Campus Recreation continued to enrich the experience and encourage the growth of our users through activity and wellness in 2017-2018 through a series of accomplishments. We truly continued to expand on our vision of being “A Place For Everyone” through various programs and collaborations with the campus community. One such accomplishment was the grand re-opening of our Ice Arena after $1.5 million in renovations where we invited students and community members to enjoy the facility upgrades. Within that space, we also were able to host a Sled Hockey Exhibition and Reading Day event that provided entertainment and engagement with DRES students (Disability Resources and Education Services), and other Paralympic athletes and participants in the community. Campus Recreation increased our involvement in the promotion of wellness by developing Wellness on Wheels, which provided education and resources for the campus community around stress relief, sexual health, and Exercise is Medicine in partnership with others on campus. In 2017-18, we assumed departmental oversight of the Campus Bike Center and continued to expand how we promote and engage students and community in healthy lifestyles by teaching them about bike safety, care and hosting the first campus Bike Rodeo. The value of Inclusiveness was realized through various program offerings and partnerships with LGBT Resource Center, and OMSA (Office of Minority Student Affairs). Our overall engagement with students saw increases from 2016 in areas such as: Lifeguard Certification classes (from 2 to 22), indoor rentals from registered student orgs (from 810 to 1266), Intramural teams (from 1112 to 1205), and Instructional Kitchen participants (from 213 to 382). These all indicate the campus and community continuing to seek to make themselves better through being active, learning healthy lifestyle choices, building leadership, and connecting with others.

As we continue to experience increased mental health related events, our collaborations with other units on campus will need to continue to grow. We saw good results through our partnerships with McKinley Health Center, Counseling and Kinesiology but will need to continue to examine areas where our presence is not felt. As the campus growth trend indicates more happening to the north, our lack of options in that area will be challenging for some students. In lieu of an accessible location we will need to continue to offer and encourage students to take advantage of more “mobile” services from Campus Recreation.

While our ice arena has been renovated recently, we continue to experience challenges with various areas of service related to that facility around ice maintenance. There have been ongoing conversations and endeavors related to ice/multi-sport arenas in the which could also impact student involvement in this area. Determining what needs of the students can be met around this will require some attention as well.

This summary provides a glimpse of some of the many accomplishments of Campus Recreation and highlights the many ways the staff seeks to enrich and transform the lives of the community.

Marcus Jackson
Director, Campus Recreation
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Campus Recreation received a total of 1,458,242 students and members in FY’18 (45,095 unique patrons).

Developed small group training in the Personal Training program area.

Developed and implemented the Orange & Blue Zone program, an 8-week wellness program designed to allow students to explore wellness services at Illinois with the support of a peer.

Transitioned from American Heart to American Red Cross. Returned teaching of CPR/First Aid/AED Courses in-house. (532 certifications and 59 courses)

Established the Deterding Competitive Club Sports Blood Drive, partnering with Gift of Life, Kinesiology & Community Health, Student Wellness, and Club Sports.

Partnered with McKinley and implemented Get Fresh! food program, a 6-week local food education program designed to improve the food security of students.

Hosted 2018 MidWest FitFest, an annual fitness conference developed for and geared towards the advancement of fitness professionals.

Hosted the United States Intercollegiate Boxing Association National Championship Tournament.

The Learn-to-Swim Program was awarded “Best of Champaign” in swim instruction. Increased participation in the Learn-to-Swim program by 17% from the previous year.

Issued 7% more training certifications (Lifeguard, Lifeguard Instructor, Water Safety Instructor) compared to the previous year.
GOALS

Evaluate all programs and data-driven programmatic offerings/changes to programs.

Grow female participation number 5% over FY 18.

Plan and implement an interdepartmental wellness program for professional staff.

Explore and assess new ideas to recruit, hire, and increase utilization of Federal Work-Study student hourly employees.

Plan and implement a diversity training program for hourly student staff and professional staff.

Begin building alumni relations at Campus Recreation and host an event for returning alumni.

Host a Leadership Retreat in Fall 2018 for student staff in promotional or supervisory roles.