

CRAC – September 27, 2023 meeting minutes

Attendees:

Marcus Jackson, Alana Harris, Terry Elmore, Mikey Kraus, Jeanette Weider, Michael Raycraft, Latashia Keys, Dementro Powell

Annual Report 2023

Marcus Jackson welcomed the group and thanked them for their willingness to serve. The annual report was shared with members prior to the meeting in order for their review and questions during the meeting. Marcus shared the purpose of the group and pointed to assessment information within the report as this includes critical pieces of our work that advises decision making and resource utilization for the department. Time was provided for questions, clarifications.

Jeanette Weider asked for clarification on if the individual program assessment projects (page 8) were completed this year or last year.

Alana Harris shared that a small group including a grad student, and undergraduate intern conduct the larger assessment projects on behalf of the department, whereas the individual program areas do feedback surveys and projects related to their own areas. All reported in the annual report happened in FY23.

Dementro Powell asked about clarification on what 'rat hockey' is.

Terry Elmore responded that rat hockey is informal drop in hockey.

Marcus reiterated commitment to improved assessment efforts within Campus Recreation. It was also shared that the report can serve as a resource for future agenda items as we go through the year.

Mikey Kraus asked about the goal of 'removing financial barriers for participants' and how it would be accomplished.

Marcus responded that we are looking at different programs where we are looking at removing barriers. One area is virtual group fitness options that would come at decreased cost for students, as well as looking at scholarship opportunities for families in need to allow for participation in the DCR summer camp.

Student Finance Advisory Committee 2023

Marcus shared that we are in the midst of the process along with an explanation thereof. Marcus showed the 2023 SFAC presentation that was conducted with SFAC.

Dementro asked if there were any renewed conversations about e-sports on campus.

Marcus shared that there had not been any conversations recently about this, but one of the options for potential renovation of the ice arena was to provide some space for a lounge. This will ultimately come down to what is put through for referendum. The SFAC committee asked this question of DCR so we included it in our presentation.

Michael Raycraft shared that the 47 unique participants reported for e-sports events seemed low in relation to the attendance at e-sports events hosted at State Farm Center.

Marcus shared that it could be the selection of games we offer vs. what is prevalent in the e-sport community (i.e. shooting games, violence), marketing or interest in the nature of the competition but that we are keeping our eyes on this area for any growth.

Mikey Kraus asked if e-sports is well advertised on campus because there would be a lot of folks interested if they know about it.

Marcus reiterated marketing as an area to ensure we concentrate on when we offer the programs and to also look at our offering.

Dementro asked if the FAWBP is ever in need of volunteers to help in that area. This question is based on folks who come to the office asking for opportunities and the UIPD ambassadors program which does community work.

Alana responded that there is an application for volunteers and we typically have an influx of folks who apply. We are currently well staffed for Fall and will do interviews for Spring. To ensure continuity, we seek volunteers who can do so for at least a full semester. We have also created other opportunities for engagement such as hosting donation events.

Michael Raycraft asked about any movement around pickleball in Campus Recreation and if we have any usage figures about it. Michael also asked about the usage of badminton courts

Terry shared that we have 2 outdoor pickleball courts and will be keeping an eye on the traffic there to see if we want to convert more in the future. We do not track usage due to no staff at the outdoor complexes.

Marcus shared that we leave badminton courts up in our facilities so there are informal opportunities for badminton at all times.

Ice Arena Process Review

Marcus shared a summary of the ice arena process for this year, starting with a brief recap from FY23:

After sharing results of survey conducted in Fall, the university decided to hold off on moving forward with conversations relating to ice arena until FY24.

Marcus has upcoming meeting with Student Congress to share results of survey from last fall and determine what students are in support of Campus Recreation proceeding with towards a referendum vote.

In addition, DCR was contacted by Omni Development Group about potential developments in the downtown CU area which could include an ice arena. They are also planning to meet with DIA to discuss other facilities that might benefit the university community. Currently conversations are ongoing about fee support, future university plans with the Omni group.

Dementro asked if this had an impact on the decision to have a D1 Hockey team. Marcus responded that while the student body saw the prospect of a hockey team as a huge factor in their decision, the stance of DIA remains the same in not being able to field a hockey team at this time.

Michael Raycraft mentioned parking at volleyball games getting worse and asked about the prospect of the conversations with Omni including volleyball. Marcus responded that this is why the conversation between Omni and DIA is important –to help identify other needs

Dementro asked if the fields on the corner of Florida had a new scoreboard. Terry responded that the scoreboard belonged to Uni High in agreement with the University.

No further questions were presented at this time, so the meeting was adjourned