

THE REC REPORT

WHERE PASSION MEETS PROFESSION

Ohio University Recreation Studies

October 2017

TRENDING STORY



A Long Way from hOUme as Rec Students travel to The Saint Louis Art Fair

Pictured: Carolann Stanley, Kent Orr, Alexa Solages, Thomas Lopiccolo, Aaron Messenger, Annie Frisoli, Alyshia Aretz.

Six students, along with faculty member Annie Frisoli, traveled over 500 miles to Clayton, Missouri, to volunteer over 60 hours in four days at The Saint Louis Art Fair (SLAF) from September 6th – 11th. Over the four days of service, students gained valuable event management experience, networking opportunities, and left an outstanding impression of the Ohio University Recreation Studies program on the SLAF staff. Student Alexa Solages stated, “Being able to see behind the “glamour,” get our hands extremely dirty, hang countless banners, and meet amazing people along the way made it one of the greatest event management experiences I have had to date.”

This opportunity first presented itself back in 2016 when Annie Frisoli, Recreation Studies Lecturer, was invited by the then SLAF Executive Director, Cindy Lerick, to bring students interested in event and festival management. The Saint Louis Art Fair is ranked as one of the top five art fairs in the nation, and entertains over 130,000 attendees.

Students this year worked with Interim Executive Director Laura Miller and veteran volunteer and Director of Operations, Mr. Dave Roser. Mr. Roser shares details of the entire event and educates students on what it really takes to host a large community festival. Students gain knowledge not only in logistics and operations, but also food and beverage, public relations, sponsorship, entertainment, and risk management. Mr. Roser did an outstanding job presenting details of event management to the students and answering any questions they had. All of the staff at the art fair were very supportive of the OHIO students and are already excited to have us bring six more students to the 2018 St. Louis Art Fair. Applications for students to attend next year will be sent out during the Spring 2018 semester.

Finally, a sincere thank you goes to Dr. Bruce Martin for his support of this trip and all the Recreation faculty who supported the students attending the St. Louis Art Fair.

Author: Carolann Stanley



Kristen Sullivan



When I walked into the Campus Rec office in Ping, it was clear Kristen Sullivan's time is a hot commodity. In the space of just a couple minutes four or five people came up to her with questions and she had an answer for all of them. In between the flurry of activity, I was able to sit down with her to talk about her capstone project to complete her Masters degree within the Recreation Studies program here at OHIO.

Kristen's project is to add a new sport to Ping's intramural sports roster; wheelchair basketball. Kristen is able to offer this new sport to the intramural program with the assistance of Columbus Parks and Recreation, as they are allowing use of their wheelchairs for the league. Kristen is very excited to not only implement this program for her project, but also to bring awareness to wheelchair sports.

Kristen is not only interested in hosting the league, but also gaining insight from the participants regarding their participation. Kristen shared, "My research will examine the attitudes and perceptions people have before and after they participate. I am interested in knowing if participating in adaptive sports change the way one thinks about people who use wheelchairs as their main mode of transportation." In addition to participants, Kristen needs to prepare the referees for this league. "We have staff here who are at the highest level of student supervisors within Competitive Sports. They do all the development for all of the officials...they walk them through all intramural sport trainings, but this specifically is something new to our student supervisors. They haven't officiated wheelchair basketball before, they haven't looked at the rule book, they haven't been through the training development process, and there is no Power Point that our office has used previously that they can show to people. I'm excited for them to get creative with it and see what kind of different resources they can utilize in order to train our officials."

For those of you interested in participating and wondering about the rules of wheelchair basketball, Kristen informed us, "They don't differ very much, it's different in terms of dribbling. If you can imagine rolling down the court in your wheelchair you need two hands to push your wheelchair and so you only get a certain number of pushes before you have to bounce the ball. Other than that there aren't really any changes. The net height and court are the same." Kristen welcomes all students at OHIO to join the league, as this league is open to any student here at OHIO.

Kristen is pursuing her Master's Degree at Ohio University in Recreation Studies, concentrating in Campus Recreation and Recreation Management. She is currently a Graduate Assistant for Competitive Sports within Campus Recreation. Originally from Maple Shade, NJ, Kristen completed her Bachelor's Degree in Outdoor Recreation at SUNY Cortland in 2011. After completing her bachelor's degree, Kristen spent time in various positions in both the outdoor and sport industries, working for non-profits and community recreation and parks departments in Baltimore and Philadelphia. Through her collegiate and professional career, Kristen remained active in campus and city-wide intramurals which led to her interest in campus recreation and inclusive sports programming while pursuing her master's at Ohio University.

To sign up for WB, please go to: <http://www.imleagues.com>, and purchase an IM sports pass.

Author: Emma Fisher



CAREER AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Career and Leadership Development Center (CLDC) is an excellent resource for students wanting to ready themselves for perspective jobs. Located in Baker University Center room 533, the CLDC offers lots of services such as career coaching, leadership coaching, mock interviews, and leadership development. The CLDC is open Monday- Friday from 8am-5pm and drop-ins are welcome every day from 11am-4:45pm. For more Information visit <https://www.ohio.edu/careerandleadership/>

HISTORY OF McCRACKEN



At the time of its building in 1959 McCracken hall was called College of Education building. When the building opened it had 66,600 square feet of space. In 1963 the building was renamed to honor Thomas Cooke McCracken. McCracken spent 45 years in education, including the Dean of the College. He also served as the first Provost of Ohio University.

In May of 2015 a plan for renovating the aging building was put into place, thanks in part to a generous 2010 donation from Violet L. Patton. The renovation cost \$32.8 million and added 40,000 square feet to the building. New square footage comes from adding a fourth floor and a new wing. While the renovations give the building a new feel more than 90% of the building's exterior and floor structure was reused. The newly renovated building opened for in January 2017 for the start of spring semester.

Source

Leckrone, B. (2016, December 30). McCracken Hall to reopen for Spring Semester. In *The Post*. Retrieved September 15, 2017.

McCracken Hall. (2016). In Ohio University. Retrieved September 14, 2017.

Tebben, S. (2017, January 31). OU's McCracken Hall officially reopens. In *The Athens Messenger*. Retrieved September 15, 2017.

Author: Emma Fisher



UPCOMING EVENTS

Homecoming 5k

October 7 at 7:30am

The race will begin on the Ping lawn, taking runners through the golf course where they will connect to the back path for their loop. Everyone is welcome to join in and all fitness levels are welcome. Runners, walkers, strollers, and pets are welcome! Race time will be 7:30am with registration taking place Friday night and Saturday morning before the race.

Budget Cuts and Shaping Butts: The Effects of Reduced Funding for Campus Recreation

October 9 at 4:45 in Tupper Hall Room 307

Part of the 2017 Lecture Series: Trends and Issues in Recreation and Leisure. This presentation will be by Mr. Patrick Huddy

Work That Matters: Non-Profit and Service Fair

October 11 from 1-4 in Baker University Center 240-242, Multipurpose Room

Connect with non-profit and service organizations to learn about career, internship, and volunteer opportunities in their sectors.

Alcohol at Sporting Events: Is the Risk Worth the Reward

October 16 at 4:45 in Tupper Hall Room 307

Part of the 2017 Lecture Series: Trends and Issues in Recreation and Leisure. This presentation will be by Mr. Daniel Bonner

Grad School Fair

October 17 from 1-4 in Baker University Center 240-242, Multipurpose Room

Explore graduate education programs throughout the region. Get to know the variety of opportunities available in your interest area and meet recruiters from those universities in one convenient location.

Inclusive Archery

October 21, Wayne National Forest

EYH and REC 2750 will participate in archery lessons, hosted by OU-Southern student Jonathan Sites.

How Animal Agriculture is Destroying our Planet

October 30 at 4:45 in Tupper Hall Room 307

Part of the 2017 Lecture Series: Trends and Issues in Recreation and Leisure. This presentation will be by Ms. Savannah Schuring

Eliminating Barriers: Why Accessible Playgrounds are Needed

October 30 at 6:00 in Tupper Hall Room 307

Part of the 2017 Lecture Series: Trends and Issues in Recreation and Leisure. This presentation will be by Ms. Emma Fisher

James Gant



James Gant, Director of Prairie Township Community Center, earned an undergraduate degree in Outdoor Recreation and Education and a Master's in Recreation Studies, both here at Ohio University. When he first thought of studying recreation he pictured himself working with youth. "Recreation was a way to impact kids that wasn't teaching in a classroom...but I could still have an impact on their lives. I wanted to be able to work with kids outside and teach them about nature. Teach them about all kinds of things, whether it be how to be part of a community, or how to be a good friend, and recreation was a great avenue for me." Another motivation for studying recreation was his own love of the outdoors "I just loved being outside, whether it was backpacking, kayaking, or rock climbing, I loved all of it and was excited I could pursue a job that would allow me to do those things."

Currently as the Director of Prairie Township Community Center, Mr. Gant has many responsibilities, "I over see our community center as well as our park development. Currently we are building a 110-acre sports complex, and I over see some of the construction, programming, maintenance, and operations of that facility also." Even with all these responsibilities, Mr. Gant states his favorite part of the job is simply working with people, helping them get healthy, and getting them to connect more as a community.

Mr. Gant reflects on his time in the Recreation Studies program and shares, "I think the program was really good at teaching me the skills I needed to work with people and the skills I needed to change and adapt, and be able to continue learning. Having professors who genuinely cared about me, wanted the best for me, and challenged me to do things I maybe would not have done or didn't think that I was cut out for, but they would see it for me and push me in those areas." Aside from just professional development, Mr. Gant reflected on his more personal experiences, "I think one of the biggest things was the connections with friends you make in school. I just loved the people. I loved the community of Athens and I learned so much about myself there. I made so many friends that were life long and I still connect with them regularly. It's the place I met my wife and it was a great time in my life where I learned a lot about myself, who I was, and getting clarity on how I could impact the world. I just loved the whole experience of OU."

When asked what advice he would give current students Mr. Gant responded, "Take advantage of all the opportunities you have to volunteer and gain as many different types of experiences you can, and get involved with Ohio Parks and Recreation Association. Connect with as many different professionals as you can, as the recreation community is very small community and it's very interconnected and other professionals will help you in so many ways."

To see more of James Gant and Prairie Township, please visit: <http://www.prairietownship.org/131/Community-Center>

Author: Emma Fisher

STUDENT RESOURCES

The Writing Center

The Writing Center is located on the 2nd floor of Alden Library and is there to assist students with every stage of the writing process from understanding what the assignment is to checking a final draft. There are several ways to receive help on your assignments, one can schedule an in person appointment, an online appointment, or drop in during walk in hours. **For more information visit:** <https://www.ohio.edu/uc/aac/swc/index.cfm>

Graduate Writing and Research Center

For longer projects such as a thesis, dissertation, research article, or grant, graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to visit the Graduate Writing and Research Center (GWRC). The GWRC can also help with conference presentations, conference posters, or multimedia projects. Appointments last from 30-120 minutes and should be scheduled at least 10 days in advance. **For more information go to** <https://www.ohio.edu/graduate/gwrc/>

Curriculum and Technology Center

The Curriculum and Technology Center (CTC) is located on the second floor of McCracken Hall and is available exclusively to Patton College students and staff. The CTC loans out equipment such as laptops, webcams, microphones, video cameras, and projectors. Getting the equipment is easy, just walk up to the desk and have your student ID ready. The CTC also has project rooms available for students who are working in groups of two or more. Reservations for the rooms must be made on line. **For more information go to** <https://www.ohio.edu/education/centers-and-partnerships/centers/curriculum-and-technology-center/>