

SECTION 1.2

MISSION STATEMENT

INTRODUCTION

As a residential institution, Wesleyan University creates a community of learners who, during their years of residence, are encouraged to see all they do within a framework of preparation for an adult life. Physical activity is a key part of that pursuit. In classrooms, libraries and laboratories students develop their intellectual skills. In the residence halls, and in other college settings, they experience opportunities to learn from one another and to develop socially. Physical activity and the experiences that are derived from them are the third component of a liberal arts education.

The primary aim of physical education at Wesleyan University is to help students build a foundation for developing healthy, satisfying and energetic lives. Students are exposed to activities which test their fortitude and provide them with a means for physical and mental self evaluation. They are also provided an opportunity to work with their peers to obtain a common goal.

CLUB SPORTS: We believe that club sports are an integral part of the overall physical education program. Club sports promote student participation primarily on a self-initiated and self-directed basis, and fulfill the students' needs to engage in physical activity through recreational and competitive play. Further, the department is committed to provide facilities and in-kind service to club teams on a consistent basis with other programs.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS: We believe that varsity sports are the honors program of the physical education department. The participants in this program, both male and female, are the most serious competitors who seek out opportunities to develop a high level of skill and who enjoy being a part of a larger group working to achieve a common goal. Intercollegiate athletics provides an environment where one can seek excellence.

The primary goals of the intercollegiate athletic program are educational. The program is composed of activities that build moral and ethical reasoning abilities and behavior, develop leadership potentials, and foster self discipline. Therefore, it is essential that members of the coaching staff consider themselves as teachers of young people dedicated to providing an experience challenging the whole person.

Further, we believe that it is important to provide an environment where the varsity athlete can successfully pursue the quest for excellence. This includes scientific coaching, safe and modern equipment and facilities, appropriate support services and competitive, yet realistic, schedules.