



**WELL Advisory Group Meeting**  
Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 7:30am  
Terrace Suite, The WELL

**Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Colin Vasquez
  - a. Present: Marina De La Cruz Ramirez, Wayne Linklater, Ariana Ochoa, Rosa Colin Vasquez, Gloria Coss
  - b. Also Present: Bill Olmsted, Jessica Swart, Andrew Reddish, Jill Farrell, Tori Butler
  
2. Public Comment: None.
  
3. Consent Calendar: Information
  - a. Review of The WELL Advisory Group Meeting Minutes — October 25, 2023  
Voting is tabled until the next meeting due to the minutes draft being sent out five days prior to the meeting, not seven days. There are no comments or corrections.
  
4. New Business:
  - a. Director of The WELL: Information
    - i. Olmsted announces the conclusion of the WELL Director search, and introduces Andrew Reddish as WELL Director. Reddish introduces himself and shares his background.
  - b. WELL Gym Update: Information
    - i. Olmsted provides an update on the fire sprinkler incident that occurred in the Gym Box on October 12. The space closure was expected to last through the fall semester, but it reopened on November 16. The space filled up within an hour and students were incredibly grateful.
  - c. Event center Update: Information
    - i. Olmsted acknowledges that news of a new event center within the WELL has already spread on campus. The event center concept came from campus administration and is moving very quickly. Although he planned to discuss it at this meeting, the initiative and commitment of funds ended up passing at the Union WELL, Inc. (UWI) Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in mid-November. The concept includes an event center venue to be constructed in the WELL Gym Box to host athletics, and potentially other events as well. The idea is to have retractable bleachers that are pulled out on game day to create a sports venue, then retracted up against the wall to release space back for student recreation. As architects and contractors hired by the campus work to evaluate the space, we will get some more definite information on what's possible in the space, such as seat count, types of events, and exiting and occupancy determinations.
      1. Larson asks how basketball game spectators would enter the building since the facility is set up for memberships and entrance gates, but games are open to non-members. Olmsted says that they can't enter through the front doors of the building, as everyone who enters through the gates signs a waiver for insurance reasons. The plan is to use gate two of the football stadium and enter and exit the facility through the side of the gym by converting an existing large flip-up door into a glass storefront to serve as the front door of the event center. Additional doors would also be cut in along the outer wall of the gym to

accommodate additional exiting, but the number depends on the egress code and fire marshal calculations. The question of restroom use for fans also came up. The thinking is that restrooms will be portable units outside at the stadium. Campus is considering bringing in trailers to serve as locker rooms for teams. There will likely be food vendors outside as well. There was also discussion about using the indoor running track above the gym as a seating area with folding chairs, but nothing has been firmly determined as of this time.

2. Larson asks how many seats The Nest holds. Olmsted says 1,100.
- ii. Olmsted also explains that this new event center is not just about the number of additional fans it can accommodate, but also about the environment itself, how it's seen on TV if broadcast, and how it is interpreted by students being recruited to play on scholarship.
  1. Linklater recognizes indirect benefits to students and asks what the direct benefits are for students. Olmsted speculates that it has to do with school spirit and building the Sac State brand and a greater sense of campus pride. It also lends itself to recruiting athletes or any other students choosing to attend Sac State.
  2. Falkenstein asks if operating cost such as additional staffing will come from ticket sales. Olmsted says nothing is finalized but he is meeting with Athletics regarding projected operational costs and asking a lot of questions, including the split in the division of labor.
  3. Swart comments that the biggest programs impacted are those that run in the Gym Box such as Informal Recreation (IR), IM sports, and Recreation Therapy. The goal is to potentially offer space elsewhere on campus on game days, such as Yosemite Hall. It's unknown whether the WELL would be used for practice, which could potentially increase hours or days of impact. Olmsted says while the idea to shift programs to Yosemite is a good idea, there are a lot of challenges that will need to be worked through, since the systems and infrastructure for equipment checkout and checking membership status, etc. would have to relocate there. Swart adds that there is also no all gender locker or shower rooms at Yosemite Hall.
  4. Linklater adds that the biggest barrier to shifting location is the cognitive load on customers. Students don't want to think about where to go, they just want to show up and play. Too many choices may become overwhelming. Reddish notes that programming is scheduled and students would see ahead of time where game locations are and can plan accordingly. He agrees it would be challenging for students, but a consistent tool to keep track would need to be established.
  5. Falkenstein is optimistic, noting that the good thing about student rotations is that future students won't specifically know what is different. If IM basketball championships could have a scoreboard, lights, etc. it would make for a cool experience. Olmsted says there's definitely a focus on benefits to students.
  6. Colin Vasquez asks if there's any knowledge of what the cost will be. Olmsted said there are no firm costs yet, but an initial estimate of \$5.2 million is being used, and Union WELL, Inc. BOD was asked to support up to that amount.

d. Budget and Project timeline: Information

- i. Olmsted shares the project list and budget timeline for 2024-25. This group will receive the budget presentation on April 17. Budget training will also be offered to walk through the basics of how the budget functions, revenue flow, etc. which can help members feel more confident when asked for approvals and to recommend to BOD.

5. Reports and Comments

a. Advisory Group Members

- i. Larson says that a good portion of students are on financial aid, but for those who aren't or if financial aid doesn't cover fees, Sac State is offering increased installment plans starting in June. It will help people to afford it by breaking it down into smaller payments. She is proud to say that Sac State is at the forefront of offering affordable plans for students.
- ii. Larson says there is also a very small number of people on campus who have fees waived. For example, parents work on campus so the student gets a dependent fee waiver. The student is not paying miscellaneous fees and is not allowed to use those services. They can pay for a WELL membership if they want to use it, but they are not able to use the health center. Campus has been discussing ways to make services accessible to those students. Swart thought that students on fee waiver get access to health services, but Falkenstein says it depends on the fee waiver.

b. Executive Director: Olmsted

- i. Olmsted says that a lot of facility projects will get done over the next 6-7 weeks. Projects include addressing high ceiling leaks, working on the loading dock gate, roofing projects, sanding down and refinishing fitness studios, carpeting projects, and painting. The north field project budget is being finalized and will have renderings soon that will show early iterations of design, layout, fencing, benches, building structures with restrooms, etc.

c. Director: Reddish

- i. Reddish has been meeting with various stakeholders regarding the north field project and event center. Programming is finishing strong for the semester. Last Friday, a staff appreciation event was held to recognize around 200 student staff members' hard work, graduates, and students recognizing other students, etc. IM sports coordinator vacancy is being filled and is close to an announcement. Upcoming vacancies include Assistant Director of IM and Rec Therapist. The goal is to be fully staffed by May 2024.

d. Assistant Director: Swart

- i. Swart announces adjusted hours for December 16-January 14 and the facility closure from December 23-January 1. The membership and marketing team is welcoming 2,000 new students at orientation. The winter group fitness schedule starts December 10 and is posted in the WELL app and on the website. Swart gives a shout-out to the UU annual program, Wish Upon A Star Gift Drive, and announces the wrapping party occurring Friday morning in the UU Cottonwood suite at 9am. The November and December sticker of the month was passed out, with November highlighting Veteran's Day and December highlighting International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

- e. De La Cruz Ramirez says she went to her first basketball game this semester and she heard students saying it felt like a high school environment. She feels more students will come to basketball games at The WELL. Olmsted agrees.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53am

Respectfully Submitted:



Authorized Signature

1/31/24

Date