

Kyle Blecha, LAT, ATC

Poised and dedicated athletic trainer provided over 20 years of experience in the intercollegiate athletic setting. Expertise in health care management, injury documentation, sports medicine process coordination, emergency care management, facility management, and budget management planning. Direct supervisor of athletic training staff and athletic training students. Establish working relationships with athletic administration, support staff, physicians, and other health care providers to create positive student-athlete experience.

Career Experience

University of Missouri Health Care – Columbia, MO ————— 2014 – Present

Coordinator, Sports Medicine

Coordinate the sports medicine outreach programs for the University of Missouri Health Care System. Establish community relationships to provide access into the University of Missouri Health Care system. Promote education and awareness programs on current Sports Medicine issues for high school athletes and Club sports.

Support the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery DARI (Dynamic Athletic Research Institute marker-less motion analysis system) projects. As the DARI capture expert, assist physical therapists, corrective biomechanics specialist, and research study investigators with data collection.

- Communicating with Investigators, IRB compliance, and Orthopaedic Faculty Research Director on related research studies

Sports Medicine Update – Developed, organized, and coordinated a Sports Medicine Conference for Family Medicine, Physical Therapist, and Athletic Trainers. Content designed to provide evidence based research and clinical practice in Sports Medicine.

Knowledge Now education seminars – Assist in organizing and planning monthly community based education seminars given by orthopedic physicians and physical therapists. Communicate with physicians and their administrative staff regarding topics and marketing.

Friday Night Lights – Organize and coordinate resident physician coverage of area high school games, and walk-in sports injury clinic during fall football season. Organize annual high school team physician training for residents and medical students.

- Provide additional coverage as needed for Missouri Orthopaedic Institute:
 - Columbia Rugby Football Club
 - Columbia High School Rugby teams
 - Show-Me State Games – Coordinate athletic training coverage

Western Michigan University – Kalamazoo, MI ————— 2000-2014

Director of Medical Services – Head Athletic Trainer & Head Football Athletic Trainer

Staff: 9 Direct Reports – *Assistant Athletic Trainers, Graduate Assistant Athletic Trainers, and Intern Athletic Trainers*

Coordinated and managed athletic training services to provide coverage for 16 Division I athletic teams that participate in the Mid-American Conference (MAC). Accepted challenge to improve and enhance athletic injury management to provide a high level of health care to student-athletes. Developed campus & community referral resources to be utilized by our student-athletes who required further medical care. Managed and directed medical services staff to coordinate the day to day operations necessary to ensure the well-being and required medical coverage of three full-time athletic training facilities and 15 practice/game venues used daily by over 450 student-athletes.

- Implemented electronic physician dictation, SIMS injury tracking software, ImPACT concussion software
- Developed community relationships to create priority referral system with health care providers and priority diagnostic scheduling with Bronson Methodist Hospital
- Assisted with NCAA & WMU Drug Testing Program
- Involved in Athletic Department Leadership Training Program – **HUMANeX**

Directly responsible for the daily care and management of the Bronco Football Program – Communicated with head football coach, coordinators, position coaches, and strength & conditioning staff. Coordinated injury care and management of physical and mental well-being of the student-athlete.

Managed the medical services budget & inventory - Maintained inventory and ordering of athletic training supplies; coordinate service contracts for all athletic training facility equipment and services provided to athletic training facility/medical services. Manage medical insurance claims generated by student-athlete referrals by maximizing existing family insurance policies so as to minimize both the financial and liability exposure of the university provided excess policies.

Responsible for leadership & development of athletic training staff – Supervise the medical services staff in the daily operational functions of the medical services team and conducted annual staff reviews and development plans. Expanded staff skill sets to advance and enhance delivery of health care.

Develop and maintain strong community relationships resulting in a priority referral network Bronson Methodist Hospital, Life EMS, Health Care Midwest, and other health care systems to meet the dynamic health care challenges of the student-athletes. Coordinate communication and facilitation of appropriate medical care at the request of team physicians and/or student-athletes.

Coordinate and direct nutritional and counseling assistance program with team physicians and Sindecuse Health Center – Safeguard the well-being of our student-athlete. Assist with

institutional and NCAA drug testing program and protocols. Implement NCAA required drug exception waivers for prescribed medications for medical or development conditions for ADD/ADHD.

Preceptor for the Graduate and Undergraduate Athletic Training Programs – Clinical supervision of 3 graduate and over 20 athletic training students during the academic school year. Completed and discussed mid-semester and end of semester clinical evaluations.

Bowl/ Championship Experience:

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| 2011 – Little Caesars Pizza Bowl | 2004 – NCAA Div. I Midwest Hockey Regional |
| 2008 – Texas Bowl | 2001 – NCAA Div. I Midwest Hockey Regional |
| 2007 – International Bowl | 2000 – Mid-American Conference FB Championship |

Lincoln University – Jefferson City, MO ————— 1999-2000 & 1996-1998

Head Athletic Trainer

Staff: 1 Direct Report – Assistant Athletic Trainer

Coordinated and developed comprehensive athletic training services for 10 Division II Men and Women athletic teams. Administrative duties included managing accident insurance claims, organizing annual pre-participation physical examinations, maintaining athletic training budget & inventory, implemented policy & procedure manual for athletic training, and created medical referral network with Capital Region Medical Center.

Medical coordinator and first responder for National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) –

Coordinated physical examinations and maintained documentation for participants.

Earlier Athletic Training Experience:

- **San Diego Chargers – San Diego, CA ————— 1998**
Seasonal Intern Athletic Trainer

- **Saint Joseph's College** – Rensselaer, IN _____ 1996
Assistant Athletic Trainer
- **University of Missouri** – Columbia, MO _____ 1993 – 1996
Graduate Assistant Athletic Trainer

Education

University of Missouri – Columbia, MO _____ 1995

Masters' of Education – Health & Exercise Sciences (emphasis: Health Promotion)

California State University, Fresno – Fresno, CA _____ 1993

Bachelor of Science – Physical Education option Athletic Training

NATA – approved program

Antelope Valley College – Lancaster, CA _____ 1989

Associate of Arts – General Studies

Certifications/Affiliations/Committees

Certifications:

National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification – 119302429

State of Missouri Board of Healing Arts - Licensed Athletic Trainer – 2013043839

American Heart Association – BLS for Health Care providers (CPR & AED)

Affiliations:

National Athletic Trainer's Association (#910112) _____ 1990 - Present

Mid-American Athletic Trainers' Association (District V) _____ 2014 - Present

Missouri Athletic Trainer's Association _____ 2014 - Present

Committees:

Mid-American Conference Sports Medicine Association ————— 2007 – 2013

- Executive Board and Council (2007-2013)
- Education Committee – committee chair (2011 – 2013)

Michigan Athletic Trainers Society ————— 2008 – 2012

- Governmental Affairs Committee – committee member (2009 – 2012)
- Sponsorship and Donations Committee – committee member (2008 – 2010)

Missouri Athletic Trainers Association ————— 1999 – 2000

- Governmental Affairs Committee – committee chair

Publications & Presentations

Publications:

- Willis BW, Razu S, Baggett K, Jahandar A, Gray AD, Skubic M, Sherman SL, **Blecha K**, Guess TM. Sex differences in frontal and transverse plane hip and knee during the modified star excursion balance test. Hum Mov. 2017;18(3):26-33.
- Sherman, SL, Gulbrandsen, TR, Miller, SM, Guess, T, Willis, BW, **Blecha, KM**, Huo Z, Skubic, M, Gray AD. Mass Screening of Youth Athletes for High Risk Landing Patterns Using a Portable and Inexpensive Motion Sensor Device. OJSM. July 2016. 4(7).
- **Blecha, K.** (2010). Ankle, Foot, and Toes. In Berry, D. C., Miller, M. G., & Berry L. M. (Eds.), *Athletic & Orthopedic Injury Assessment: A Case Study Approach* (pp. 443-444). Scottsdale, AZ: Holcomb Hathaway Publishers.
- **Blecha, KM** (2007). How to Manage MRSA in the Athletic Training Room. Athletic Therapy Today. 12 (5), pp.41-43.
- **Blecha, KM** (2006). Managing a Traumatic Pneumothorax. Athletic Therapy Today. 11 (5), pp. 51-53.

- **Blecha, KM** (2005). Lower Back Pain in a Collegiate Football Player. Clinical Case Study. Supplement to the Journal of Athletic Training.
- **Blecha, KM**, Miller, MG, Ritenour, DM, Baker, RJ (2003). Traumatic Pneumothorax in a Collegiate Football Player. Clinical Case Study. Supplement to the Journal of Athletic Training.

Poster Presentation:

- Willis BW, Sherman SL, Gulbrandsen T, Miller SM, Guess TM, Siesener NJ, **Blecha K**, Huo Z, Skubic, M, Gray AD. Sex Differences in Jump Landing Mechanics of Youth Athletes during Ages of Increased Risk for ACL Injury: Utilization of a Portable Motion Sensor. *National Strength & Conditioning Association Annual Meeting*. Poster Presentation. Indianapolis, IN. July, 2018.
- Davis L, Willis B, Gray A, Sherman S, Razu S, Jahandar A, Skubic M, **Blecha K**, Guess T. Simplifying Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury Screening: A Jump in the Right Direction. *American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting*. San Antonio, TX. February, 2017.
- Willis BW, Razu S, Jahandar A, Gray A, Skubic M, Sherman S, **Blecha K**, Guess T. Gender Differences During the Modified Star Excursion Balance Test. Gait and Clinical Movement Analysis Society, Memphis, TN. May 2016.
- Sherman, SL, Gulbrandsen, TR, Miller, SM, Guess, T, Willis, BW, **Blecha, KM**, Huo Z, Skubic, M, Gray AD. Mass Screening of Youth Athletes for High Risk Landing Patterns Using a Portable and Inexpensive Motion Sensor Device. AOSSM, Colorado Springs, CO. July 2016.

Presentations:

- University of Missouri Athletic Training Education Program, April 2017. Multi-ligament Knee Rehabilitation Protocol.
- Jefferson City Public Schools – District School Nurses – February 2016. Brain injury Association of Missouri. Concussion: Facts & Fallacies in Sports.
- Bothwell Regional Health Center & Missouri Orthopaedic Institute – July 2015. Concussions in Student-Athletes.

- Tipton High School Athletics Parent Meeting - May 2015. Athletic Training Services, Tipton, Missouri.
- University of Missouri Health Care - Mizzou Therapy Services, April 2015. Multi-ligament Knee Rehabilitation Protocol.
- Western Michigan University Undergraduate Athletic Training Program, February 2012. Athletic Training – The Day in the Life.
- Safe Kids Kalamazoo County, August 2011 – Southwest Michigan High School Coaches. Concussions in High School Sports.
- Western Michigan University Undergraduate Athletic Training Program, February 2011. Athletic Training – The Day in the Life.
- Western Michigan University Graduate Athletic Training Program, August 2010 – Fall Orientation. Emergency Action Plan.
- Mid-American Conference Sports Medicine Association, 2010 Annual Meeting – Case Study Presentation. Traumatic Head Injury in a Collegiate Football Player.
- Western Michigan University Graduate Athletic Training Program, August 2009 – Fall Orientation. Emergency Action Plan.
- Great Lakes Athletic Trainers' Association, District 4 Clinical Symposium, March 2008. MRSA in Athletics: Pinky Newell Lecture Series.
- Michigan Athletic Trainers' Society, June 2007 Annual Meeting – Case Study Presentation. Managing MRSA in the Athletic Training Room.
- Western Michigan University Athletic Training Education Program, February 2007 – Cultural Competence in Athletics.
- K Valley Orthopedics and Western Michigan University, February 2007 – Case Study Presentation. Managing MRSA in the Athletic Training Room.
- Mid-American Conference Sports Medicine Association, 2006 Annual Meeting – Managing MRSA in the Athletic Training Room.
- NATA 2005 Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposium – Free Communication Program – Lower Back Pain in a Collegiate Football Player.
- Mid-American Conference Sports Medicine Association, 2004 Annual Meeting – Case Study Presentation – Traumatic Pneumothorax in a Collegiate Football Player.
- NATA 2003 Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposium – Free Communication Program - Traumatic Pneumothorax in a Collegiate Football Player

Community Service

Western Michigan University ————— 2002-2004

- Coordinated community service projects WMU Football Team
 - Habitat for Humanity – Rehabilitated house (summer 2002)
 - Visited Bronson Children’s Hospital during football season
 - Boys & Girls Club of Kalamazoo
 - Curious Kids Football Camp – Portage Public Schools
 - Visited Kalamazoo and Portage Elementary Schools
- **Star Award** – Kalamazoo Gazette Volunteer Award ————— 2003
 - College Volunteer Group