IRis

Northeastern University

CSSS Annual Reports

Sport in Society

January 01, 2006

Sport in Society's Disability in Sport Program enters 5th year of promoting inclusion and human rights of people with disabilities

Northeastern University - Center for the Study of Sport in Society

Recommended Citation

Northeastern University - Center for the Study of Sport in Society, "Sport in Society's Disability in Sport Program enters 5th year of promoting inclusion and human rights of people with disabilities" (2006). *CSSS Annual Reports.* Paper 1. http://hdl.handle.net/2047/d10009425

This work is available open access, hosted by Northeastern University.

Northeastern University
Sport in Society

DISABILITY in SPORT

Sport in Society's Disability in Sport Program Enters 5th Year of Promoting Inclusion and Human Rights of People with Disabilities

Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society is pleased to mark and welcome the 5th year of the Disability in Sport program.

The mission of the Disability in Sport program is to create more access, equality, inclusion, opportunity, respect, and legitimacy for people with a disability in the sporting environment and beyond. The program works to achieve its mission by engaging in applied research, empowerment education and human rights advocacy activities.

The Disability in Sport program was founded in 2001, a collaboration by Dr. Mary Hums, University of Louisville, Dr. Ted Fay, SUNY-Cortland and Eli Wolff, now the Program Coordinator of the Disability in Sport program. Dr. Hums and Dr. Fay are now Senior Research Fellows to the Center for the Study of Sport in Society.

"The Disability in Sport program is an integral program at Sport in Society and is a model of our mission to combine research, education and advocacy approaches. The program further enhances our work in the areas of human rights, diversity and social justice," says Peter Roby, Director of Sport in Society.

The research, education and advocacy efforts of the Disability in Sport program have influenced all aspects and all levels of the sports world. Among the highlights, the program helped to establish the ESPY for Best Male and Female Athlete with a Disability, and helped to establish and now coordinates the NCAA Student-Athlete Disability Advisory Group. The program also coordinates the development of the sports section for the United Nations Human Rights and Disability Treaty.

"The Disability in Sport program pushes the envelope for inclusion and human rights of people with disabilities in sport and in society," says Eli Wolff, Program Coordinator of the Disability in Sport program.

The future of the Disability in Sport program is bright and integrated. The Disability in Sport Program is now a part of the Violence Prevention and Diversity Unit at Sport in Society, alongside Project Teamwork, the Mentors in Violence Prevention program, and the Athletes for Human Rights initiative.

In 2006, the Disability in Sport program will hold its Disability in Sport Inclusion and Human Rights Educational Training Institute. The program will also continue to grow its Just Run sports club for youth with disabilities, produce its Disability in Sport Best Practices Report, and facilitate the development of the International Disability in Sport Working Group.

"The work of the Disability in Sport program is only just beginning," says Eli. "We can only imagine the progress to be made by people with disabilities in sport and in society over the next five years."