

PSU Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Friday, April 29, 2022
11:30 a.m.
SRC 215

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Laura Covert-Miller. Members present included: Sara Vacca, Michelle Alexander, Amber Davish-Fox, Dave Loopy, Marissa Poppe, Darian Westerfield, Lucas Arnold, Ashten Graham, Regi Casner, Riley Tuetsch, Nizar Alarahshun, Josie Weilmann, Zoey Harvey, Laura Covert-Miller, Janice Jewett, Shelby Hutchens, Rick Hardy.

Unable to attend: Sunni Stipp, Vince Daino, Steven Lilly, Damian Smithhisler, Emily Gronau, Matt Neal, Jayna Guerra, Brad Stroud, John Oppliger, Breonna Goodwin, Shayla Kohler, Camryn Williams, Abby Madsen.

Guests: Dr. Jim Truelove, Dean of the College of Education

Welcome -Dr. Covert-Miller introduced Dr. Jim Truelove, Dean, COE who welcomed all and noted the many accomplishments over the last year. He thanked board members for their time and suggestions provided to the Recreation Program. The group then enjoyed a slide show of the year in review & lunch provided by the Mall Deli.

Review - Dr. Laura Covert-Miller noted that PSU is the only accredited recreation program, as well as only accredited Therapeutic Program in the state of Kansas. She outlined the events of the accreditation process that the Recreation program went through in 2021. Dr. Covert-Miller also noted the growth in the department since the addition of the Sport Management & Hospitality emphasis areas were added. The discipline has grown from 60-70 majors in 2018 to 99 today. She shared the recent course legislations that affected the core classes and emphases areas and will go into effect Spring 2023. Areas of interest were the park ranger & sports recreation administration roles available through the Sports Management Emphasis. Following was a report from each emphasis area.

Dr. Janice Jewett spoke about the recent Dance Symposium held in April with 400-500 in attendance. There were 22 dances with 60 participants who were dance minors or in the dance club or dance classes. Prior to the performance, several students participated in a Research Symposium, with posters, video, and live demonstration. Particularly noted were projects dealing with dance injuries and chiropractic treatment and an art major did a painting of dance on stage.

This past fall students in the Research Projects Class developed a survey for the Campus Recreation Center. Students worked with Vince Daino, Director, and Steven Lilly, Intramural Sports Director to develop the survey in which 400 students responded.

TR-iffic Day was held at the Plaster, April 27th. This event was developed by TR students several years ago for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Over 100 participants attended and there were around 60 volunteers who helped with the event.

Dr. Shelby Hutchens spoke of the social media events that have taken place this spring. He has been working with several faculty and students doing podcasts and has reached out to community members as well. He asked that our students be "tagged" in community posts so they can be shared on our website.

Special Olympics Grant - department was awarded funds that have been used to purchase equipment & hire students to do fitness assessments on the athletes in Kansas who will travel to the USA games.

Dr. Rick Hardy received the Recreation Professional of the Year at the Kansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, & Dance Convention this past year.

Breakout Groups - Faculty members and students met with professional representatives associated with the four emphasis areas for approximately 30 minutes for roundtable discussion.

Recreation & Sport Management

- a. Trends +Current and future issues in the field:
 - i. Athletics/KPWD: technology
 1. More companies in our world are using a data driven approach and with that comes new tech systems.
 2. Recommendation: integrate technologies (more Excel among others) and apps into classes to get students used to data, data analytics, and multi-platform functionality.
 - ii. Automated technology
 - iii. KPWD – recruiting: negative perception of law enforcement in 2022 has made it difficult to recruit.
 1. Want to get them on the podcast ASAP. I have Lucas' card and will be in touch with him.
 - iv. Parks and Rec:
 1. Pickleball (the fastest growing rec sport) players are getting to be a pain
 - a. Huge demand and not enough space to host them
 2. Baby boomer generation is aging and will put significant strain on our infrastructure. Developing ways to keep them active will be a necessity as our healthcare system struggles. Consider increasing programming with this age group where possible. Might need research on specific interests as this generation ages.
- b. What students are excelling at and what they are lacking + Educational areas to focus on within or outside classroom setting:
 - i. Marketing:
 1. Familiarity and understanding of design principles that are effective across platforms. Canva was mentioned, photoshop too, but the main emphasis is that students need to know what should be included on graphics, what makes graphics look good, and be familiar enough with common programs to be able to generate them.
 2. Content creation: understanding that because you have a phone in your pocket and because its such a powerful device, you are a content creator and students have to realize that in every element of their job.
 3. Editorial Summary: The world operates through marketing in 2022. The marketing mix (product, promotion, place, price, public relations) is everything to companies and organizations.
 - ii. Professionalism:
 1. Students aren't prepping correctly for job interviews
 2. Lack of professionalism in first contact
 - iii. Writing:
 1. Different types of writing across the industries we serve:
 - a. Contract/report writing
 - b. Marketing/creative/persuasive writing
 - i. W2L classes probably aren't getting to all of these

Hospitality Management: See notes from R&S MGMT

Therapeutic Recreation

- a. TR Courses: Discussed the option of including budgeting and entrepreneurship/independent contractor discussions within TR classes; include discussion of a utilization review – what is needed to be included for insurance coverage purposes when writing documentation notes; bring in more for physical disabilities – possible reach out the The Center in Tulsa or other entities working with physical disabilities
- b. Research ideas/case studies: how to best use limited amount of space within facilities; RT's provide case studies to TR students
- c. Certifications: Certified Inclusive Fitness Trainer, animal assisted therapy/horticulture; mental health first aid; outdoor certifications
- d. Marketing program: HHPR day/TR day, go to high schools as guest presenters

Community & Worksite Wellness

- a. Discussion began with the work ethic of recent graduates which then led to the fact that many are facing mental health challenges related to the pandemic and/or expectations of coaches, etc...
- b. The topic then segued into the focus on people getting back out into the community. Although it's getting better we are still far from pre-pandemic numbers when it comes to people participating in Group Fitness and other programs. The connection was made between the importance of socialization/community-involvement and mental wellness.
- c. It was noted that Crawford County Mental Health and First Aid is an ideal certification that students can receive locally for the cost of \$25.
- d. In addition, the group discussed the possibility of adding another psychology class to this emphasis to help students be better prepared for implementing programs and services that focus on mental wellness.

Overall Group Discussion- Key take aways from each breakout session were shared. See above breakout notes for key areas discussed.

Adjournment - Dr. Covert-Miller thanked all for coming and asked anyone to contact her if they had any questions or suggestions. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Downing