

# INTRODUCTION

The internship is the capstone course of the Bachelor of Science in Recreation. The internship provides the student with the opportunity for professional experience in his/her option area. It is a 15 credit hour course which is completed over the course of 13 weeks during the Fall, Spring or Summer semester. During the internship the student is provided the opportunity to apply knowledge to practice. The internship is based on the philosophy that course work and theory, when supplemented with a variety of observations and hands-on work experiences, will provide the student with the opportunity to enhance his/her professional development and increase understanding and appreciation of the profession.

The internship is a bridge for the student between the academic present and the professional future. It is a three-way partnership between the student, the internship agency, and the university. All parties in the relationship assume definite responsibilities, perform specific functions, and achieve benefits as a result of the involvement.

The major objectives of the internship may be summarized as follows:

- To increase the student's knowledge of the profession.
- To provide opportunities for the student to apply knowledge and skill acquired in academic settings.
- To provide experiences which will help in a self-evaluation in respect to strengths, weaknesses, and personal standards.
- To facilitate the development of professional ethics.
- To enable the student to develop new skills in leadership, supervisory and administrative roles.
- To expand the student's opportunities for affiliation with professionals in the field.
- To provide the agency with an opportunity to contribute to the professional preparation of the student.
- To develop and strengthen liaisons between the student, the university and the agency.