

# **Campus Recreation Advisory Committee (CRAC)**

## **AGENDA**

**Friday, February 25, 2022**

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Review / Approve October 2021 meeting minutes
3. Old Business
  - a. Racquetball court conversion
  - b. Staffing update
4. New Business
  - a. Assessment overview
  - b. Benchmarking
  - c. Anticipated spring break hours 2022
  - d. Upcoming Capital Projects
5. Questions, comments, and concerns

## Campus Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

February 25, 2022

Attendees: **Marcus Jackson, Terry Elmore, Jeanette Weider, Dementro Powell, Alana Harris, Michael Raycraft, Diane Dean, Jess Gentry, Alex Ochoa, Jen Dixson**

### **Marcus Jackson**

All right. Well, thanks for everyone that could join us today. I hope you all got an opportunity to look at the agenda. Got a few items. So, we'll talk about racquetball court conversions, which was a carryover from our last meeting in October, believe it or not, and we had a lot of months where, you know, other things happen. Staffing update, also a carryover from old business. And then for the new business items an Assessment Overview to share some information about programs and services we have in Campus Recreation, some benchmarking information as well, which Jess will be sharing. Alana will be doing the Assessment Overview, then anticipated Spring Break hours. So just a brief notification for this group of where we're heading in that regard. And then we'll wrap up with the upcoming capital projects that we're looking to. And of course, as always open the floor for any questions or comments, or suggestions for future items for this group to discuss. Okay. So just to kind of dive right into it. First, I think everyone on the call, I believe knows each other. So, I don't know if we'll need to do introductions. I think most of us have seen one another in one way or another. But again, glad that you all could be here. I don't know if you're all excited or cautious about what's coming Monday with the mask guidelines for those of you who will be impacted by it in a particular way. Of course, there's been a lot of buzz about it here at the facility. So, you know, we'll be looking to see what the what the next week brings? Are you getting a lot of noise about that housing Janette are, what are folks saying? Kind of saying?

### **Jeanette Weider**

I think there's a lot of students who are just happy about it. And there's some more staff who are not as happy about it. So, I think that, you know, people who must have close contact with residents like serving in the dining hall, have more concerns than maybe someone who's sitting in an office.

### **Marcus Jackson**

Okay, Dementro said students are ecstatic. Did you hear that? Michael, anything you've been hearing around?

### **Michael Raycraft**

No, I mean, in terms of our world, they're still wearing in the classroom. And so, there's not a huge impact. I was the basketball game last night. I don't think I saw many in the arena. I know they checked our cards still. But once you walked in.... There was 90% / 10%.

### **Marcus Jackson**

I believe this is Dementro's area.

### **Dementro Powell**

So yeah, there's been lots of question, which I'm pretty sure everybody will be expecting. It's like, "why here, but not here, like in the classroom and why we have this mask versus, you know, what's the difference type of situation?" So, there's been lots of those questions.

**Michael Raycraft**

Nice. My son goes to the high school at ISU, okay, at U high on ISU campus, his high school, the high school kids, they took masks out of the high school and the classroom, but the college kids have to wear them in the classroom, at ISU, which is just one of those things that you just look at, and you're just like, I...you know, I just don't understand why, you know.

**Jeanette Weider**

It just depends on how much power the faculty have. Because I think that the driver, the driver for it in the classroom is the faculty. So, the reason we have it in the classroom is because of the University of Illinois faculty and their power collectively, and shared governance like that's something that's very important on this campus. And I don't really know at Illinois State if they have this model for that. But I mean, at least that's how when people are explaining you're asking me to explain why it's different. All I can say is that the faculty advocated for the masks to continue in the in the classroom and that's why they are.

**Michael Raycraft**

Works for me!

**Dementro Powell**

Yeah, but that wasn't in the same vein. Did I see something, or did I hear something like regarding that? It was like, well, your department is not going to be telling people that they can put on they have to wear masks, or in or something of those lines. I could have sworn I saw that.

**Jeanette Weider**

One of the emails says nobody else can. Like in bold print, no other unit can put any restrictions on, add your own rules. You can politely ask someone if they would like to put a face covering on while you're talking to them, like in your office or something. But there's no room for any rules for anyone in a classroom setting.

**Marcus Jackson**

Yep. And if they refuse, there's no consequences. So, it's just a request the same way you can ask somebody to take their shoes off in your office. So, I don't know if you do. I don't know if you do that.

**Jeanette Weider**

Generally, shoes on.

**Dementro Powell**

Yeah, that's where I was.

**Marcus Jackson**

Some people, some people are different. I really like their carpets. All right. Well, so we'll go ahead and dive into the agenda. But you know, again, I think this this mask piece will certainly be something that even with a change on Monday, there will be, you know, all kinds of nuances and questions that will continue to arise for information purpose, so that all of you know, masks are not required in campus recreation buildings, or facilities, aside from any academic classes that are happening in the spaces where they are required within that space. So just to let you all know that piece of information, and that's how it'll impact our department starting on Monday. I believe we sent the minutes out for the last meeting, which was October 2021. If we fail, yep, I see some people nodding. But they're also

website. So, feel free to look those over, you'll notice a change from the time, I think when I was probably transcribing them to Jennifer. And that's because Jennifer is much more professional at that. So, she gets all the facial expressions and everything of the minutes. It's great reading, if you have a chance to do that, but the credit for that belongs to her. So, Thanks, Jennifer.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Marcus Jackson**

So, going into old business, the first item the racquetball court conversion at the October meeting, we discussed, the plans for three of our racquetball courts is a total of four, but three of them specifically. And I think I reviewed the equipment that we were putting in those spaces, I'm proud to announce that as of February 15, and 16th, were we when we held a grand opening for those spaces, they are now open and ready for use and have been used quite a bit by our students, as well as some instructional programs that we've had, if you haven't had an opportunity to visit or to check those out, I definitely encourage you to come over and look at them. They're exciting additions to the strength and conditioning spaces that we offer in our facility, and hopefully a precursor of many more wonderful things to come. So, a lot of credit goes to our wellness folks who are led by Alana Harris and our operations folks, led by Terry. And then of course, nothing could happen without the money. So, Diane's folks in business and finance, but come over and look at those spaces. They we have a fourth space that I believe is in the next week or two, Terry that will be receiving a kilting wall. And if you don't recall what that is, it's a bouldering wall or it's a wall for those of us who don't do the climbing thing very well. And so, we're hoping to put to have that up and in place, and ready for use for students, hopefully relatively shortly. So, there'll be some installation that'll be involved. So, it won't be too quick of a turnaround, but it'll be something that we're excited to present to them, hopefully by the time they return from spring break. So that's kind of an update on those spaces. I wanted to provide a staffing update. I had shared with you all where we were at the last meeting. What we are looking at now, we did have a position open for our assistant director for human resources. After interviewing some folks for that we did need to sort of regroup around that and edit the description are hoping to have that position reposted in the very near future. It'll be up for anywhere from three weeks to a month. And then we will proceed with selection of candidates for interviews and on campus visits and then hopefully, an incumbent for that position. In this next week, that's coming up we have candidate for our competitive sports and community programs coordinator position, that'll be coming to campus. The following week, we are looking hopefully to bring candidates on campus for our Student Development Coordinator position. That's the week of March 7, I believe. So right before spring break, and then we'll continue those after spring break. So, we will take a pause for the spring break week. And then continue those interviews after if all things go according to plan.

Those are the positions that are the searches that are in process right now. The next ones that are up following, those are our Facility Scheduling and Events Assistant Director, we have an Ice Arena Coordinator position. The former Ice Arena Coordinator is now our Member Services Assistant Director, Lauren Wheeler, she's been in that role for what's it been a couple of months, maybe now Diane, or a month or two?

### **Diane Dean**

Officially January 16. She was interim before that since September.

**Marcus Jackson**

So, if you all are familiar with Lauren, she has taken on a new role in our department. We're hoping to have that position advertised and we have an accounting associate position that'll also be posted shortly. So that's sort of the landscape around positions here in Campus Recreation. Sure, as we go along, there'll be some other ones that we'll be looking at. And we're constantly looking, of course at our organization to determine other areas of need, and whether we can accommodate those whether it's full time or part time. We're not immune to any of the pressures of situations that campus is under. So, we must be very careful and mindful about our posting positions. And, of course, the compensation that comes with those, but we're trying to be as aggressive as we can and making sure to fill those vacancies. So, I'll take a pause since we're a couple of different pieces of information to see if there's any questions or comments.

**Jeanette Weider**

I just wonder what classifications you're able to use. But that's more of a just for my own knowledge.

**Marcus Jackson**

Can you expand so I understand your question correctly?

**Jeanette Weider**

The Civil Service classifications, are your assistant directors being converted to civil service?

**Marcus Jackson**

Yes, they are. So far, they have been for every position. I think that we've posted so far except for the human resource has been reclassified to civil service. So yeah, we are certainly I think, you know, have that in common with I'm assuming that's happening in Housing as well. Yeah. Other questions about the positions?

**Jess Gentry**

We're also still searching for the Adventure Rec Coordinator.

**Marcus Jackson**

Oh, I left that out, didn't I? I'm sorry. Thank you. Adventure Recreation Coordinator. Ooh, big one. Thanks, team. Yes, that'll be posted as well.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Marcus Jackson**

Alright, so let's move into the new business. So first to share some information around our programs and services that we've had. I am going to turn it over to our Associate Director for Assessment, Wellness and Adventure Recreation, Alana Harris.

**Assessment Overview**

**Alana Harris**

Hi everyone. I'm going to share my screen I hope everybody can hear me I'm using my office instead of my laptop. The famous words - can everyone see my screen? Awesome. Thanks, Jeanette. Okay, so Marcus has asked me to do a brief overview of some of the initiatives for assessment in the department. And so, I first thought I should review with you our department's cycle of assessment. So,

we're on a four-year departmental cycle, we started. Well, I just celebrated my five-year anniversary. And so, when I arrived here, we started this cycle of facility satisfaction and FY 19, program satisfaction in FY 20. Projects related to student staff and their experience and FY 21. And then this year, we're conducting stakeholder focus group interviews, around sense of belonging. And so next year, that puts us back on our facility satisfaction timeline. And so, I thought I'd take you through just kind of where we're at with projects this year but wanted to frame it with that first.

### **Alana Harris**

So, in terms of some newer initiatives that we have put in place since we've been able to bring in Fusion. So, Fusion being our member management software system that Well, Diane and her team have taken a big lead on implementing, we have been able to automate some of our data collection, just by sheer use of that, that software. And through that, we have developed a Tableau dashboard. And the Tableau dashboard is not unique to us, it exists in other departments on campus. So, we've looked to those units, and we've modeled the dashboard from theirs. And what it provides us with is, it gets updated through Fusion on the first and the 16th of each month. And so, it gives us a little bit more frequent updates in terms of what is traffic looking like in our spaces at different times of the day, the demographics of the folks who are using different programs and spaces in our building. And we created I'll show you this as well. So, what you see in front of you, this is a dashboard that only a select group of folks on our staff has privy to, it has a lot of information that doesn't directly share out to our stakeholders, but to our leadership team, who can look at this and make you know, operational decisions more frequently. Also, too, you can see across the top here, information like patron academics we've attached something that's of interest is retention and persistence to graduation, and potentially how relationship with the ARC or with Rec in general might connect or have a relationship to that. So, we have additional information here. But what we hope to do with some of this is not only to inform some of our practices behind the scenes, but also to use this previous semesters pictures on our websites, we've got an assessment page that's been established now as well, where we will put some of these visuals so that students can look at what does a typical Monday look like? And when should I plan to go if I'm trying to avoid traffic, or for those who are doing, you know, research projects on campus and want to see what usage looks like in our spaces, there are some easy visuals for them to look at.

So that exists, now back to my presentation. From there, so I put the link too for our site, our website that we've started to populate so that again, so we are communicating with stakeholders or folks have we have a place to point people when they have questions. Next Marcus asked that I give a little bit of an update around the food assistance and wellbeing program as it is a more recent program that we are offering from the ARC. I think I spoke to you in early fall about some of the things that we were seeing from the previous year. This is our second fall that we have been open and so now I have some comparative data so I can look at last fall as comparison to this fall. So, you can see here in the pie chart, I decided to pull a visual that shows visit frequency. So, we have had this fall 576 total visits to the Food Assistance Program. So that is almost 50% higher from last fall. So, you can see that we are seeing continued growth and usage of that resource. And obviously, we have been covering the cost of that program and managing the operations of that program. And so, we are kind of in a position where we have made some requests for some additional support resources but wanting to show the metrics and the numbers so that you see the impact that this program is having on our resources or on our staff, we've had 209 of those folks that are unique. So, you can see from that number that we are having repeat visits, so 81% of our shoppers are using this resource more than once. And the reason I think this is important for us to draw attention to is a food pantry is meant to be an acute or urgent source of support and not an ongoing, something that you lean into on a weekly basis to support your

food needs. And so, we're providing education about how to apply to SNAP, how to access Emergency Dean funds and other resources on campus and in our community. And this data helped us to recognize that was something additionally, we had to do. Another project that we're working on, so that department cycle of assessment, we're now on year four, which is the stakeholder interviews, and in line with some student affairs data and campus-wide data around students sense of belonging on campus and connection to our community. We are doing interviews with students around their sense of belonging in Campus Recreation, we did submit an IRB. So, it has been approved by the Institutional Review Board, in case we do hope to share this out beyond our campus. So, we did go ahead and do that we have completed three of 10 interviews at this point, hoping to complete the other seven by the end of March. But I'm sure all of you doing assessment work on campus are recognizing that recruiting students into surveys and assessment work has been really challenging, I think they are, you know, experiencing some fatigue around this. But doing our best to get that picture of sense of belonging in the rack, especially during this time.

Another piece that we've added, that's an ongoing longitudinal collection is Career Readiness Competencies through employment. So, the purpose of this is to look at the nice career competencies. So, there are eight of those, and students who are employed in Campus Recreations, development of career competencies during their time here. And so, the way that this survey is organized is it's automated through our human resources database. So, there are two surveys that are completed one within 30 days of being offered a position with us, and then one at six months of being hired on with us. So far, we have we implemented this in September, we've had 34 employees complete the pre survey, and 10 of those go on to complete posts. So, it's an ongoing project that we will sustain, and be able to articulate or communicate out development of those career competencies through employment and Rec. Hopefully, when we have our assistant director, Human Resources come on, we'll be able to provide them with some information about this so that they can inform larger departmental staff trainings, job training and shadowing, and you know, workshops and those types of things, but wanting to provide some data there too. Lastly, staff resources and projects by request, this is something that's ongoing in the department. So, on our staff intranet, we have the opportunity for all professional staff to apply to get assistance with projects in their program areas. And so, if they want to do a satisfaction survey or if they want to evaluate a program, we have consultants, a team of assessment grad students and myself who assist folks with doing this work. We're also developing an in-house Canvas based eight module training programs for our pro staff to gain skills in their assessment work in the department. So, working on that in June of 2022

## **Benchmarking**

### **Marcus Jackson**

Any questions for Alana? Okay. All right. Thank you, Alana. Next, we're going to move into some benchmarking, which I'll have Jess Gentry will share information about that, and the anticipated Spring Break hours. All yours.

### **Jess Gentry**

Okay this is not meant to be us, showing you our benchmarking, but I know throughout the year, we get questions from you all on how do we make decisions? Who do we benchmark against? What does that look like? So, I thought I would just provide this an example. So, an associate director at the University of Florida reached out to me a few months ago, and they said they were completing a survey and asked us to complete it. And then as is typically the practice in our field, if you complete a survey for someone, then they'll send you the results of it. So, you get, you know, not only valuable

data about that school, but you get a lot of information from other schools that you really didn't have to work much for at all. Nor did you have to organize it like it's, it's nice. So, here is an example of just all the schools that participated in this University of Florida survey. So, it's an in-depth analysis of a few different things. And so, as you can see, there's a lot of Big 10 schools, there's a lot of UC System schools, UT Austin is on there, Virginia is on there. So, there's a lot of schools on there that campus has defined as our peers when we benchmark in general. So, there's good data in that regard. This specifically, they were interested a lot in tennis courts and sand volleyball courts. So again, I just submitted information on our behalf. So, you can kind of see that, you know, when we're asked to complete these different surveys, how there's this spirit of reciprocity, and people in our field really aren't possessive with their data at all they're willing to share. And that's one of the things that I really like the most. So again, we're not using this for any specific thing. I think it's just a nice illustration of one of the many things that we have at our disposal, when we're trying to make decisions about our services, or even it's looking at this, you know, and I see, you go back to the first slide, and it you know, it breaks down, square footage per student. And so then, you know, just even anecdotally, you can take like, okay, you know, we're in a good spot, or oh, you know, that kind of surprised me, let's dig into that more. Those kinds of things. So that's just like I said, one example of just the information that we have at our disposal, and that, you know, we're not using this for anything specific now. But you know, who's to say in a year or two that we might pull that back out, or I might follow back up with Marty from Florida to get a little more information about something. So just wanted to share something that we utilize from time to time. Did anyone have any questions in that regard? If you guys want this survey, I will gladly send this to you if you just want to see the data because it's interesting. Like it's I'm happy to happy to share it with any of you all, so.

## **Anticipated Spring Break Hours 2022**

### **Jess Gentry**

With that I will just move into our spring break hours. So, they are still very much a work in progress. Now, as far as our staff getting coverage I met. I met with all our different frontline staff areas today. So, we are instituting what we utilize our break period hours over winter break. So, it will be Monday through Friday 11am to 6pm, Saturday and Sunday 11 to 3PM and then the Sunday the 20th. Before classes come back, we will stay open until six. So right now, that's we have our hands full with trying to get staff to work those hours. So, I don't know that we would have the capacity to expand them very much. But, you know, we do have a few more weeks to get things covered. What adds an additional challenge for us is while they are closing the ARC testing site, the CRCE testing site is remaining open and they're expanding that site's hours to capture the 6am start time that a lot of our third shift staff needs to use to maintain compliance. So, CRCE as a recreation facility as close as we are, you know, we'll go back to our model of only having one facility open during each break period, but the testing site is open. So, we are working with SHIELD to provide us, you know, once just one staff member of presence in the lobby, to capture anybody that you know, might inadvertently think the building's open, and they can come in and work out. So not only are we trying to staff here, but we're also trying to help SHIELD staff at CRCE, as well. So, um, and then we also have two large events in the facility, the weekends that bookend spring break. So, there are large community events that would be they're so impactful on the facility, they'd be really challenging for us to accommodate during the semester. But given that the spring break weekends are less busy than a normal semester, it's an opportunity for us to generate some revenue. So, we obviously have staff needs. For those as well. The building itself will be open for those events from 7am to 10pm. On those days to accommodate them. So just a few different few different things going on that we're working through, patching everything together. Any questions about spring break? All right, thanks, everyone.



## **Upcoming Capital Projects**

### **Marcus Jackson**

Speaking of things going on, the last actual formal agenda item I have is a discussion of upcoming capital projects. I have shared with you all earlier some information about the performance pods that we have, and maybe in October I shared some grander plans than that. Obviously, we had some of these things as our intention to complete before the pandemic, and since then we've been slowly trying to get ourselves back into a position to resume for the benefit and well-being of all our participants. I'm going to turn it over to Terry to briefly share some information about some of the things that are upcoming.

### **Terry Elmore**

We will be moving forward with replacing our entire front entrance at the ARC and making some changes to the front desk so that it is more user-friendly for the staff. Changes at the entrance will be an electronic swipe so that gates open automatically when you swipe in. That will cut down on some safety issues and people sneaking in and out of the building. We will be doing that at the ARC and at CRCE. We will also be repurposing Gym 4 – the large gym as you come into the ARC that used to be our three basketball courts. That will be our new weight room, and we're in the final stages of working with the flooring provider for that and working out some kinks. Those are the two major renovation projects that we have going on this summer and also winding down with replacing our Gym 4 lighting, the ARC's swimming pool lighting and some CRCE lighting as well. We're getting new LED lighting in all those spaces so it will be kind of busy over here through the summer. It should be really nice to see once fall hits.

### **Marcus Jackson**

So, just to share some information, I think that this is something that you talk about months and pandemics ago, but the reason and rationale behind the conversion of Gym 4 to a weight room is that when we did an external review in 2017-2018, one of the discoveries, if you will, and to follow a recommendation was that we had a very small weight room space in comparison to our counterparts in the Big 10. But we had an overabundance of courts. So, in some settings that comes with benefits and we can host lots of events with minimal or reduced impact to the other services we can provide, but we have more informal visits and that's a more frequent part of our operation than the reservations that we have in the space, so the recommendation was to take some of the court space away so we could provide more strength training space. That's the short story as to the "why" we're making that move. Again, like so many others, this plan was in place before the pandemic happened. Along with that then came the need to create space between the equipment so we took it as an opportunity to say that this is a good time to try out what we need to do for the future anyway. That's how we got to where we are. Any sort of questions or comments about anything Campus Recreation related?

### **Michael Raycraft**

What do you see moving forward? You had all the racquetball courts and racquetball died. If you're going to make some predictions about what's coming next that you can prepare for, what would it be? That's a tough question, I know.

**Marcus Jackson**

It is. I think that the predictor is always changing. One, I think we've started to realize this with the performance pods, maybe more small group work. Previous use in that space where we've been able to accommodate smaller groups or clubs or different programs for identity groups if you will, it has really sort of taken off. I see that Alana just put a resource in the chat and I can let her respond to that – or any of my staff that have perspective on this. Some of the other things that have been indicators for a while have been flappable spaces or multipurpose spaces where students can gather in their respective organizations whether it's dance or rehearsals, that's been popular. And one of the things that I can say that campuses generally cannot have enough of. Alana, do you want to share a little bit about what you linked to there?

**Alana Harris**

I just included the American College of Sports Medicine's Fitness Trends (<https://www.acsm.org/education-resources/trending-topics-resources/acsm-fitness-trends>) So in fitness and wellness we want to be on trend but we want to choose sustainable things that we foresee will stick around for a while. If you were to click through the resource, something there is additional information about strength training with free weights and HIIT training which informed the pods. Health and wellness coaching is a trend that's moved substantially through the ranks for the ACSM and that type of programming is something that we're looking at. We benchmarked against Big 10 schools and we're considering piloting some things and doing additional research on offering wellness coaching in parallel to our personal training. We absolutely looked at the research, but we tried to interview and ask students what it is they're looking for as well and I think we have done a really good job recently tracking utilization of these different spaces to inform the decision with the demographics as well as the numbers.

**Michael Raycraft**

And just a second question. How much of your remote, Zoom-based programming that you guys have done such an amazing job putting together, do you think you'll be continuing?

**Marcus Jackson**

I think that there's certainly been some efforts to retain pieces of that, but by and large I believe, and please correct me if I'm wrong, I think the students have generally wanted to be in the physical space.

**Alana Harris**

I can speak to physical fitness, wellness, and group fitness classes over Zoom – they did not fly. They did initially when they were a free resource that through a sponsor, we were able to offer for one semester at no cost, those were well attended. But then that fell away. Personal training was offered over Zoom and that never took off. The only thing that Zoom-wise that I supervise that has continued are the one-on-one nutrition coaching appointments and I think that the wellness appointments if we were to offer something like that over Zoom may be of interest as well. Some of our training – absolutely. We put personal training certification course and group fitness course online and that has gone like crazy. So those self-paced training programs to prepare you to work in those areas – those seem to have worked very well. Jess, I'm not sure about intramurals. Can you speak to that one?

**Jess Gentry**

We saw something similar. Despite what we've tried and what we've seen across the country, our students, at least the way we've tried to offer it, don't seem to have an interest in e-sports in any significant degree at least when we've tried to offer it through intramurals, and you participate in your

own apartment or room. We've had some participation, but the numbers aren't overwhelming by any means. We have continued to offer trivia for free on Sundays. That started during the pandemic and kept going. It's easy for our staff to do so there are minimal resources required. I haven't checked with Andrew for numbers recently, but we typically got upwards of 50 to 100 participants. It was easy for us to do, there wasn't a huge demand on our time, and it was a way to keep promoting our intramural program passively. Overall, I would say we saw the same where there was heavier interest in the beginning, but it did fade quickly. We started offering our team in-person sports end of March / early April and registration was a deluge. Students were clamoring to be able to do something team-based and in person and we saw that through the rest of the spring, fall and at the beginning of this semester.

**Michael Raycraft**

I know I brought this up in the past, but I don't understand what you just said about e-sports. I don't understand with the number of participants and the impact of the pandemic, why they're not engaging through you guys. To me that just doesn't make any sense.

**Jess Gentry**

The only thing that we can't offer is space. We rely on people doing it from their own residence since we don't have a dedicated space, so a part of that community is just the community it creates. So, there are a lot of people who will just sit by themselves, with roommates, whatever and engage, but we don't have the space or the resources to create any kind of dedicated space. We've offered it. We do have some interest; we just haven't been able to get off the ground with it. We've tried to work with the e-sports RSO on campus and whatever we've tried we haven't gained a lot of traction.

**Michael Raycraft**

Is the challenge then kind of a disconnect between the different groups? There seem to be so many other places, such as the Union, that seem to be managing it.

**Jess Gentry**

There are, the challenge is, at least in the spaces I've seen – for example Illinois State is building an e-sports arena – you would know that as well as anybody. I don't want to say that there's no one on campus here that wants to do that, but we don't have the resources on our own to do that. I agree that it's segmented and siloed such that the Union might do a few things here and there and we might do something. I know they've done some stuff in Housing, but we just haven't had that coming together, and please don't interpret that as me being critical. I just feel that right now it's really scattered on our campus and I think based on our capacity that's where we must stay based on our bandwidth, resources and things of that nature.

**Marcus Jackson**

I do feel as if one of the major stopping points in this conversation has always been around physical space. We were looking at a few different facilities. I know that at one point there was a tour and walkthrough of Kenney Gymnasium and a couple other buildings to see what could be accommodated. Again, at least for the conversations I was in, that seemed to be the point where things sort of died down and we couldn't find an amenable space.

**Dementro Powell**

To echo what Marcus was just saying, in the Union, they wanted to utilize the Rec Room. The groups... I guess there was a “hype?” I still don’t understand the whole e-sports thing to be honest, but I understand that there is this incline of interest and the groups wanted to utilize the space too. Where they were so bold to make the statement that, “nobody bowls, or nobody plays pool, and nobody utilizes the space” so they should be able to take it over. But obviously we weren’t going to be able to accommodate something like that where we were just going to remove the bowling alley and the pool tables so they could move in. Like Marcus said, there’ve been many conversations, there just hasn’t been the space for them to thrive and not be broken up across the campus piece by piece. People are trying to support and help but it just doesn’t stack up, basically.

**Michael Raycraft**

That’s my question then. That seems to be the next frontier that we as a campus haven’t figured out yet. Campus Rec is certainly a player in the conversation but it’s a big conversation.

**Jeanette Weider**

It’s one of those areas where it would be great if we had an alumnus who would be interested in funding or developing a location because the other thing is the desire for the top end technology, which of course, our campus wants to display top end technology but it’s the funding for that as well. If we know any alumni that are really into that, that might be a great fundraising avenue.

**Michael Raycraft**

Thank you.

**Marcus Jackson**

Other questions? We’ve got about seven or eight minutes. Comments?

**Dementro Powell**

I was just going to say, if anyone has ever been to my office, currently we are getting ready to move. Not the whole station – just where the white house is at 1108 W Stoughton. All of us that are in there, and that includes me and Nicole’s team, we’re moving down on Green to 505 E. Green where the PNC Bank used to be, near where Coldstone was. And we’re moving into that space sometime in March. No firm date has been given and no keys have been given, but everyone is sure that it’s going to be in March. I haven’t even seen the space, but we just got this news about a week ago, so just to let you know.

**Marcus Jackson**

Well, good luck with that. With that then folks, I will conclude the meeting. Please feel free to send me any future any. Dementro, I think you can see the chat, but Alana says that this is your chance to ask for help – don’t let it pass you by. Like I said, please feel free to send me any suggestions or anything you want to know about. Again, I want to encourage folks to come over and check us out if you haven’t been here in a little while and haven’t seen the performance pods, we’d love to show you. Otherwise, it’s a Friday so I will bid you all a good weekend and give you back approximately seven minutes of your time. So, thank you for joining us, and we’ll see you next time.