

THE REC REPORT

WHERE PASSION MEETS PROFESSION

Ohio University Recreation Studies Volume 1, Issue 3

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WINTER BREAK IN COSTA RICA



Over winter break, a group of Ohio University students had an unforgettable time studying abroad in Costa Rica for ten days. For some students like Nate Good and Jake Fowler, who both heard about the trip a couple of years ago, the trip was a dream come true. Although they were both excited about the trip, they did both have nerves going in. Nate was most nervous for the rafting, while Jake was more nervous about the surfing lesson. But in the end they had nothing to worry about, "Anyone with any ability can do this trip," said Nate.

For Nate the highlight of the trip was the first day of hiking, "We started off really early in the morning and then walked up to the top of a mountain to have lunch. In the afternoon we walked down the other side of the mountain to set up base camp. We spent that night in the rainforest." What made that hike particularly memorable for Nate was seeing Spider Monkeys.

For Jake the best part of the trip was the people they met. "We came for the adventure, but fell in love with the people." This trip is special because it offers the opportunity to interact with the locals on a personal level. For part of the trip, students have the opportunity to stay with the Lopez family. The parents and their 18 children serve as guides throughout the trip. "We have an experience that is super authentic because because we stay with a family who was born and raised in Costa Rica. It's just incredible."

When asked what advice they would have for any students considering going on the trip, both of them responded "Go." For more information please visit <https://www.ohio.edu/global/goglobal/programs/costa-rica-ecotourism.cfm>.

Author: Emma Fisher

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 14th - Spring Career and Internship Fair @ 10:00-3:00PM Baker University Center Ballroom

Tuesday, February 27th - Calling all passionate OHIO students - A day of exploration into the world of Recreation Studies!! On this day students can tour the facilities, meet rec majors, ask questions during a student panel, and more! For more information contact: frisoli@ohio.edu

Wednesday, February 28th - Event Management Speakers to come to the REC 3620 Event Planning class - all are welcome! Michael Owens, alumni of Recreation Studies and current Race Director speaks from 3:00 - 4:00 PM, and CEO/Founder of Passion8 Event Management, Devin Joyce speaks from 5:00 - 6:00PM - both speakers will present in Tupper 304.

Thursday, March 1st - Women's History Month Keynote Speaker Sara Safari @ 6:30PM, Nelson Commons

Wednesday, March 7th Film: What Lies Upstream @ 7:00PM Athena

Thursday, March 8th - Inclusive archery day for REC 2750 and EYH at Ping Center!

Wednesday, March 21st - Film: Happening, A Clean Energy Revolution @ 7:00PM Athena

Wednesday, March 28th - Part-Time, On-Campus, and Seasonal Employment Fair, 1-4pm in Baker 240-242 - Make some money!!

Friday, March 30th - REC 3460/5460 Parks and Protected Areas course travels to Cuyahoga Valley National Park



<https://www.ohio.edu/education/academic->

Rechelle Frash

Rechelle is in her fifth and final year here at Ohio University. In the spring she will graduate with a double major in Recreation Management and Child Development with a minor in Business Administration. Within the recreation field she is most interested in event management and child programming.

This spring Rechelle is very excited about her internship with the Dairy Barn. "I am excited to diversify my skill set, and build upon the knowledge from my recreation education." During her internship she will gain experience in collaborating and implementing internal events, coordinating external events, developing outdoor education programs, working with the children's programming, and assist with art classes.

Although she is always down to try something new, Rechelle truly enjoys playing ultimate frisbee on the women's club team here at OHIO and on the Athens mixed team. "Ultimate is a good way to stay in shape and it's incredibly fun!" Rechelle would encourage anyone to try ultimate because the community in Athens is very diverse and welcoming.

After finding her way into recreation studies her junior year, she fell in love with how the program has oodles of opportunities for student growth both inside and outside the classroom. Her favorite class has been Convention and Event Planning "because it was a super practical class where you really put your knowledge to the test by planning and implementing a real life event." But she also greatly enjoyed Recreation Programming, "the workload and project was crazy at times, but the final product was a great representation of what we learned and will be an artifact to show to future employers one day."

Rechelle has greatly enjoyed her time at Ohio University and has some insightful advice for her peers, "Every class you take serves a purpose and has relevance to the recreation field. Find what interests you, and apply the learning of each class to that specific dream job. Get to know your professors! They are a valuable resource, and can be a great mentor. I know at times the workload can be daunting, so I would advise utilizing your time management skills."

Author: Emma Fisher



SOCIAL MEDIA - CHECK US OUT!



<https://ourecestudies.wix-site.com/recreation-studies>



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REC 4430/5430: MARKETING FOR RECREATION SERVICES

This semester we are extremely excited the Marketing for Recreation Services class has the opportunity to partner with local organizations. For this class student groups of three will meet with their assigned organization to obtain real life experience producing a marketing plan. Organizations we are partnering with are: Prairie Township Community Center, Athens Community Center, The Spot Athletics, Athens Bicycle, and Ohio Valley Running Company – Students will present their final marketing plan project to all organizations at the end of the semester, dates will be announced soon and all are welcome to join!

Author: Emma Fisher

2018 OHIO PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

This year Ohio University was represented by 13 students at the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) conference in Sandusky, Ohio, from January 28th-31st. Although the students spend most of their time learning from the seminars and networking with professionals, they did find time for fun as well. "I had a fantastic time. I had fun, but also learned a lot" said Theresa King, first year graduate student in Recreation Studies.


The conference kicked off on Sunday with a networking event. This networking event gave our students the opportunity to meet new people and talk with professionals. Over the next three days our students had the choice of dozens of seminars which varied in topic from inclusion to building sustainable trails. When talking to the students, many stated that they loved having the option to pick a seminar that would meet their interests. One of the most impressive parts of the conference was the expo which showcased the latest products and technologies in parks and recreation. A highlight of the conference was the Ohio University Alumni hour, where past and current students had the opportunity to talk about recreation, parks, and our love of our university.

Ohio University has a strong presence at OPRA and professionals are very excited to talk to current students. If you are interested in attending next year's conference contact Annie Frisoli: frisoli@ohio.edu.

Author: Emma Fisher



REC 3240 OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP



REC 3240 is a 26-day course designed to teach students the knowledge, skills, and dispositions required for effective outdoor leadership. The course consists of two phases. The first phase of the course will be spent backpacking on the Pisgah National Forest in NC. The second phase will be spent coastal kayaking along Cape Lookout National Seashore in NC. Course topics include but are not limited to the following: basic wilderness living skills, specialized wilderness travel techniques, leadership, judgment and decision-making, expedition behavior and group dynamics, environmental ethics, safety and risk management, wilderness emergency procedures, natural and cultural history, expedition planning and management, and teaching and facilitation. Students taking the course will be expected to develop lesson plans to teach on a variety of topics, to take various leadership roles during the course, and to maintain an expedition journal analyzing leadership experiences on the course. For more information visit: <https://www.ohio.edu/global/goglobal/programs/outdoor-leadership.cfm>

Looking For a Job? Check These Out!

Campus Recreation is hiring for several Graduate Assistant Positions- Our Facility Operations Position will be posted for applications through February 28th:
<https://www.ohiouniversityjobs.com/postings/25271>

We will also be hiring for student positions at the Ping Center, Walter Fieldhouse, and Bird Arena- the position will be posted on February 12th on our Campus Recreation Employment Website, where they can apply online (you can also see the other GA positions available). The Golf and Tennis Center and Aquatics Center have current openings available:
<https://www.ohio.edu/recreation/about/employment.cfm>



Christian Johnson

Christian Johnson is currently the Recreation Coordinator for Centerville-Washington Park District out of Dayton, OH. Christians typical day consists of planning and implementing programs and special events through the park district for the community of Centerville to enjoy. She has planned events and programs from summer camps to a community appreciation block party. She stated that she begins to plan her events eight months in advance, and likes to keep up with current trends when planning an event. She has planned events that have generated over 500 patrons in attendance.

Christians undergraduate degree is in Early Childhood Education. She taught for a year but realized this field was not quite what she was looking for. She is someone who likes to do a variety of different things and wanted a career that gave her those opportunities. She completed an internship with the Navy as a special events planner, and found this was an area she enjoyed very much. She learned from a supervisor about master's programs in Recreation during this internship and began to research. This is where she found the Master's of Science in Recreation and Sport Science offered at Ohio University.

Christian graduated with her masters from Ohio University in 2015, and began her search for a new career. During her time in the graduate program she made great connections with the professors. She stated that making connections with current faculty is highly important because you never know the networking connections they may have and could potentially help you out one day. She attended the OPRA conference while completing her degree at Ohio University, and stated that this was how she was able to find her current position with Centerville – Washington Park District. She learned about the position after it being posted in the career section of the OPRA website.

When asked about giving advice to students pursuing the recreation field, Christian stated "Diversify yourself." What she meant by this was to take the opportunities given to students and help make yourself diverse in different skill areas. Christian also made an emphasis on pursuing any professional development opportunities presented to you in college, like the OPRA conference. She stated that this conference is one of the best opportunities for professional networking. She also mentioned taking internship and volunteer opportunities in the field, to get that "behind the scenes" feel for the area you might be considering in recreation. This can help provide you with not only experience, but insight on your area of interest.

When asked what she loved the most about her position, Christian stated that she loves having the ability to be creative and implement new ideas for special events and programs. She enjoys seeing how the events play out and most importantly the positive impact they have on her community. Christian herself has continued her professional development by becoming a Certified Festivals and Event Associate through the event management school offered by the International Festivals and Event Association in partnership with National Recreation and Parks Association.

Author: Carolann Stanley

