

## Recreation and Wellness Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 12, 2024: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

**Attendees:** Marie Turchiano (RAW), Thomas Lail (RAW), Erin Murno (RAW), Wyatt Cushman (RAW), Marlene Kasman (RAW), Christina DeAngelis, (RAW), Kevin Craig (RAW), Pamela Pfeil (Veterans Affairs), Mona Ramonetti (UEC), Rebecca, Rutherford (SEA), Jaiah Gottor (Intramurals), Gareth Shumack (Assoc. Dean of Students)

- I. **Introductions:** Marie welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the spring '24 semester and introductions were made around the room and on zoom.
  
- II. **Simons Foundation (Marie)**– The building is named for Marilyn Simon’s father, Walter J. Hawrys. On Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 2:15-3:00, representatives from the foundation will be doing a site visit of the facility.
  
- III. **Staff Updates (Marie)**
  - a) Manager of Student Personnel – Vacant. Christina DeAngelis and Thomas Lail are currently filling in assisting with that position. Position will be posted mid-April.
  - b) Assistant Director of Intramurals and Sport Clubs – Vacant – Wyatt Cushman is currently filling in and assisting with that position.
  
- IV. **Facility and Field Updates**
  1. Shutdown week (Thomas) – Every year the building is shut down between graduation and Memorial Day for a deep cleaning of all floors and equipment and maintenance is done as needed. This year we will be resurfacing the gym floors, platforms, and fitness studio wood floors and installing new volleyball sleeves. Closure dates are 5/20/2024-5/30/2024.
  2. Functional Fitness Equipment (Erin) Moving equipment to make a functional fitness area near the jungle gym on the second floor. Will offer a wider breadth of activities. New equipment will include sandbags and new kettlebells with heavier weight.
  3. New Strength equipment (Thomas) – Purchasing new strength equipment to upgrade our current pieces and open the flow of the weight room. Current equipment will be going to Campus Residences and the Southampton gym.
  4. Esports Broadcast room (Kevin). This week we did a soft launch of the broadcast room. Two students were announcers for Super Smash Brothers semi-finals game.

This room will elevate our esports program, give an additional sponsorship opportunity, and provide our students with unique opportunities.

5.. South P – (Marie) Goal is to turf field C. Will most likely be a 2-year project. Need to create a project request and then it will go to bid.

Marie complemented and thanked Thomas for doing a great job in his new position with the facility, with contracts and equipment vendors.

**V. Beyond the Brook (Christina)**

Upcoming off campus trips include paint ball, Westbury Gardens and outdoor Rock Climbing.

Collaborating with CPO bringing in the therapy dogs on reading day for students to destress.

Held a March madness watch party with CPO to bring awareness to gambling.

**VI. Dean of Students area updates (Becky)**

Upcoming off campus trips include Back to the Future on Broadway, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens and Adventure Park.

Evaluating programs to see what works and what doesn't. Evaluate the ROI.

Marie added that both areas are doing intentional scheduling to make sure there is something interesting and affordable for the students to do on the weekend. Any ideas are always welcome.

**VII. Recreation Updates**

**a) Pool (Erin)** – After Spring break, we were able to go back to three open swim times per day. Will be providing lifeguard for Roth Regatta. Hiring a new team lead for next year.

**b) Fitness (Erin)** – Marie complemented Erin on rebuilding the program after Covid. The fitness program is close to pre-covid numbers.

Group fitness certification class is almost completed and will provide new instructors for the fall.

PGB has instructors getting certified to teach levels 5,6 and 7. Current participants have expressed an interest in becoming instructors next semester. Upcoming special events include yoga on the Staller Steps and Glo yoga which will be followed up with an intramural program – Glo Dodgeball.

**c) SOAP – (Erin).** Trips have been booked. We initiated a peer mentor program consisting of prior SOAP participants. This year we will have 2 mentors per group which is a useful resource to incoming participants, and it shows that the program is impactful because students want to come back and give back to the program.

- d) IM (Wyatt)** - Currently hiring officials for next year. Upcoming events include Glo dodgeball and a softball tournament. Volleyball and dodgeball have one week remaining for the season.
- e) Sport Clubs– (Wyatt)** - Ultimate Frisbee is hosting sectionals at SBU this weekend. Volleyball is going to nationals.  
Marie thanked Wyatt for stepping up to support IM and Sport Clubs when Thomas Lail was promoted to Associate Director.
- f) Staff – (Christina)** – Held a job expo in collaboration with the career center. They spoke to the students about resume writing and interview skills. Approximately 120 students attended. We have received over 100 applications for approximately 20-30 monitor positions. Monitors will be interviewing for the team lead open positions.
- g) Esports – (Kevin) Super Smash brothers** won the semi-final against Michigan State and will be competing for the third year in a row for NACE finals in Orlando.

Marie recognized and thanked the Recreation and Wellness staff for a job well done. We have operated with two people down for most of the year and everyone stepped up to get the job done!

She also thanked the advisory board for participating this year and hopes to see them all back next year.