

# **Running a Successful Major's Club: Real-World Experience Outside the Classroom**

Jennifer Parsons, Ed.D., Wittenberg University  
and Lance P. Kaltenbaugh, Ed.D., Ashland University

Student organizations are integral to the overall college experience. Sport management major's clubs can provide meaningful out-of-classroom opportunities where members can demonstrate their interests, experience, and appreciation for sport while learning what it takes to be successful in this ultra-competitive field.

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## **Long-Term Engagement**

Focus on a continuum of involvement, beginning as soon as a student enrolls (if not before) and extending through graduation and life. Provide programs that target all types of students (i.e. freshman to alumni). Studies show that nurturing this bond, starting with young students to alumni, leads to consistent and increased philanthropic support over time (Bosshart, Wentz, & Heller, 2009; Ducharme & Stratton, 2001).

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## **Foster Meaningful Relationships**

A benefit of student organizations is that members get the opportunity to build their professional network. Meeting new students, making connections, and fostering relationships will all help down the line when students are looking for a job within their career path. Because major club members are from the same university, the people students meet