Campus Recreation Advisory Committee
Thursday, February 4th, 2010
4PM, Large Conference Room, ARC

Attendees

CRAC Members: Spencer Anderson, Jimmy Danzy, Hijun Kim, Debbie Liu, Sarah Pucci, Karen Paulsen, Christina Rebellon

Professional Staff and Interns: Elise Beis, Robyn Deterding, Tessa Hile, Heather Horn, Andy Wilke

Guests: Bill Williamson

1. Introduction—Robyn Deterding

➢ A few new CRAC members will be joining the committee this semester to take the place of those members who cannot return from last semester.
➢ This meeting will focus on a few important updates.

2. Budget Update—Tessa Hile

➢ Campus Recreation has made budget reductions in several different areas.
   o The “reductions” have been made by 7%, 10%, and 15% depending on the area.
   o Campus Recreation wanted to ensure that student services remained intact.
   o Professional staff travel was completely removed from the budget with the exception of previously planned commitments (conference presentations only).
   o Campus Recreation is still trying to find ways to continue to make athletic training available to students (see bullet point on Carle below).
   o Because the University will most likely request a 15% budget cut next year, Campus Recreation decided to go ahead with budget reductions now.
     • These reductions include the elimination of three associate director positions.
       • Former Associate Director Robyn Deterding was promoted to Director, one Associate Director is on disability, and a third Associate Director left for a directorship elsewhere.
       • This staff restructuring has helped Campus Recreation to function more efficiently.
• Campus Recreation also decided to close Freer which was open M-F 11am-1pm.
• Additionally, Campus Recreation has eliminated some of the pro staff vehicles which thus promotes bus usage and walking.
• Currently, Campus Recreation’s three athletic trainer assistants are collectively paid as a member of professional staff (split 33%, 33%, 34%).
  • Carle Hospital and AthletiCo have shown interest in bringing their services into the ARC.
  • Currently, students can only visit McKinley Health Center athletic trainers two or three times before that have to go off campus for further treatment.
  • Carle decided to bid for space at the ARC while AthletiCo did not.
  • Business affairs is currently looking into a contract with CARLE where they would rent space in the Wellness Center and pay for the assistantships.
    • There would be a “soft” opening of these new CARLE sponsored services in the summer.
    • This arrangement would be very convenient for students. Carle will still provide the 3 free services currently offered and then can provide further treatment if necessary after being released from McKinley.
• Campus Recreation has increased the number of open recreation hours at the outdoor fields.
  • As of March 1st, these will include 2:30-5:00pm on the weekdays and 9am-5pm on the weekends.
  • Campus Recreation has fine-tuned what the field supervisors do and has removed one person from each shift.
  • Supervisors can use gators to get places quickly.

Q: What is a gator?
A: It’s very similar to a golf cart but can typically go even faster.

• Despite budget reductions and the new agreement with Carle, Campus Recreation still wants to ensure that the regular three free services remain: evaluation, taping, and preliminary treatment.

C: A lot of students don’t know about these services. Campus Recreation should publicize them more.
A: Carle will pay to publicize their services in the Wellness Center.
• The ARC has also begun to close 15 minutes early each day.

Q: Are students aware of this new policy?
A: The information has been released in the newsletter, announcements are made at the facility, and the student staff makes rounds notifying patrons.

Q: Is this fair to the students since the student fees they pay as part of their tuition goes towards Campus Recreation?
A: A portion of student fees go towards utilities. Because of the economy, Campus Recreation has to be more sensitive to utility usage and also has to cover costs that used to be absorbed by the University. Decreasing open hours by 15 minutes saves enough money to ensure that other programs won’t have to be cancelled. In the end, this arrangement impacts the patrons the least. Also, there has only been a 1% increase in student fees for FY-11 (next year) related to Campus Recreation while there has been a 10% increase in utilities. Student fee dollars are just being used in a different way to ensure that costs are kept as low as possible.

C: Maybe notes should be put up in the facility notifying patrons of the changes.
A: Thanks, we will look into that.

➢ There is a list of furlough dates on the intranet and arrangements have been made to cover employees on furlough.

3. Green Update—Robyn Deterding

Q: What have the water savings been since the new water system was put in place?
A: Between the ARC and CRCE, 16.8 million gallons of water have been saved. This has translated into $15,776 of savings. 8.4 million gallons of water have been saved at the Ice Arena resulting in $19,488 of savings.

➢ The ARC is trying to save electricity.
  o They are implementing “green hours” when there is good lighting outside. This involves not using 778 lightbulbs.
    ▪ If the ARC does this 4hrs a day, 7 days a week, they will save $340/month.
  o There are also censors in the racquetball courts which have resulted in $19,000 of savings.
Q: Is this figure gross savings?
A: My guess is yes.

Q: How easy are these censors to control?
A: Quite simple. They are switch box operated and come with a companion computer program that dictates when to turn them on and shut them off.

Q: Have you given up a portion of future funding by cutting your current budget by 15%?
A: We will only receive a 1% base increase during the upcoming fiscal year. There has to be a reduction amongst all auxiliary units.

➢ There are sustainability updates on the Student Affairs webpage.
  o There are also several groups with internal green teams such as McKinley, the Union, and Housing.

4. Outdoor Rentals—Heather Horn

➢ The ARC wants to be as consistent as possible
➢ We charge a fee if patrons want the fields “guaranteed”.
  o Looking towards space reservation schedule on the web.
  o Price is $12/hour for student groups, which is consistent with our outdoor hourly reservation costs.
  o Open recreation time is still free.

Q: How is this regulated?
A: A staff member is out to make sure a sign is put up a few days before a reservation. These signs usually go up on Fridays because reservations are usually for Saturdays and Sundays.

Q: How can you check to see if a field is reserved?
A: We are trying to move to an online system.

C: The Union has something like that on their site.
A: Thanks, we will look into that.

Q: What are the news outdoor field hours?
A: 2:30pm-5:00pm on weekdays, 9am-5pm on weekends.

Q: How was the time decided?
A: It was based on how often the fields are reserved, specifically the turf fields, and peer institution reviews. Grass fields don’t open until the summer.
Q: A lot of people can’t use the fields until 3pm or 4pm. Shouldn’t the fields be open later?
A: The fields used to close at 4:30pm so we have actually increased the length of availability. Club sports and intramurals also need designated time on these fields. We will look into other fields that could possibly be available.

C: Only 5 soccer fields are available, and there have been a lot of complaints about groups not getting the playing time they desire. There also aren’t enough soccer goals.
A: University High School fields may be able to be accessible to the students. We’ll look into it. We also try to open as early and close as late as possible each season, weather permitting.

5. Questions, Comments, Suggestions—All

Q: Are all students FWS?
A: No, 25% of our workforce is FWS. We will get updated numbers on this soon.

Q: What did you mean that assistantships are paid in percentages?
A: One full time position is shared amongst three graduate assistants. Kinesiology is also involved in this. Also, assistantships are like salaried positions (not paid hourly). CARLE will begin paying these assistantships if they move into the Wellness center.

Q: Would CARLE paying for these assistantships really take the burden off of the Campus Recreation or off of something else?
A: It would help Campus Recreation because we pay for the work related portion of the assistantship.

C: The ARC has been very crowded lately.
A: We are in a peak month; things will die down.

Q: Do you still have stations with USB ports to track work outs? Maybe there should be some type of raffle to get the word out there.
A: True, we rarely see them used.

Q: Can the USB trackers only we used with weights?
A: No, it also tracks cardio. We also have techno gyms.

Q: Is it clear which tracker works on which machines?
A: I believe so; there is a special key for the techno gym.

Q: The current rule is that patrons can only use each machine for 30 minutes during busy hours. How is this enforced?
A: We hope that patrons self-regulates.
Q: Is the Wellness Director under CR?
A: She is housed here in the ARC in the Campus Wellness Center. She works for the Provost Office and Student Affairs. We actually plan to introduce her at the next CRAC meeting.

C: You may want to put “Wellness” on the A-Z list.
A: Ok, we will look into it.

C: You may also want to present the new Wellness Director in the staff newsletter.
A: That can be arranged.

C: There used to be a liaison between CRAC and USL. I think this should be reinstated.
A: Yes, we can see if one can be requested.

Q: There is a “no bag in hallways” policy. How are you going to publicize where patrons can put their bags?
A: We have a plan. The bags are a big safety hazard especially in the weight area. There are also lockers in the far east end and signage “to hang your bag at your own risk”. Some campuses actually charge fees if they find bags on the floor.

Q: Why were all CRCE lockers changed from battery operated locks?
A: Those batteries had to be changed twice a year at a very high cost. Also, the lockers were being held by customs in Canada because they were a perceived security threat thus causing poor customer service when they did not function.

Q: Why did the ARC change their locks?
A: There were a high number of thefts because it was easy to secure the patron’s pass code and break in. Dealing with this was a drain on staff members.

Q: Why is there no lock rental?
A: Some patrons were concerned that employees had a master to their locks and could open them.

C: There might be an error on the Campus Recreation website. It reads that locks can still be rented.
A: Thank you. We will follow up on that. NOTE: Locks ARE available for rental (key locks, not combo locks). We continue to offer this service just in case a patron was not prepared and did not want to purchase a lock from member services. Apologies per Tessa Hile – the lock rentals are not a significant revenue stream for Campus Recreation so she was not aware that this option still existed.