Andrews Recognized by Exercise is Medicine

Recognized for efforts to create a culture of wellness on campus

Campus News | Posted on June 27, 2019



Judith Fisher, director of the Counseling & Testing Center at Andrews University, accepted the EIM On Campus 2019 Gold Campus recognition certificate in Orlando, Florida. (Photo by Exercise is Medicine)

By: Exercise is Medicine and Andrews University

Andrews University is one of only 139 universities and colleges around the world to be honored by Exercise is Medicine® for its efforts to create a culture of wellness on campus. For the fourth year in a row, Andrews has earned gold level designation from the Exercise is Medicine® On Campus (EIM-OC) program.

"We are thrilled to recognize these campuses' commitment to make movement a part of daily campus culture and give students the tools to cultivate physical activity habits that will benefit them throughout their lives," said Robyn Stuhr, vice president of Exercise is Medicine. "These campus programs are nurturing future leaders who will advance a key tenet of Exercise is Medicine: making physical activity assessment and promotion a standard in health care." "I am incredibly grateful to the entire wellness team at Andrews University for supporting the efforts to make physical activity a priority in our institutional setting," says Dominique Gummelt, director for University Wellness at Andrews University. "The culture here has been changing to embrace movement as part of our identity during employee and student gatherings and events. In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to the Counseling & Testing Center, whose team has worked diligently to integrate physical activity into their treatment plans, recognizing the power of movement being medicine. We have lots more work to do, but being recognized the fourth year in a row at the gold level is an accomplishment we are very excited to have received!"

Andrews University launched the official wellness campaign in the fall of 2015. Since then, under the leadership of Gummelt, Andrews has been focusing on transforming into the healthiest university, one life and one day at a time. Physical activity has been a particular area of emphasis; lack of physical exercise has become one of the largest epidemics in this country, particularly in the academic setting.

Of the 139 campuses recognized this year, 55 received gold, 56 silver and 28 bronze. All gold, silver and bronze universities and colleges were officially recognized on May 29 as part of the 2019 Exercise is Medicine World Congress, held in conjunction with the American College of Sports Medicine's Annual Meeting.

EIM-OC calls upon universities and colleges to promote physical activity as a vital sign of health and encourages faculty, staff and students to work together to improve the health and well-being of the campus community.

EIM-OC launched its recognition program in 2014 to honor campuses for their efforts to create a culture of wellness. Schools earn gold, silver or bronze status based on their activities. Gold level campuses have created a referral system where campus healthcare providers assess student physical activity and refer students as necessary to a certified fitness professional as part of medical treatment. Silver campuses engage students, faculty and staff in education initiatives and make movement part of the daily campus culture while bronze level campuses promote and generate awareness of the health benefits of physical activity.

View a complete list of recognized schools and learn more about the EIM-OC program at exerciseis medicine.org/support_page.php/eim-on-campus/

The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) co-launched Exercise is Medicine® (EIM) in 2007 with the American Medical Association. ACSM continues to manage the global health initiative, which seeks to make physical activity assessment and promotion a standard in clinical care, connecting healthcare with evidence-based physical activity resources for people everywhere of all abilities. EIM is committed to the belief that physical activity promotes optimal health, is integral in the prevention and treatment of many medical conditions and should be regularly assessed and included as part of healthcare. Visit <u>ExerciseisMedicine.org</u> for additional information.

The American College of Sports Medicine is the largest sports medicine and exercise science organization in the world. More than 50,000 international, national and regional members and certified professionals are dedicated to advancing and integrating scientific research to provide educational and practical applications of exercise science and sports medicine. More details are available at acsm.org.