

Recreation Studies

Department Overview

The Department of Recreation Studies offers a two-year Recreation Leadership Diploma and a Bachelor of Recreation Management. The Diploma prepares students for employment in the field of Leisure and Recreation. Program graduates can progress into the Bachelor of Recreation Management as third-year students.

The Bachelor of Recreation Management is a degree-completion program (third and fourth year of a bachelor's degree) for students who hold an academic credential (a recognized diploma or degree from a post-secondary institution) or 60-credits of university transferrable credits and are interested in pursuing careers in Recreation. The program is flexible, student-focused and combines a solid foundation in management theory and practical knowledge with specialized recreation courses.

Self-Study

Recreation Studies launched its program review in academic year 2018/19 with a Self-Study. The Self-Study team included:

- Erin Wilkins (Department Chair)
- Emma Courtney (Instructional Assistant)
- Cyndy Chwelos, (Instructor and Program Coordinator for the Bachelor of Recreation Management)
- Vivian Feng (Subject Librarian)
- Yue-Ching Cheng (Instructor, and Program Coordinator for Recreation Leadership Diploma)
- June Parnell, (Program Review Facilitator, TCDC)
- Jim Bowers (Division Chair, Community Programs,)
- Jacqueline Bradshaw (Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Community Programs)
- Institutional Research analysts

Data sources for the Self-Study included:

- Institutional Research-compiled student administrative data (*e.g.*, headcounts, retention, satisfaction)
- Student survey
- Alumni survey
- Industry/Program Advisory Committee survey

The Self-Study was completed in September 2019.

External Review

Recreation Studies' External Review took place on November 15, 2019. The External Review Team consisted of:

- Craig Cameron, PhD, University of Alberta (External Review Team Chair)
- Allyson Friesen, BPE, MA, MCIP, RPP, Principal, Kais Consulting
- Diane Thompson, Library & Information Technology, Langara

Action Plan Goals

In response to the Self-Study and External Review, the Department of Recreation Studies created an Action Plan with the following goals:

- Goal 1: Develop an ongoing curriculum renewal and assessment process.

- Goal 2: Continue to expand awareness and inclusiveness of Indigenous world-view.
- Goal 3: Continue to expand awareness and inclusiveness of intercultural world-views.
- Goal 4: Review and explore new experiential learning opportunities and build partnerships within the college and community to support student experiential learning.
- Goal 5: Continue to facilitate the success of students and faculty/staff.
- Goal 6: Continue to improve program communications, marketing and recruitment for ongoing development of environmental, financial, and social sustainability.

Examples of Post-Review Successes

Recreation Studies faculty Shannon Wall and Janet Ready undertook a Departmental Research project that explored the value and process of experiential learning in on-line courses. Within this project, Recreation Studies faculty and faculty in other Disciplines at Langara were asked to share their knowledge and experiences designing, implementing and evaluating experiential learning within an on-line environment. These conversations and this research created an opportunity to share and grow partnerships and ideas within the college to support student experiential learning. This project will build on the current curriculum inventory of experiential learning opportunities within the Recreation Studies.

In addition the department has done a considerable amount of work on the decolonization and Indigenization of the Recreation Studies Department and curriculum. In an effort to disrupt colonial written reporting styles, the department chose to summarize their work through a graphic recording.

