

Indiana State University

2005 - 2006 Administrative Annual Report

Recreational Sports

Year in Review

Achievements

As you have heard, increasing public awareness of Indiana State University's accomplishments is crucial to building student enrollment, influencing policy makers, and developing a place of pre-eminence in the Midwest. What do you consider to be your department's accomplishments for the 2006-07 year that will contribute to this effort? (Please list in priority order and limit to no more than 8.)

The Office of Recreational Sports endured a very difficult Spring Semester as long-time associate director Kent Wright retired in December and 13 year veteran administrative specialist Betty Reagan resigned in March. Due to the hiring freeze enacted, both positions went vacant for quite a while. Despite this staffing shortfall and the significant amount of work required regarding the design of the proposed student recreation center, the programs continued with some successes. 1. Due to the closing of the YMCA and eventual merger with the YWCA, we saw a large increase in our non-university memberships as we became the only racquetball site in town. This resulted in a favorable revenue increase. 2. Intramural sports participation was significantly up with an increase of 2,162 male participation hours and 465 female participation hours. This appears to be due to a more engaged student body. 3. We were able to fill the associate director's position with a reclassified position of Operations Manager. The person selected, former assistant volleyball coach Kimberely Monte, began in mid-April. She has made an immediate positive impact. 4. The office continued to send student employees into the recreational sports field. Graduate assistant Ryan Hagen was hired in December as the assistant director of recreational sports at the university of Loyola-Maryland and undergraduate intramural sports supervisor Megan Morris was awarded a graduate assistantship with Bowling Green State University's recreational sports department. 5. Most significantly, the proposed student recreation center was passed by the state legislature, and pending final approval, we should start construction this fall.

Enrollment

What steps did you take this year to aid ISU in overcoming enrollment challenges?

1. We were very active in planning the new proposed student recreation center. 2. We continued to provide programming that enhances the quality of life for students at ISU. 3. We were very active in resource fairs during student preview days. 4. We continue to program recreation and athletic programming for Hoosier Boys State and Hoosier Girls State. These two events often assist in the recruitment of a number of delegates as future ISU students.

Action Steps

Do you have any further progress you would like to report?

1. This spring a group of dedicated students and various ISU faculty/staff came together and initiated the planning stages of a new student outdoor recreation focus group. This resulted in a successful outdoor programming training session that set the groundwork for a trip program that will be initiated next year. Students will be able to participate in a number of outdoor adventure type activities such as backpacking, rock climbing, canoeing, whitewater rafting, etc. 2. Although the office lost three valuable staff members (associate director, administrative specialist, informal rec

graduate assistant) for the second semester, the course has been set for a much needed staff reorganization. The hiring of an operations manager in April has been a great success. We also have a commitment for 2006-08 of a new graduate assistant with aquatics specialties, something we have not had in the past. In addition a new AAI will be hired to begin July 5. 3. Again, the student recreation center should break ground this fall. 4. Undergraduate supervisor Megan Morris received a student state award by IRSA and graduate assistant Danniell Bettmann was elected state student representative for IRSA. One undergraduate, three graduate assistants, and two full-time staff members attended the IRSA State Workshop in Vincennes in November; one undergraduate and two graduate assistants attended the NIRSA Region III Student Lead-On Workshop at Central Michigan University in January; and one undergraduate, two graduate assistants and the assistant director attended the NIRSA National Conference in Louisville, KY in April.

Assessment

What are two ways in which you evaluated the quality or effectiveness in your area last year? What changes did you make based on those assessments?

1. As part of the Division of Student Affairs' efforts in the area of Effectiveness & Efficiency Review, the Office of Recreational Sports performed an assessment following the CAS standards including an independent review team study. - Most of the feedback following the team review revolved around the need for further operational funds, especially in view of the new student rec center project. - We are drastically underfunded in terms of student wages when compared to peer institutions. - The lack of any type of reserve funds was noted. - It was noted that there was a need to revisit our mission statement. 2. Intramural sports programmers routinely survey participants and captains to gain feedback following each intramural sport. This usually results in the tweaking of rules and regulations for the following season.

Budget

As you know, ISU is facing significant budget challenges. Finding ways to overcome these while increasing efficiency requires innovation. How are you overcoming your budget challenges this year?

Due to two straight years of budget reallocation, the significant challenge becomes how do we service student recreational sports needs when student wage dollars must be cut. This has been accomplished in two ways. 1. The HHP equipment room attendant duties from the 12:00-4:00 have been taken on by the equipment attendant. This has saved on average a little over \$100/week. 2. The increased number of non-university memberships have helped alleviate the budget crunch.

Strategic Initiatives

Development Activities

What role might your unit play during the silent phase of the comprehensive fundraising campaign?

Through any efforts involving the new student recreation center.

Future Goals

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Have you considered any action steps your department could make to enhance Indiana State University's reputation as a University of choice? If so, please indicate what you are planning to do and tell us which area of planning your steps fall under.

1. Continue to put forth strong student development and experiential learning opportunities for our student participants and student employees. EL 2. Continue rec center project. EM, IE 3. Continue to massage staffing solutions in time of low enrollment. EM 4. Continue to enhance the opportunities for community engagement through facility opportunities such as racquetball, etc.

Feedback

This box is to allow you to share any ideas you have on enhancing enrollment, dealing with budget, challenges facing the administration, etc.

I feel we fall short when recruiting students in "our back yard." I think a strong marketing initiative must take place in the Wabash Valley. The student rec center should be a major player in the recruitment and retention of students.