MEMBERS PRESENT:  Earlene Hardie Cox, Carolyn Ferree, Richard Moore, Jane Preyer, Jonae Wartel

GUESTS PRESENT:  Anna Marshall-Baker, Kate Barrett, Lucien Capone, Carolyn Coppedge, Carol Disque, Janet Dunbar, Cindy Hardy, Bruce Michaels, Sharlene O’Neil, William Pratt, Thomas Ross, Yvonne Ross, Patricia Sullivan, Reade Taylor, Edward Uprichard, David Vaughan

APPRROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2, 2006 MEETING

Ms. Ferree asked for any corrections to the minutes of the November 2, 2006 meeting. No corrections were offered and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted.

INFORMATION ITEM:

Over the last couple of years, presentations in the Student Affairs Committee have been focused on student involvement – leadership programming, student organizations and student behavior. A very important part of involvement – students engaged in the campus community – are the programs offered through Campus Recreation. More than half the student body regularly uses the services, programs and facilities at the Campus Recreation Center. While we have made progress on the Elliott Center, on outdoor recreation courts and the residence halls in the last few years, a number of very important questions will need to be addressed in the next several years related to facilities for students including residence halls and recreational facilities. The presentation by the Campus Recreation staff is an opportunity to learn about the recreation programs so that when the Committee is presented with those hard questions about facilities and how we can support the growth of the recreation program, background information has been provided. What distinguishes campus recreation in any college environment from city or community recreation activities is the intention that there is a learning element involved with individual or team activities provided by Campus Recreation. Vice Chancellor Disque then introduced Cindy Hardy, Director of Campus Recreation, and her assistant Janet Dunbar.

The mission statement of the Department of Campus Recreation points to the efforts of the staff to positively influence many areas of a person’s healthy lifestyle through intentional programming and available facilities, personal and professional development, leading by example and experiential education opportunities. The Center opened in the
fall of 1992 and the recreation and fitness opportunities for the members of the UNCG community changed tremendously. At the same time, responsibilities of the University for recreation programs and facilities grew significantly. The department is comprised of six distinct programs and has administrative responsibility for the programming, staffing, maintenance, equipment replacement, risk management and operation of seven different recreation facilities. The Department employs 12 professional staff members, 5 graduate assistants, approximately 180 undergraduates and 15 graduate students, and on a very part time basis, two or three faculty and 2 administrators.

The Center includes 79,000 square feet of indoor space: a three court gym, fitness room, jogging track, six racquetball courts, a weight room and a 38 foot indoor climbing wall called the Edge. A men’s and women’s locker room is available with a sauna in each room. The lighted recreation field encompasses 2.9 acres of natural grass and is located north of the new residence hall. The field opened in the fall of 1999 and was fenced and new drainage added in the summer of 2006. The Campus Recreation and Irwin Belk Recreation Track opened in the spring of 2006 and includes two lighted outdoor volleyball and basketball courts, a running and walking trail and a pavilion. This outdoor recreation area has turned out to be very popular with the students for organized social events. Piney Lake moved under the administration of the Department of Campus Recreation in the summer of 2001 and houses the Team QUESt program, informal recreation and lodge rentals.

Campus Recreation, Exercise and Sport Science and Athletics also share the use and maintenance of three facilities: 12 tennis courts refurbished in 2001, Rosenthal Swimming Pool built in 1923 and refurbished in 2006 and a golf teaching station completed in 1999 that offers two greens with a short iron practice area. The University also maintains four greens from the previous 3-par golf course.

The programs that are offered in the Department are based on the needs and interests of the University Community. The uniqueness of a few of the programs is the student to instructor ratio. To be effective and safe for example, Outdoor Adventures and Team QUESt need to have a small student to instructor ratio. The Student Recreation Center, on the other hand, may have a few hundred people in the facility at one time with six to eight staff members on duty. However, all programs and facilities have limitations to the number of people that can participate at any one time. The programs and facilities have staff on-site at all times that are trained for emergency response or to offer assistance in the proper way to operate a machine or work out properly. Students can drop in to any of the facilities and activity areas and recreate any time the facilities are open. Most facilities are open from 6:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Hours are adjusted on weekends and holidays.

Ms. Hardy discussed the different fitness programs and equipment available to meet the diverse needs of the individuals in the community and noted that there is no longer space in the building to introduce additional equipment. Many of the machines require a 30-minute maximum workout time which allows others to use the machines. Last year it took approximately $6,000 in labor alone to keep the cardio and weight equipment in the
Center operating properly. There are currently 9 Certified Personal Trainers on staff and the program has supported as many as 150 clients in a year. The staff also teaches fitness instructor training classes for group exercise instructors, personal trainers and instructor certification programs.

Intramural sports offer organized competition between students at UNCG in seven different sports. Leagues accommodate men, women and co-rec participants in sports such as flag football, volleyball, basketball and others. Student-run athletic club sports practice two or more times a week and play against club teams from other universities. The Equestrian Club competes against intercollegiate Equestrian Teams in some of their events. UNCG currently has fourteen active club sports.

The Outdoor Adventures program offers trips for students, faculty, staff and guests who are interested in traveling in the state, region, nationally and internationally. Outdoor activities offered range from sea kayaking and white water rafting to rock climbing. They also oversee the indoor climbing wall. Outdoor trips are offered on weekends, semester breaks and some holidays. Trip destinations have included day hikes in the North Carolina mountains to a two-week trip hiking in Peru.

Team QUESt – Quality University Experiences for Students - facilitates activities in team building and group dynamics through programs that are created specifically to meet the needs of each individual group. Participants include university students, faculty, staff, non-profit groups from the surrounding community and corporate groups from the region including some international members and students from other universities in the Greensboro area.

All of the programs under the administration of the Department of Campus Recreation have real and perceived risks. Student employees are required to hold current certifications in many different teaching and safety response programs which help minimize the risk to the participants in the programs. The professional staff and graduate assistants hold frequent emergency response drills in an effort to ensure the students retain the necessary information for emergencies. Based on the nature of some of the facilities, annual and bi-annual inspections take place. Students in all programs are required to inspect facilities, vehicles, trailers, playing fields and equipment on a daily basis prior to activity.

All of the programs in the Department administer end-of-program evaluations or surveys in an effort to know the needs and satisfaction level of the participants periodically. The majority of the survey results are very positive. However, the staff makes every effort to make necessary changes when unfavorable comments are received. The Department has always provided a suggestion box at the front desk of the Student Recreation Center. Comments and suggestions are read daily and responses provided in a timely manner. Many changes in the policies, equipment and facilities have occurred because of a suggestion or comment from one of the patrons.
In 2003-2004 the Department of Campus Recreation went through a five-year review by an external committee. One of the recommendations was for the Department to have an advisory committee which was put into place two years ago. The committee is comprised of faculty, staff and students and meets monthly. The Student Fee Advisory Committee also acts in an advisory capacity to the Department when they approve or disapprove the request for student funding increases.

The Department has a budget of just over one million dollars with funding that is comprised primarily of student fees. The student employee payroll for approximately 180 students is $250,000 annually. The majority of revenue for the Department is generated from membership sales which is about twenty percent of the budget. Currently enrolled students are members of the Student Recreation Center. Faculty, staff, lifemates, retired faculty, and spouses are required to pay $60 per semester or $180 per year to use the recreation facilities. Alumni and their spouses are required to donate to the University and then pay a $200 annual membership fee.

A single entry system for the Student Recreation Center requires students to scan their ID card to enter the facility. A program designed by Information Technology records unique and participation totals. Unique totals indicate the number of times that one individual enters the facility, participations indicate the total number of times that one person enters a facility or participates in the programs. A substantial amount of data is collected each time a person has their ID card scanned to enter the facilities. Facilities or programs without a scanner use head count or registrations and count either participants or participations. In 2005-2006 there was a total of 208,000 participations by members of the UNCG community in the Center (faculty, staff, students, alumni and spouses) with 9,758 unique entries. In 2005-2006, there were approximately 187,000 student participations and 9,166 unique totals: 54% of the participations were women, 46% of the participations were men and 73% were traditional age students 18-22 years old. The unique totals for women are slightly higher than the men, but the men return more frequently. It is also noticeable that the longer the students are in school and the older the students are, the less time they take to use the Student Recreation Center.

The programs and facilities under the administration of Campus Recreation are valuable to the individual members of the UNCG Community and the University Community as a whole. Community is strengthened by fostering relaxed and comfortable interactions between students, faculty and staff. All of the activities offer a positive choice for healthy behavior. Programs offer lifetime activities, competition, social networking, personal fitness programs, experiential education, environmental education and instruction in activity skills, employment, organizational development, affordable recreation and a variety of recreational facilities. Recreation and fitness improves mental health if the individual, on a regular basis, is physically active and socially connected to the Community.

To support student success, the Department staff work closely with the SOAR program by informing all incoming freshman and their parents that students will experience more personal, academic and social success in college if they are involved with activities
outside the classroom. New students are made aware of employment and leadership opportunities available in the Department and encouraged to sign up while on campus for orientation. Student staff hold certifications from professional organizations which qualifies them to teach fitness classes, lead outdoor trips, facilitate Team QUESt programs, lifeguard, run intramural and club sports, lead outdoor trips and monitor facilities. Graduate and undergraduate students in the Department are responsible for a large number of programs, in the absence of the professional staff. They have opportunities to advance within the Center as their skill level and maturity develops. Since 1994 the Department has supported 20 graduate assistants who completed their Master’s Degrees and are now working in or preparing to work in related professions.

Historically campus recreation programs shared facilities with Health, Physical Education and Athletics in four different facilities until the Student Recreation Center opened in 1992. The recreation activities were then moved exclusively to the Student Recreation Center and the Recreation Field. Ms. Hardy cited statistics for participants at the Student Recreation Center, Piney Lake, Team QUESt and club sports. Each program in the Department facilitated record numbers in their programs last year and as the University continues to grow, so will the number of participants in Campus Recreation programs and facilities. An interesting note for this year - between May and December of 2006, Team QUESt facilitated a total of 3,000 participants which is 504 more participants than the entire previous year or a one year increase of twenty percent.

Recreation facilities like UNCG’s have become common on campuses across the nation. As all universities struggle with the size and scope of recreation facilities necessary for specific student populations, the trends for the past thirty years have allowed the professionals to create standards of the industry for indoor and outdoor recreation space. Industry standards recommend that university recreation facilities offer 14.67 square feet per student - UNCG currently offers 5.1 or 1/3 of the recommendation. Outdoor space is recommended at one acre per thousand students - UNCG currently provides 2.9 total acres or one acre per 6,500 students, which is 1/15 of the recommended amount of outdoor space. UNCG’s student population is projected to increase to over 20,000 by the next decade. At that time, UNCG will need a total of 21 acres of outdoor space and a total of 308,000 square feet of indoor space. (We now have 79,000 of indoor space, which is ¼ of the projected need). The biggest challenge that the staff faces in programming for students is adequate indoor and outdoor facilities. Recreation facilities at UNCG have reached their capacity at peak times of the day. However, the general feeling from the University community is that the student and professional staff does an outstanding job of maximizing the use of the facilities.

In 1992 UNCG was a leader in the UNC System in recreational facilities for students. We are looking forward to working with the Master Plan consultants and others to meet the future needs of the campus community.

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.