

PSU Recreation Advisory Board Meeting  
Monday, May 7, 2018  
11:30 a.m.  
102 PSU Student Recreation Center

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Laura Covert who asked everyone to introduce themselves. Lunch was catered from the Mall Deli. Members present included: Kim Vogel, Emily Gronau, Vince Daino, John Oppliger, Janice Jewett, Sara Vacca, Janie Terry (in for Sunni Stipp), Matt Neal, Ginger Cawley, Devin Gorman, Kayla Light, Andi Vietti, Brittany Worthington, and Laura Covert.

Unable to attend: Lucas Arnold, Michelle Alexander, Mike Moore, Travis Tobin, Craig Hull, Rikki Roach, Ryan Metcalf, Steven Lilly

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

Dr. Covert distributed agenda for the meeting with the following items:

### **Year in Review**

Student Projects in the Community – Recreation faculty reviewed the following about their student involvement:

Sarah Ball – Students were involved with United Way, PSU Community Wellness Task Force, & Gorilla Games at PSU football games

Janice Jewett – Rec Program Design & Leadership Class create themed activities for area school children as well as residents in Nursing Homes. Dance Minor students are heavily involved in the Dance Showcase, which was held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Bicknell Center. Statistics from this event were shared.

Rick Hardy – Students in his classes are volunteering with Pittsburg Parks & Rec and did Risk Assessment of their facilities.

Laura Covert – Students were involved in planning & implementing OK Kids Day, May 5<sup>th</sup> at Lakeside Park. Students worked from 6:30 – 2:30. They also do activities for the retirement communities as well as residents of New Hope and MOSAIC. Students went to Pittsburg Middle School to conduct activities for Special Education classes.

Student Outtings – Touched upon last year's trip to Kansas City and this year's trip to Children's Mercy Park and Cerner @ Legends Health & Wellness facility. Sarah Ball's classes have had several guest speakers – Brian Pinamonti, United Way Representative, Craig Hull (Joplin Sports Authority) as well as many others.

### Student Practicums & Internships

Dr. Laura Covert outlined procedures for students to obtain their practicum and internship sites. Practicum consists of 65 hours of volunteering at three organizations; students find these based on their interest. Several are found in the Pittsburg community.

The Internship consists of 15 week 560 hours or 12/week 480 hours. Past internship sites have been in Hawaii, Florida, Texas, Arizona as well as minor league baseball teams and facilities in Colorado. Students graduating have secured jobs in major corporations, state parks, and other agencies.

Program Changes - Dr. Covert and faculty outlined the changes to the recreation program that will go into effect Fall 2018. Handouts were distributed. Changes include three new sports classes to the Recreation & Sport Management Emphasis. Hospitality Management is the new emphasis area that is completely online and reaches out to students interested in event planning, travel & tourism. Students can either

obtain an emphasis area or a certificate. An Event Management Workshop will be held July 23-24, 2018 in the Overman Student Center for anyone interested in attending. Therapeutic Recreation Emphasis is staying the same with the possibility of looking into a Masters in Therapeutic Recreation. Community, Corporate Worksite Wellness is a name change to an already existing emphasis with the addition of a class entitled "Promoting Community Worksite Wellness"

**Future** – While the department is excited about the future of the new programs and changes, they are asking for more exposure to students and promotion of the degree through the advisory board. Dr. Oppliger welcomes suggestions on ways to improve recruitment strategies and assures the board that faculty stay current with their teachings by going to conventions. He also informed them that the Hospitality Management Emphasis came about after two years of conversation between city leaders and the department. The board also had the chance for input and it was noted that students should have a good resume a professional demeanor; along with practical skills. Some on the board expressed gratitude in the classes offered and would have taken them if they were available during their education. Discussion also centered on the rotation of the classes and if members of the community were able to enroll as well as receive Financial Assistance. Kim Vogel asked about having course objectives for her the Event Management Workshop posted on our website. Kim Vogel noted Sarah Ball's usage of Instagram and department exposure.

Dr. Oppliger informed the board of faculty's many presentations at conferences which may include our students. Student summits are held at KRPA that touch on resume building and interviews Dr. Oppliger reminded all that our program is nationally accredited through COARPT and PSU is the only accredited program in general Recreation. Dr. Jim Truelove, Dean COE, asked the board for their feedback to keep our program successful and is always looking to stay ahead. He reiterated that students need to know about our program and know the department is trying to be more visible with their social media and other materials.

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Covert thanked all for coming and asked anyone to contact her if they had any questions or suggestions. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Downing