



A Student Journal in
Recreation, Parks, and
Leisure Studies

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*Indiana University, Department of Recreation,
Park and Tourism Studies*

Illuminare: A Student Journal in Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Studies

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Originally established in 1992, the *Illuminare* quickly became a well-recognized, refereed journal within our field, created and managed by students of the Indiana University's Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Studies. The *Illuminare* was the result of a collective vision of these students and founding advisor Dr. Ruth Russell, who saw a need to provide a platform for student publications in the field of leisure services in order to gain a sense of professionalism, share ideas, and promote student work.

The journal had nearly a decade of success with the inaugural, hard-copy volume published in Spring 1993. Six subsequent volumes were published totaling to 53 peer-reviewed manuscripts, 10 dissertation abstracts, and one book review, which covered an extensive scope of topics that accurately illustrates the diversity of our field. The journal's name, *Illuminare*, is derived from the Latin *illuminō* and means to light the way, illustrate, or inform. Aptly, it corresponds with the overall purpose of the journal:

The Illuminare strives to light the way by reviewing, encouraging, and assisting students in efforts to publish and participate in the publishing process, and to inform by distributing and sharing student research in the field of parks, recreation, tourism, or leisure studies.

Over the past decade, the journal has published occasional manuscripts upon request, but has primarily been in remission. This edition marks the revival of the *Illuminare* as an online, open access student journal. The journal continues to be a peer-reviewed and publishes research in five core areas of leisure studies: Recreational Sport Administration, Park and Recreation Management, Outdoor Recreation, Therapeutic Recreation, and Tourism Management

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Letter from the Editors

Welcome to the *Illuminare*!

On behalf of the Editorial Board, we would like to thank you for your interest in and support of the *Illuminare: A Student Journal in Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Studies*. As it is familiar to us all, research and publishing are core obligations of being in academia. While this is so, it should be recognized that the process of publishing is not always easy, especially for young academics that are looking to make their first appearance in the literature. However, as it was recently noted by an editor of a top tier journal in tourism, often researchers are not aware of the evaluation criteria or have little idea of how to successfully contend for publication in academic journals. This is the essence as to why the *Illuminare* exists today: graduate students enrolled in leisure programs should have an opportunity to understand both sides of the publication process. To this end, they should have experience not only publishing their own work, but also be acquainted with the reviewing process. We firmly believe that students who are involved with the *Illuminare* will be better prepared and more confident in their ability to research and subsequently publish their findings in high quality academic journals.

For this 2010/11 *Illuminare* edition, we have decided to publish online as an open access, peer-reviewed journal. Our joining of the open access movement is in response to the discerning situation of the academic publishing process: rising costs for subscribers, coupled by the propensity for universities to cut back on the number and variety of subscriptions they have due to difficult economic restraints. Consequently, quality work is increasing unobtainable to the field at large which is costly for authors, readers, and the future of leisure studies. With this move, we can provide *Illuminare* publications at no cost, while exposing the student work to a broader audience.

We would like to acknowledge the hard work of all of our reviewers, topic editors, and advisor Dr. Marieke Van Puymbroeck, as well as the support from the Indiana University's Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies and the School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. We are tremendously thankful for IU ScholarWorks, specifically Jen Laherty and her team, in their guidance and support. We would also like to thank the Leisure Research Institute for their generous financial support for this academic year. In addition, thanks goes to Barbara Duffy for her assistance in designing our visual graphics. Special thanks goes to Dr. Ruth Russell for her continuous support and the guidance that she provided graduate students throughout her entire career.

The *Illuminare* Editorial Board

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