



NEWS RELEASE

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USM Welcomes New Sports Management Director

The University of Saint Mary welcomes Jim Zimmerman as its new director of the Sports Management program. Zimmerman brings the knowledge and expertise to ready sports majors for success in a variety of sports related fields.

Zimmerman, a Kansas native, received his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Fort Hays State University and went on to receive his Master's in Sports Management at the United States Sports Academy. Zimmerman began his new position at Saint Mary on Aug. 1.

"Jim Zimmerman brings a rich background and credentials in the sports management area, with administrative, teaching, and athletic-related experiences, serving most recently as the athletic director at Presentation College in Aberdeen, South Dakota," said Dr. Sandra Van Hoose, vice president and dean for academic affairs at USM.

During his time at Presentation College, Zimmerman served as athletic director for three years, while also teaching Foundations of Sport and Exercise Psychology, Planning Sport Facilities, Principles of Sport Management, and Sports Psychology. Zimmerman also coached and assistant coached many sports including men's and women's golf and men's basketball.

Zimmerman notes that Saint Mary already has an established, high quality Sports Management program. "I hope to build upon that excellence. The program provides a diverse background in business and sports management. Professionals with practical sports management and business experience teach our courses. This combination provides an excellent foundation for a career in the field of sports business," said Zimmerman.

He adds, "With a variety of professional and collegiate sports teams nearby and the new Sprint Center Arena opening this fall in downtown Kansas City, there are endless learning opportunities for our sports management majors." Zimmerman also emphasizes the internship opportunities for sports majors in the local area, giving student the hands-on experience they need to go into their chosen careers.

Sports Management careers include athletic director, tournament director, personnel representative/agent, business manager, general manager of a sports franchise, game and event supervisor, and more. Recent USM sports management graduates have moved on to careers as coaches, sports marketing associates, strength coaches, and sports writers. Many continue their education with graduate study.

Call (913) 682-5151 or [click here](#) for more information about the sports management program at the University of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kan.

By: Shanell Nieves, USM Marketing Intern

