attended many of the Greater Philadelphia chapter events with some of my fellow students. Finally, my senior year I was able to attend another annual Convening Leaders conference, held in Orlando. This time I was more prepared and able to utilize what I had learned the past time I attended. I was able to effectively network with industry professionals that are currently helping me in my search for a senior internship.

Being a part of PCMA has helped me discover the kind of career that I aspire to have within the industry. It has opened my eyes to the wide variety of jobs that make up the hospitality industry. For a long time I wasn’t sure what kind of career path I wanted. Now that I am more aware of the different opportunities, I know I have options and no matter which one I choose, I will be happy.
Montague-Ridall & Associates Hit the Road

Sport Industry Networking and Career Conference (SINC)

By: Devin Bode

The School of Tourism and Hospitality Management and specifically the Senior Seminar class look to get involved within the industry to get as much experience as they can. Students have the opportunity to volunteer within the industry, attend seminars, conferences, or career fairs and network with industry professionals which will hopefully open doors to new opportunities. Networking with industry professionals is one of the most important aspects for joining professional organizations or attending conferences. From my personal experience, I decided to attend the annual Sport Industry Networking and Career Conference at George Washington University. The conference was for two days with over a hundred industry professionals speaking to students, professors and professionals across the nation about their jobs, opportunities, and the future of our industry and where they see it going. There were 35 minute periods of organized panels with different professionals speaking to the audience and giving us a synopsis of what they are doing to help out our industry and keep it moving at a successful pace.

During the one hour lunch period, the professionals were seated at different tables to give students the chance to network and brand themselves to the professionals in hopes of pursuing an internship or job. I had the chance to speak with the Derrick Brooks, a Temple Alum, who is the chief advisor and business manager for Ryan Howard. I was able to attain great insight from Mr. Brooks because I am looking to be a player representative in the future and it was great to hear his story and how he got to where he is today. Conferences and seminars play a great role within our industry with helping students with future opportunities and teaching the other professionals about possible changes that could help their own business.

New Jersey Recreation and Park Association Conference (NJRPA)

By: Corey Solomin

The 38th annual New Jersey Parks and Recreation Association conference was once again a rousing success in Atlantic City. Each day there were unique and entertaining conferences to choose from that enabled young attendees to network with proven recreation professionals and ask intelligent questions on related issues in parks and recreation. During the conference, I had the pleasure of meeting many individuals in the recreation field and talked with them about potential opportunities in the future and where the recreation field may be headed. As managers in the recreation field begin to retire, it will be up to our generation to continue the progress put forth and to maintain positive growth within the industry.

Furthermore, one of the many conferences in session was about youth concussions and the negative impact that the injury can have. The concussions in youth sports are ascending, and it will be our generation’s job to enforce rules that will be beneficial to children that are injured. If one concussion is not properly healed, the child can severely damage their brain even further and will additionally risk their growth in a particular sport.

During the luncheon, Mr. Tom O’Rourke, the Director of the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission in South Carolina, talked about his joy of helping others out and having passion about satisfying customers to the fullest extent. As a highly skilled professional in the industry, he gave aspiring professionals the confidence to be able to become successful in recreation and to make a difference that can change people’s lives.

The NJRPA conference was a tremendous resource for me because I wanted to meet people in a part of the industry that I was not too familiar with and to be able to receive advice and to apply that to my skills as I advanced further into my career. I would consider attending similar conferences in the future because of the networking opportunities and the knowledge gained towards different aspects of the industry.
February 20, 2013 marked the third Backpaks to Briefcases event hosted by Philadelphia Area Chapter Meeting Professinals International (PAMPI). The event took place at the Philadelphia Kimmel Center. This year’s event incorporated an educational program for business professionals as well as students.

MPI is the world’s largest organization for the meeting and event industry. The Philadelphia Area Chapter of MPI (PAMPI) was established in 1978, empowering its members to gain education, professional development and growth within the business industry.

The event began with a workshop session for students and members of TempleMPI, the student chapter at Temple University. Students received insight from industry professionals and tips for the future, following a match up with an industry professional as a mentor for the remainder of the event. My mentor was Rachel Wolkiewicz, an STHM alumni now working at Visit Bucks County as a Meetings & Event Sales Manager.

This was the first time PAMPI had done this. I found it extremely beneficial and rewarding to have the opportunity to interact closely with a mentor. A Networking meet and greet hour followed, which was absolutely phenomenal. It allowed students and professionals to interact and get to know each other, as well as enjoy the amazing hors d’oeuvres prepared by Garces catering.

We were then directed to an upper floor of the Kimmel Center for the educational portion of the evening. The topic, “the Digital Coconut Telegraph: Integrating Social Media into the Workplace and its Functions” by Dr. Carr. This presentation was outstanding, as it showed the huge impact social media plays in our lives both negative and positive.

This wonderful opportunity would have not been possible without the commitment and passion of MPI members. Joining MPI has opened many doors and has helped me create long lasting relationships. As a Professional organization, MPI helps students build confidence and provides them with the tools to interact closely with industry professionals.
Today’s Building Blocks for Success

By: Brittany Atkinson

It has been said that college graduation is the single most reliable predictor for future success. But perhaps active involvement with professional organization on campus increases this overall likelihood. College offers the conceptual framework for solving problems posed in the real world. Yet, it is professional organizations that encourage students to build on those theories through experiential learning. Professional organizations prepare students for success by encouraging them to develop the skills needed for today’s industry.

As a student, I believe that my experiences with STHM and the Sports Marketing Association, have given me the necessary skills to approach issues within my industry with confidence. The Sports Marketing Association is a national organization dedicated to developing mutually beneficial relationships between professionals, academicians, and students around the world through the creation, distribution, and implementation of sport marketing knowledge via networking, scholarly activities, and career development opportunities.

As a transfer student, I enrolled in STHM eager to lay the foundation for my career in sport and recreation. After encouragement from my STHM advisors and professors, I signed up as community relations director with the Sport Marketing Association – Temple (SMAT). Upon accepting my duties, I quickly learned this role would require critical consideration of concepts I had learned in my courses. During my time with SMAT, I organized service events to further our organizations community agenda. After struggling to establish consistent turnout for these events, I found myself implementing textbook marketing strategies to increase member attendance. I also worked collaboratively with team members to propose an effective approach to managing secondary markets, a current issues posed by the Sports Marketing Association (SMA) in their annual case competition.

Through SMAT I built my skills in problem solving, communication, event management, and marketing. I know these experiences will serve as a source of confidence as I embark on my professional journey into the sport industry.
Alliance of Women Coaches

By: Emily Frazer

A professional organization that I am a member of is the Alliance of Women Coaches. The aim of the organization is to improve the landscape for women coaches. As someone who is just beginning their career as a coach, I sought to network with others in the coaching profession in order to advance my knowledge and skills because I want to make a difference in the landscape of intercollegiate athletics. Since joining, I experienced first-hand the many benefits this organization has to offer their members.

First, the organization offers monthly webinars which I found to be very educational. Some of the webinar topics included resume writing, building confidence in athletes, utilizing biofeedback techniques to enhance team performance, dealing with conflict, chaos, or athlete cliques during the season, and how to be a great first follower as an assistant coach.

Second, on the member’s only area of the organization’s website, I had the opportunity to try out some of the tried and true ideas shared by fellow coaches. Also, as a member, I had access to a place on their website called Talk to the Whistle where I could ask questions, seek advice, or share my perspective on an issue.

Lastly, as a member, I will have an opportunity to receive a future scholarship to attend the NCAA Women Coaches Academy. Over a five day period, this academy offers attendees professional development in areas such as the philosophy and fundamentals of coaching, communication strategies, career development techniques, and marketing and management skills. Take it from me; if you are looking for a professional organization that provides support, mentoring, advocacy, and opportunities for growth, then the Alliance of Women Coaches is one organization to consider.

National Society of Minorities in Hospitality

By: Inna Pakhalyuk

America, the land of opportunity, enriched with variety of religions, languages, traditions, cultures and races, it provides a broad spectrum of global cultural awareness for it’s citizens, especially for those who are involved in hospitality related industries. Majority of hospitality management professionals and students are very diverse individuals that create unique ideas to make tourism, restaurant, sport, lodging and recreation sectors more appealing, therefore there are many professional organizations that educate in order to aid in the recruitment, retention, support and advancement for those involved in hospitality industry.

National Society of Minorities in Hospitality (NSMH) is one of the leading organizations that help to build and maintain relationships between hospitality professionals and minority students that encourage lifelong commitment to the organization. According to Temple’s official website statistics, Temple University alone has more than 37.1% of minority students who are proud to be a part of NSMH, because it provides a competitive advantage in hospitality industry. Consequently, NSMH organization is working hard to make the industry aware of the benefits that a diverse workforce provides in a business that caters to the world.
EXECUTIVE SPOTLIGHT: Committee Chairs

Chris Shomo was born in Media, Pennsylvania on February 7th, 1991. He has one older brother, Jim, who graduated from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University in the spring of 2011. When Chris was five, his family moved to Boothwyn, Pennsylvania, and became neighbors to his grandparents and three uncles. Boothwyn, Chris attended the Garnet Valley School District and graduated as a member of the National Honor Society. He also was a member of the Garnet Valley baseball and basketball teams for four years, and eventually was named captain of his basketball team in his senior year.

Since Chris was young he has always had a passion for helping out in the community. For the past 10 years, Chris and his family have been a part of the Adopt-A-Highway program. Four times a year, his family volunteers their time and cleans the road where they live. He also has been active in Project SHINE, where he has volunteered his time and taught English as a second language to elders involved in the program. He also worked as a counselor at the Jaguars B&B Clinic, which was a baseball and basketball camp held every summer at Garnet Valley High School.

Chris arrived at Temple in the fall of 2009. He was originally and undeclared student until he chose his major of Sport Management in the School of Tourism of Hospitality Management in the spring of 2010. In an attempt to gain experience within the field of sport and recreation, Chris found a job at Temple working for Paul Kelly, who is the equipment supervisor for the university. He has worked with Paul for two years. Chris also works at Philly Team Store, a Philadelphia themed athletic apparel store located in Center City Philadelphia.

Chris currently serves as the volunteer chair of Montague & Ridall Associates in his Senior Professional Development class. He is responsible for planning a CPR certification event, an alumni panel event, as well as a planning several volunteer opportunities for his class to attend.

At first, Chris will come off as a quiet, reserved person, but when you get to know him, Chris is an approachable person who always uses humor to lighten the mood of those around him. Chris is extremely excited to take the next step in his professional career and hopes to work hard to spread the message of phenomenal education that is provided at the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Anthony Brenneman is an exhilarating goal oriented member of the STHM undergraduate community. He arrived at Temple during the fall of 2011, transferring from Herkimer County Community College. Herkimer is a small rural town located 60 miles outside of Syracuse, NY. While attending Herkimer County Community he was a member of the men’s soccer team that went onto the NJCAA 2010 National Championship Game. The team has a rich history and tradition, accounting for 9 national championships, numerous NCAA athletes, and a few professional players. His other interests include football, basketball, cricket, horse racing, and boxing.

Herkimer provided a strong foundation of growing experience that helped contribute to his transition at Temple. He chose Temple’s Sport and Recreation program over Xavier, University of Tampa, and UMASS respectively. He believes in the intangibles STHM provides to its students equipping them with professionalism, industry awareness, and scholarly faculty. Currently, he is Co-Chairman of the Budget and Finance committee in his Senior Professional Development Seminar class. As Co-Chairman, his responsibilities include projecting and adjusting the semester budget. Thus far, his committee has operated as a methodical, well-regulated unit to ensure forward progress of Montague Ridall & Associates. This wouldn’t be possible without the reassuring support of the other delegates in his committee, Yoshi Shabata, Sara Mireles, and Greg Delange.

He is actively seeking an internship during the upcoming fall semester in the sport or recreation governance field. Governance is an ever-growing industry that takes place in professional, collegiate, amateur, and youth levels. His previous experience with NCAA compliance at Philadelphia University has improved his time management and communication skills, as well as the ability to delegate task to others. Furthermore, his additional role as a Women’s Basketball Manager this past year served as an enriching experience to stimulate his management abilities. Additionally, he would like to pursue opportunities outside Philadelphia and Pennsylvania in order to expand his familiarity with diversity. Wherever his career takes him he will always pay recognition to his past experiences and how they have helped him grow.
Employee of the Month

Tim was nominated as Employee of the Month by his fellow colleagues at Montague-Ridall & Associates. Tim was chosen to receive this honor as a result of his strong leadership qualities and ability to unify his committee. Tim exceeds his role as a leader by taking time to effectively communicate with his committee members, being extremely organized, and always remaining responsible and attentive. Montague-Ridall & Associates is proud to have Tim as a member of our team and we look forward to see what else he will do.

Timothy Keough
(Fundraising & Sponsorship Committee Chair)

Montague-Ridall & Associates April 2013 Events

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Special Thanks to:
Amanda Fishcher, Natalie Stracciolini, Hardik Patel & Jack Hua

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