

Recreational Sports Committee
Meeting Notes: September 5, 2007

Attending: Ashley Nelson, Ronald Anderson, Deborah Roberts, Elizabeth Cullingford, Eric Fahrenthold, Ernst Leiss, Iris Jennings, Kyle Carpenter, Mary Steinhardt, Rita Thornton, Robert Bruce, Tom Dison

Unable to attend: Glen Peers, John Allison, John Richburg, Laurence Chalip

I. New Business

A. Introductions

Professor Cullingford, Chair, convened this first meeting of the new, 2007-08 Recreational Sports Committee. Introductions were made around the table.

B. Elections

Cullingford nominated John Richburg for Vice-Chair. Committee members voted unanimously in favor of the nomination.

C. RecSports Overview (Presented by Tom Dison, *ex officio*)

- Recreational Sports is celebrating its 91st year on this campus.
- Recreational Sports is one of the largest and most diverse programs in the country with 90% of the students participating in some aspect of the program and accumulating over 3.5 million hours of participation annually.

The Committee then watched an iMovie that presented an overview of the programs, services and facilities that Recreational Sports offers. Reference was also made to the packets of divisional publications and related written materials that were distributed to the committee members.

Dison then provided a sampling of Divisional highlights from 2006-2007.

- Sponsored the 17th annual Poker Walk, attracting 125 teams and 1000 individual faculty and staff members.
- Hosted the 15th annual Volleyball Playday, attracting close to 3,500 fifth graders and their families to the Rec Center.

- Hosted Parents' Weekend barbecue for 2,100 attendees.
- Sponsored two different Sport Clubs that were crowned national champions (Men's Gymnastics and Women's Volleyball).
- In addition to the events RecSports directly sponsors, the Division also continued to position itself at the center of student life through playing a major role in many large, campus-wide events ranging from the Orange and White Ball and freshman orientation to Sabado Gigante, Project Come Together, and seven commencement ceremonies.
- The Division also helps to support the University's public service mission by supporting the Austin community through offering activities such as officiating youth games, offering soccer, ultimate and lacrosse summer camps, and again sponsoring the annual Dance Marathon raising over \$36,000 for the Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas.

Upcoming Challenges / Goals for 2007-08

- Continue to expand opportunities for Student Development.
- Move forward to implement the division's development program.
- Continue to build both capital and operational reserves.
- Host a successful national conference for our professional association (NIRSA) in April 2008.
- Conduct feasibility studies for both the renovation of Whitaker Fields and a proposed Outdoor Leadership Development Center on the University's Brackenridge Tract along Lady Bird Lake.

D. Role of the Committee

A copy of the General Information Bulletin (GIB) describing the function and composition of the committee was provided for review.

The primary responsibilities include:

- Being the final step in the appellate process.
- Advising the division regarding budget concepts and fees.
- Providing counsel on a variety of other matters which may come up throughout the year.

E. Other Business

Cullingford led a discussion regarding the use of cell phones in the facilities, and it was decided that signage would be placed in the faculty/staff workout facilities requesting that "As a courtesy to others, please limit cell phone use ". Signs were posted on 9/7/07.

Cullingford requested that the Committee review a proposal submitted to her by several squash players. It was decided that this topic would be addressed during the regular October meeting.

F. Future Meetings

The next meeting will take place the week of 9/10/07 or 9/17/07, to discuss Recreational Sports' budget requests for 08-09 and 09-10.

G. Party on the Plaza t-shirts and goody bags were distributed to those in attendance. Following the meeting, goody bags were hand-carried to those committee members unable to attend the meeting.

H. Several group photographs were taken before the meeting was officially adjourned.