

The UCLA Community's Demand for Recreational Space

**Addressing Today's Needs &
Planning for the Future**

**15 Year Summary Update
to
UCLA Recreational Space Master Plan**

**Department of Cultural and
Recreational Affairs**

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OVERVIEW

Committed to high quality recreational experiences through education, service, and activities.

The 2002-03 academic year marked the beginning of the Department of Cultural and Recreational Affairs' (CRA) fifth decade of service to the entire UCLA community – students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the University. Forty years ago, UCLA established a new paradigm for university-based recreational activities by forming one of the first units in the United States that operates as a distinct student affairs department for recreational sports and activities. This department was separate from departments of physical education, intercollegiate athletics, or student union operations where recreational activities were part of larger programmatic missions and were often viewed as a secondary consideration.

Since its creation in 1962, the Department of Cultural and Recreational Affairs has worked to offer the members of the UCLA community facilities and programs to meet their recreational needs, in a manner that has been fully supportive of and integral to the fulfillment of the academic and public service mission of the University. Responsible for contributing to the health, wellness, development, and education of students, the department provides extensive access to a broad range of recreational facilities, activities, and services, which reflects the various extracurricular needs of the University community.

At the time of the department's 25th anniversary in 1987, then Chancellor Charles Young established a Task Force to research trends within the student body and to assess the changing needs and expectations regarding recreational activities. In the resulting UCLA Recreational Space Master Plan, the Task Force found that recreational opportunities were important to the community on several levels, and that UCLA did not meet national standards in available space. The Task Force also provided recommendations for expansion with the goal of gaining parity with competitor institutions.

Over the past fifteen years, the department has addressed these suggestions in a variety of ways. Recognizing the continued lack of land, new trends in recreation, and shifting demographics of the community, the department has been quite successful in relieving some of the pressure of overcrowding through emphasizing creative programming and innovative use of current facilities. However, as student enrollment increases and as UCLA becomes a more residential campus for both undergraduate and graduate students, demands will continue to increase. To accommodate this, the North addition to the John Wooden Center was opened in July 2001, and renovations are currently under way in the Student Activities Center (formerly the Men's Gym), Kaufman Hall (formerly the Dance Building), and the Intramural Field. A West addition to the Wooden Center broke ground in Fall 2002. In addition, the department strongly endorses the development of recreational facilities in the proposed Northwest Campus Housing and Southwest Campus Graduate Housing Complexes.

As the 1987 Task Force found, and more recent research confirms, the department's role in the University goes beyond simply providing leisure activities for the current community, and in fact plays a large role in recruiting and retaining top students and faculty, while fostering a healthy environment for the entire UCLA community. The population has become more knowledgeable

about the benefits of recreation and fitness and, as a result, demands access to such services, expecting them to rival the offerings of the private health clubs to which they have grown accustomed. As the size of the student body continues to grow and the residential nature of the campus evolves, the need for on-campus recreational and leisure space will continue to increase. Given UCLA's limited acreage, this is a challenge requiring long-range planning, creativity, and a strong commitment to continue the complementary roles played between recreation and wellness, and on-campus housing as was envisioned during the 1960s when the original phase of on-campus housing and CRA developed concurrently.

Likewise, due to the multiple uses of the facilities and changing trends in competitive sports, the unique relationship between Division I Intercollegiate Athletics and UCLA Recreation must continue to be balanced and reinforced. The collaborative problem solving and mutual investment between these departments will also benefit the entire campus community as many of the facilities serve as major venues for university special events.

Further, with the reformulation of the adjacent "Men's Gymnasium" as a new Student Activities Center (reopening Fall 2003), and with the continued growth of student activities in the Ackerman Union/Kerckhoff Hall complex (separately managed and operated by the Associated Students UCLA), increased coordination between these buildings and the operating units will be required to ensure the best and most efficient service levels for the UCLA community.



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF RECREATIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

1987 Recreational Space Master Plan

On the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the department in 1987, then Chancellor Charles Young appointed a Task Force consisting of faculty, staff, and student representatives to assess the University’s recreational needs and recommend strategies to preserve and develop recreational space on campus. Concurrently UCLA Housing undertook an initiative for a major expansion of on-campus undergraduate housing. Sunset Village was completed in 1991-1992 and added 1,200 students to the on-campus residential population. The charge of the Task Force was:

- Research how recreational activity contributed to the University’s academic and public service missions;
- Take inventory of existing recreational facilities and identify space requirements necessary to meet projected demand for the year 2000;
- Compare UCLA’s recreational offerings with those of similar institutions and with national standards; and
- Recommend both general guidelines and specific steps to meet the needs of the community.

The Task Force concluded that recreational facilities and programs played a significant role in meeting a variety of important institutional goals, including:

- Improving recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff;
- Enriching the academic curriculum through non-credit recreation classes;
- Enhancing the social, psychological, and physical development of the individual; and
- Accommodating cultural diversity.

The 1987 Task Force was reminded that the existence of the John Wooden Recreation Center, which had opened only four years earlier in 1983, had been the result of a decision by the greatest college basketball coach of all time to lend his name to a facility designed to benefit **all** UCLA students.¹

Table 1 – UCLA Recreational Facilities

Facility	Date Completed
Men’s Gym (Student Activities Center)	1932
Dance Building (Kaufman Hall)	1932
Pauley Pavilion	1965
Sunset Canyon Recreation Center	1966
Marina Aquatic Center	1966
Drake Track Stadium (Marshall Field)	1969
John Wooden Center	1983
Los Angeles Tennis Center	1984
Fit Center South	1996*
John Wooden Center North Addition	2001
John Wooden Center West Addition	2003

* Cultural and Recreational Affairs assumed operational oversight in 1996.

¹ The eastward expansion of the Wooden Center in 1995-1998 to add the Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center and the westward expansion of the Wooden Center scheduled for 2002-2004 to add the Student Psychological Services unit results in an integrated facility serving the total range of student wellness services.

The 1987 Task Force acknowledged the significant achievement of the construction of the Wooden Center and a series of other facilities during the department's first 25 years (see **Table 1** on page 3). However, the Task Force also found that, despite these accomplishments, UCLA had fewer recreational facilities than many other comparable institutions and, further, UCLA's facilities were deficient in terms of space compared to national standards, as set forth by "The Status of Recommended Standards Regarding Space Used for Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation in the United States" (Miller, 1983). The Task Force noted that this resulted in extensive waiting lists and limited opportunities in several activities.

In 1987, the Task Force projected that the overall demand for space would increase by 30% by the year 2000, further increasing the shortage of on-campus recreational space. To mitigate this, the Task Force recommended the University ensure balance during future planning activities by creating "recreational zones" within the campus (see **Appendix** for an updated map), systematically considering recreational facilities in all campus master planning and campus development in these zones, and identifying activity-specific strategies to meet the additional requirements.

Recommendations and Results

Since 1987, the Department of Cultural and Recreational Affairs has addressed these suggestions in a variety of ways. While space continues to be a highly valued and hard-to-come-by commodity, the department has been able to relieve some of the pressure of overcrowding through emphasizing creative programming and innovative use of current facilities. While much is still required in order to meet student and community needs, the following list outlines the developments suggested by the 1987 report and the steps taken to address them.

Formal Outdoor Playing Field Areas

1987 Recommendation: Increase programmatic capacity of recreational acreage from 11 to 21 acres by the year 2000.

Present: The renovation within Drake Stadium collaboratively funded through Intercollegiate Athletics in 1999 included the establishment of Marshall Field as a regulation-sized soccer field for competitive use. This yielded an additional two and a half acres of limited-use recreational field space, with the majority of the field's time occupied by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Upon completion of the nine acre Intramural (IM) Field and its lighting in Fall 2003, recreational fields will include these two venues as well as the three acre North Athletic Field which was completed after the construction of parking lot 4. These three fields together yield 14.5 acres of programmable field space for recreational use. Although the 1987 plan suggested the use of Spaulding Field and what is now Easton Stadium be shared between Athletics and Recreation, these two sites have remained primarily athletic facilities with limited, special use options for recreational activities, and therefore do not contribute to the total recreational field space inventory.



While not formal playing field space, the nine acres of open grass within Sunset Canyon Recreation Center (SCRC) continue to play an invaluable role for the campus. This private, park-like setting creates a retreat and respite from normal daily stresses and allows for leisure activity, open play, and group interaction. Considering the density and urban nature of the campus and the Northwest Housing development plans, the role of this unique facility is even more important today than when it opened in 1966.

Multipurpose, Indoor Spaces

1987 Recommendation: Increase weight training/cardio area from 4,425 to 10,952 square feet, hardwood and matted flooring space from three to five rooms (adding 6,000 square feet), and court space by the equivalent of three basketball or four volleyball courts.

Present: As part of the Wooden North addition opened July 2001, the Pyramid and Dynasty rooms now provide approximately 6,000 additional square feet of programmable hardwood floor space. With construction beginning in Fall 2002 and lasting approximately 14 months, the Wooden West expansion will increase the weight room to 11,300 square feet. There has not been an addition of basketball or volleyball courts. To compensate, the hours of existing facilities have been extended and dance and fitness classes have been moved from Pardee Gym to the Pyramid and Dynasty studios. These changes, however, account for less than one additional basketball court worth of space. Creative outdoor options have been utilized to assist in addressing this demand by converting tennis courts 9 and 10 at Sunset Canyon into multiuse Sport Courts. This conversion has resulted in the addition of six “mini” outdoor basketball courts allowing for additional programming, offset some of the demand for indoor court space, and is a tremendous addition to the northwestern residential zone.



Indoor Racquetball Courts

1987 Recommendation: Increase from 10 to 16 racquetball courts, from 2 to 3 squash courts.

Present: Due to changes in trends that have altered department priorities, this recommendation has not been followed. Instead, increased interest in rock climbing warranted the conversion of the original challenge racquetball court into the Rock Wall, bringing the total to 9 racquetball courts and 2 squash courts. This conversion has effectively changed the use of 800 square feet from serving 2-4 participants in racquetball to being able to serve over 20 participants in rock climbing activities. Additionally, this conversion has created an eye-catching focal point upon entering the main lobby of the Wooden Center.

Pools

1987 Recommendation: Renovate Student Activities Center and Kaufman Hall pools, enlarge at least one of these pools, and increase number of pools from 4 to 5.

Present: The renovation of both the Student Activities Center (SAC) and Kaufman Hall pools is currently underway, and the prospect of enlarging the SAC pool is being studied. The possibility of a fifth pool being included in the Northwest Campus Housing Complex is also being planned. This would alleviate some of the pressure on Sunset Canyon Recreation Center to consistently serve four separate, often competing audiences – UCLA students, who, in growing numbers, are using the facility for leisure activities; guests/recreation card holders, whose primary interest is fitness; families that take advantage of special offerings for children; and UCLA student-athletes. Significant consideration should also be given to adding a 50-meter swimming pool complex to better meet the needs of three Division I intercollegiate teams and enhance other recreational and competitive swimming opportunities as well.



Outdoor Tennis Courts

1987 Recommendation: Increase from 26 to 32 courts.

Present: After several changes to the campus layout, including the construction of UCLA's Medical Plaza and phase one of Northwest Campus Housing Complex, the number of tennis courts on campus was reduced to 24. In 2001, two of the Sunset Canyon courts were converted to multiuse Sport Courts, retaining standard tennis court markings and adding an additional



basketball venue. Currently, the campus inventory remains 24 tennis courts, which includes 8 courts with lighting at the Los Angeles Tennis Center (LATC), 10 courts with lighting (with two multiuse Sport Courts) at SCRC, and 6 courts without lighting at the Sycamore Park/Southern Regional Library area. While these 24 courts in their present configuration meet campus needs for open play, recreational instruction programs, intercollegiate athletic teams, and the campus partnership with the Southern California Tennis Association, plans to cover two to four tennis courts at either SCRC or

LATC, which would better promote both the competitive and multiuse nature of these facilities, are being considered and reviewed.

Multipurpose Recreation Facilities, Southern and Western Regions

1987 Recommendation: Develop West Campus facilities (multipurpose indoor and outdoor space) and open space.

Present: Several developments have been made in the western region of campus. A state-of-the-art challenge course was added to the facilities at Sunset Canyon Recreation Center in Fall 2000, and a pitch and putt golf green was added to the Sycamore facility in Spring 2001. New residential hall construction, however, has resulted in a net decrease of outdoor basketball courts in the former Dykstra area, but the addition of the multiuse Sport Courts at SCRC in 2002 have provided a much needed alternative.

In the southern region of campus, the Department of Cultural and Recreational Affairs assumed operational oversight of Fit Center South in 1996. Initially a joint operation with UCLA Rehabilitation Services, Fit Center South, located in the Rehabilitation Center, has been fully absorbed by CRA and provides quality programs and equipment to South Campus employees, Medical School students, and Rehabilitation patients.

Additional planning is currently underway as part of Southwest and Northwest Housing Master Plans for the addition of recreational space. Since the Northwest Complex will add approximately 2,000 on-campus beds, additional recreational space will be necessary to ease the strain on existing facilities and meet the demands of the increased population.

Locker Rooms

1987 Recommendation: Expand SCRC lockers, renovate locker facilities at the Student Activities Center and Kaufman Hall.

Present: Locker room square footage at the SCRC Park Pool and Family Pool has remained as originally designed in 1966. Shower facilities have been modified and locker room facilities have been renovated to include additional rental and day use lockers. The bulk of the Student Activities Center and Kaufman Hall recreation-use lockers have been moved to the north expansion of the John Wooden Center, which now houses over 2,000 lockers. Renovation at the Student Activities Center will result in general use locker room areas with approximately 300 men's and women's lockers available. Additionally, team rooms including locker facilities will be dedicated to intercollegiate athletics. The Kaufman Hall locker room has been redesigned to include a shower room and day use lockers to reflect the programmed uses for that pool.

Waterfront

1987 Recommendation: Renovate and/or relocate so that the facility includes 12,000 square feet of indoor space, 15,000 square feet for an outdoor yard and parking, and 350 linear feet of dock and slip space.

Present: Since the donation of trailers for office and classroom space in 1985, there has been no significant addition of space at the Marina Aquatic Center (MAC). Minor facility improvements have been made to the boathouse locker room and office areas, dock repairs on the marina and creek side, and the southern edge of the property line has been enclosed with fencing. With expanded programming, and the re-

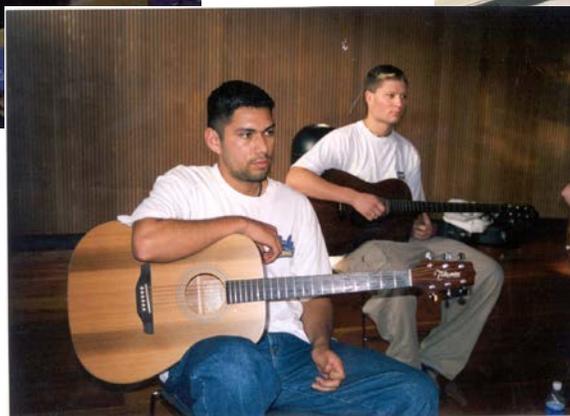


introduction of Intercollegiate Women's Rowing in 2001-02, current priorities for the MAC include improvements in office and classroom space, renovated storage bays, additional storage, as well as an expanded dock system on the marina side. As this is a lease parcel arrangement with Los Angeles County, it will be an ongoing priority to stay updated as to development plans in both Marina del Rey and the adjoining Playa Vista area.

Fine Arts Activity Space

1987 Recommendation: Create 4,400 square feet of craft and studio space and 2,500 square feet of photographic studio space.

Present: Due to the overwhelming need for physical activity space, the department has not had the opportunity to focus on the fine arts. Current space at the John Wooden Center, Los Angeles Tennis Center, and Sunset Canyon Recreation Center is being utilized for multiuse programming. Trailer buildings with 1,200 square feet of space have been added at SCRC for summer camp and additional year-round programming use. With more advanced and intensive courses available elsewhere on campus, these facilities are currently adequate to meet the community's need for introductory fine arts classes.



Current Industry Trends

Over the past several years, interest in recreational activities has grown in popularity nationwide, spurring the development of thousands of private recreation clubs as well as a construction boom of recreation centers on virtually every college campus, a trend that UCLA's own John Wooden Center is sometimes credited with launching.² In fact, the number of American health, racquet, and sport clubs has increased by 44% since 1988.³ One example, L.A. Fitness, was established in Southern California in 1984 and has since grown to operate over 100 clubs in six states. Likewise, over \$6.6 billion has been spent on construction and renovation of indoor recreational sports facilities on college and university campuses since 2000.⁴ Examination of nation-wide construction and trends among recreation service providers can yield valuable insight into possible directions for our own campus planning.

The driving force behind this boom in recreation centers has been massive increases in the number of people using the facilities. In the year 2000 alone, health club patrons increased by 7 percent. Not only are there more individual participants, but they are also using their gyms more often. Members now use their facilities 29 percent more often than 15 years ago, and those who go over 100 days a year have grown by 160 percent in that same period, reaching 13.9 million people.⁵

In recent years, several exercise-specific trend changes have accompanied this incredible

Figure 1 - Reasons for Joining Health Clubs

According to IHRSA [International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association], people join health and sports clubs for the following reasons:

1. To exercise regularly in a motivating and energizing environment.
2. To get the support they need to stay with an exercise program.
3. To learn a new sport-or continue playing a favorite sport-such as tennis, racquetball, basketball, swimming, etc.
4. To work out on a variety of user-friendly cardiovascular and resistance equipment.
5. To receive one-on-one guidance and support from qualified fitness professionals.
6. To have a place to exercise when it is too hot, too cold, or weather conditions are hazardous.
7. To improve their health and well-being through health promotion programs such as stress management, weight management, and smoking cessation.
8. To maintain strength, mobility and functionality throughout life.
9. To improve physical mobility through physical therapy, and programs designed for people with special challenges, such as arthritis.
10. To encourage their children to develop the life-long practice of exercising regularly.
11. To take advantage of child care programs, and special activities geared towards children.
12. To meet old friends and make new friends of all ages.

² "A Crowded Field," *Athletic Business*, July 2002. It is also noteworthy that the creation of the Wooden Center Board of Governors was a pioneering venture that began a trend of charging students with the oversight of their universities' recreation centers.

³ "The Scope of the US Health Club Industry," *2002 IHRSA/American Sports Data Health Club Trend Report*, 2002. <http://www.ihrsa.org/industrystats/scope.html>.

⁴ National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association.

⁵ "Record Attendance at U.S. Gyms," *IHRSA Press Release Archive*, July 8, 2002. http://www.ihrsa.org/pressinfo/pressreleases/02_07_31.html.

growth. While strength training continues to grow significantly (12 percent in the past three years), less physically taxing flexibility and stretching activities have skyrocketed in popularity (23 percent during the same period).⁶

Closer examination of several local clubs shows that the demand for recreation facilities continues to grow. No longer simply gymnasiums or over-sized weight rooms, health clubs are well-rounded fitness and well-being oriented enterprises that serve their clients with a variety of options. Several open at 5am and close at midnight, and the expansion of 24 Hour Fitness clubs offer several locations that never close. Every club studied offers personal training services, and some even have dedicated personal training centers. All of the local clubs also have saunas, a few have spa and pool facilities, and several maintain retail operations and juice bars. Fitness classes are frequently programmed throughout the day, with several clubs beginning their instruction at 6:00am and continuing their offerings through 10:45pm. Lists of the most common reasons for joining a health club are provided in **Figure 1** on page 9.

While we recognize that private clubs such as LA Fitness, 24 Hour Fitness, and Bally's are beneficial by virtue of creating a service-oriented environment and helping to meet supply and demand, we do assert that having comparable amenities available on campus is essential in the development of quality of life and creating campus community. Supporting this with special emphasis on our student population, CNN.com has recently reported that students often compare university recreation centers with the private-sector clubs as a result of having grown up with health-club exposure.⁷ Continued financial investment by these private clubs has fostered new facility development, making health

Table 2 – Areas of Expansion to Meet Participant Needs

The percentage of recreation facilities that either experienced expansion activity in the specified service areas in 2000 or planned construction in the following twenty-four months shows how recreation entities are responding to continued growth and the development of specific trends.

	2000	Next 24 months
Cardiovascular Equipment Area	26.5%	24.9%
Resistance Equipment Area	21.0%	23.8%
Aerobics/Dance/Exercise Area	19.3%	16.0%
Free Weight Area	18.8%	23.8%
Office Space	15.5%	14.4%
Locker Room	13.8%	19.3%
Pro Shop	12.2%	8.8%
Child Care Area	11.6%	13.8%
Front Desk	11.6%	8.3%
Food & Beverage	11.0%	8.3%
Physical Therapy/Rehab/Chiropractic	8.8%	15.5%

Source: 2001 IHRSA Industry Data Survey, Profiles of Success

⁶ IHRSA Trend Report, July 2002, 3.

⁷ "Colleges Use Recreation Centers to Draw Students," July 29, 2002.

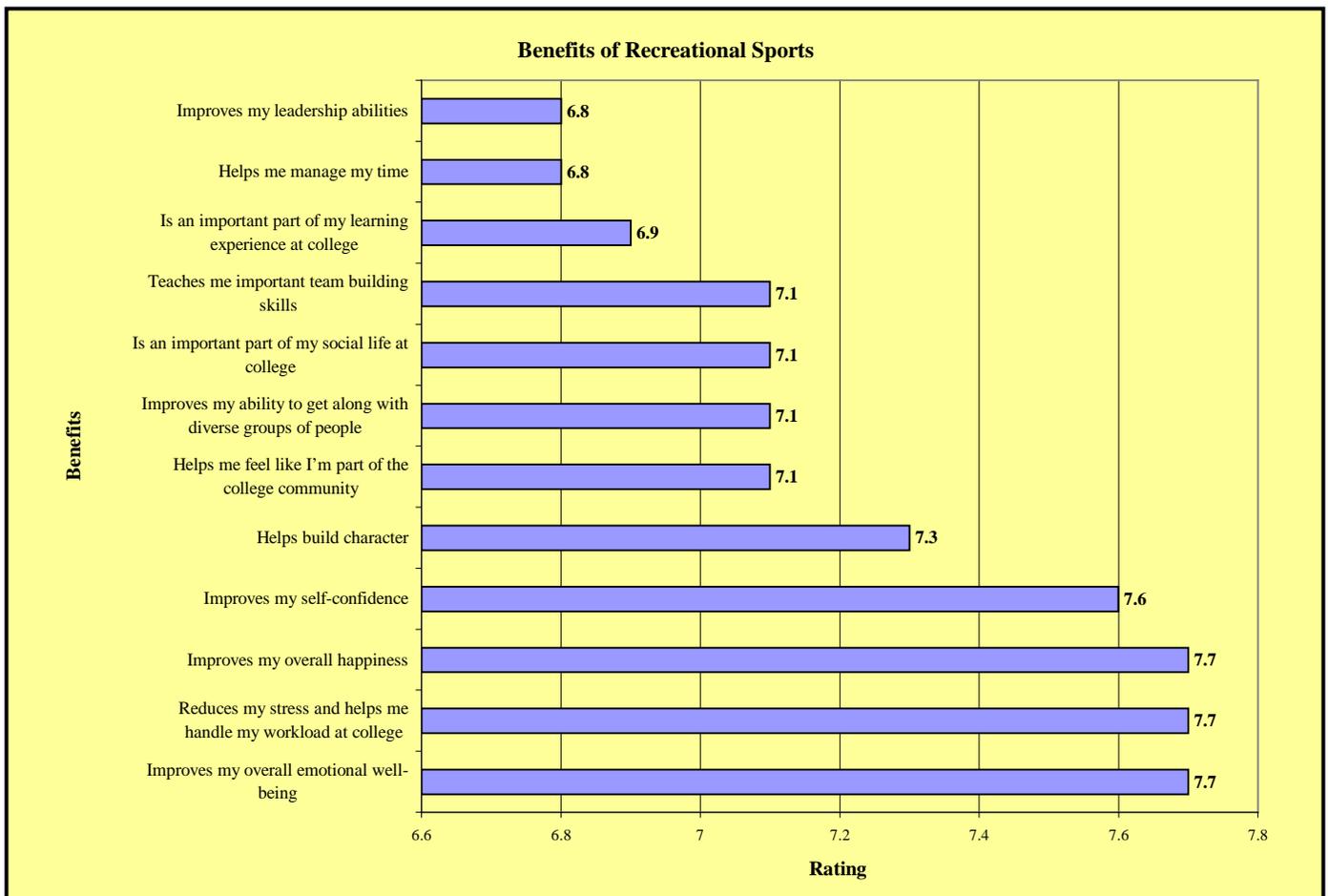
<http://www.cnn.com/2002/HEALTH/diet.fitness/07/29/rec.centers.college/index.html>.

clubs more convenient than ever. **Table 2** (on page 10) illustrates how several clubs also plan to expand and improve upon their current facilities in the near future, which is a strong indicator of the most important trends in recreation. Also, increased professionalism of the health club industry and the fact that health and sport clubs intentionally cultivate a sense of community and fun imply that incoming students will more often be looking for these aspects in college campus recreation centers.

Role of Recreation on University Campuses

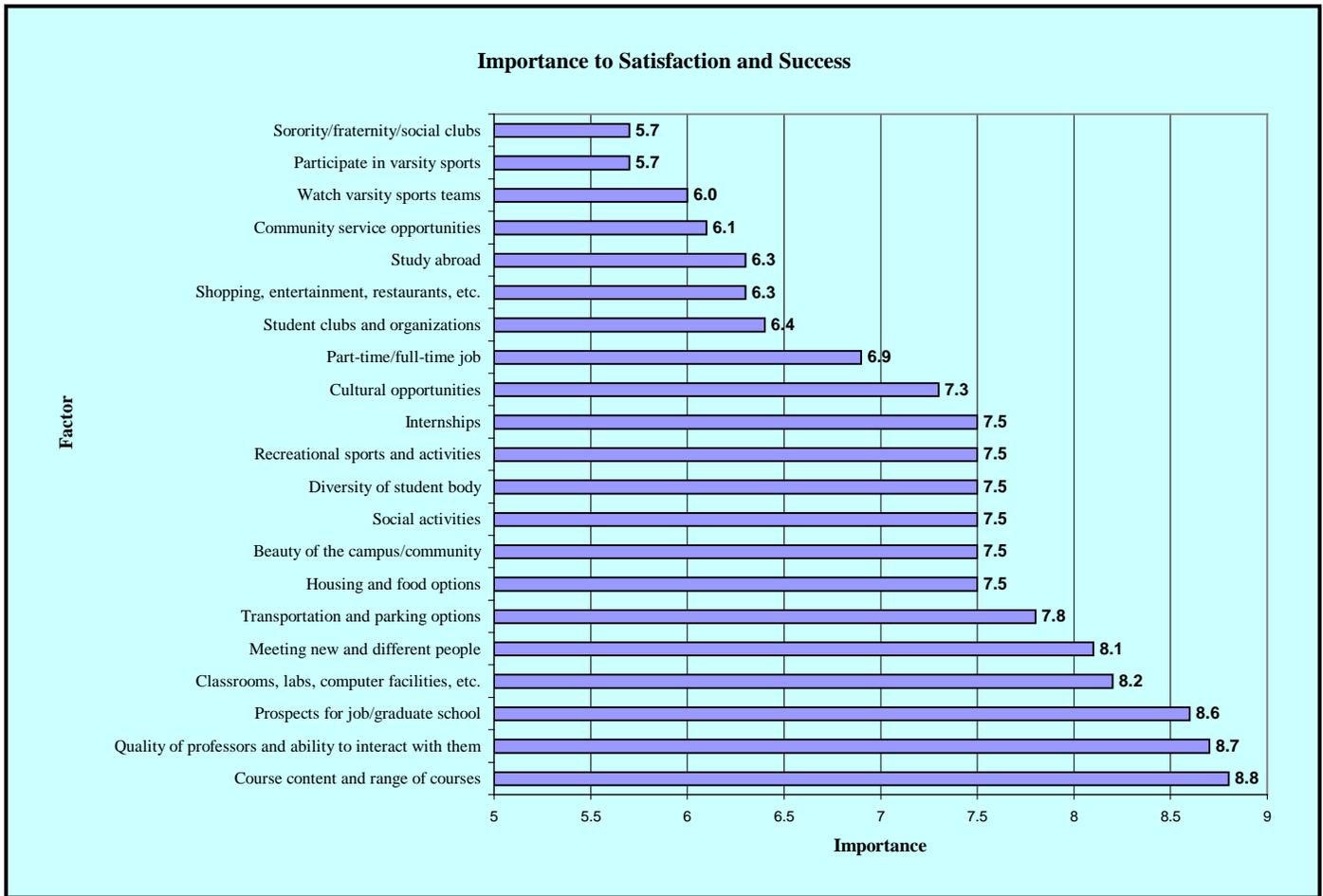
It has long been recognized that regular exercise and leisure activities are important to a healthy lifestyle. The U.S. Surgeon General, Centers for Disease Control, American Heart Association, and American Cancer Society are among the institutions that highly recommend exercise to help prevent disease, increase energy, and help relieve stress. As early as the 1800’s while establishing the University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson advised, “Give about two hours every day to exercise, for health must not be sacrificed to learning. A strong body makes the mind strong.” Recently, even the United States Senate has debated possible legislation regarding dietary issues, which are quite often coupled with fitness and recreation matters, in an effort to improve Americans’ overall health and wellness. These national efforts to promote a healthy lifestyle are particularly applicable in a university environment where students and staff must

Figure 2 – Benefits of Recreational Sports



endure the stresses of unusual work hours, challenging assignments and strict deadlines, and students have the added pressure of living without parental support. CNN.com has also reported that campus recreation centers enable students “to learn or continue healthy living habits” and are also great places to socialize, all of which can help students to overcome the difficult transition to the university environment.

Figure 3 – Importance to Satisfaction and Success at College



As a result of the growing body of knowledge pertaining to fitness and psychological health, Americans have begun to place an importance on physical and leisure activities. According to the International Health, Racquet, and Sportsclub Association (IHRSA), nearly 18 percent of Americans ages 18-34 currently belong to a health club, the highest rate among any age group.⁸ What’s more, nearly 39 percent of American adults ages 18-24 report participating in physical

⁸ IHRSA Trend Report, July 2002, 1.

activity “regularly,” along with approximately 34 percent of 25-44 year olds.⁹ Since the majority of students, a high percentage of staff, and the younger faculty present on the UCLA campus fall into these demographic age categories, these figures are quite significant. In addition, research has found that one’s level of education is correlated with one’s propensity to engage in leisure-time recreational activity. For example, nearly 80 percent of adults with graduate level degrees participate in such activities, a statistic especially significant when considering UCLA’s faculty and staff.¹⁰

Table 3 – Historical Participation Numbers: UCLA Recreation Facilities

Facilities	1984	1989	1994	1999	2002	Increase 1984- 2002
John Wooden Center	563,810	657,028	648,275	769,457	1,057,011	87%
Sunset Canyon Recreation Center	216,011	210,011	187,974	222,028	275,011	27%
Campus Swimming Pool Entries	93,960*	148,750	156,474	161,874	180,189	92%
Campus Tennis Court Uses	62,763	63,508	95,678	114,824	120,100	91%

* Estimate based on recorded number of Student Activities Center and Kaufman Hall Pool entries, taking into account the Park Pool was closed for renovations for eight months.

According to the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association’s *2002 Value of Recreational Sports on College Campuses* report, a cross-sectional study of sixteen representative campuses nationwide, college students recognize the importance of physical fitness and other leisure activities. The top three reasons students participate in recreational sports are: 1) improves overall emotional well-being; 2) reduces stress and helps student to handle workload at college; and 3) improves overall happiness. The complete list of reasons is listed in **Figure 2** on page 11. When asked to rate the importance of 21 factors in affecting their satisfaction and success in college, students rated recreational sports and activities at 7.5 on a scale of 1 to 10. Factors indirectly related to recreation were also important, including meeting new and different people, social activities, cultural opportunities, and employment (see **Figure 3** on page 12).

The value placed on leisure activities has led to an increase in participation, resulting in the strong demand for recreational space on campus. According to departmental records, the number of participants has increased even more dramatically than forecasted in 1987. In

⁹ *IHRSA Trend Report*, July 2002, 2.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

addition, the number of entries at the John Wooden Center has grown to an average of 4,000 entries per day and usage is approaching one million entries per year. Additional entries at Sunset Canyon Recreation Center now often exceed 1,000 per day, and the facility served nearly 250,000 patrons last year. By 2010, the Wooden Center is expecting over 1,131,500 annual entries, and Sunset Canyon will serve more than 361,600 (see **Tables 3-5**).¹¹ It is important to also keep in mind that Cultural and Recreational Affairs statistics show that current demand for all forms of recreation programs well exceeds all previous projections with increased growth in intramural sports, club sports teams, recreation class participation, fitness activities and independent exercise, as well as an explosion in experiential education and outdoor pursuits.

Table 4 – Historical Participation Numbers: UCLA Recreation Programs

Programs	1984	1989	1994	1999	2002	Increase 1984- 2002
Intramural Sports	11,011	14,251	13,805	11,460	10,130*	-8%
Recreation Classes	9,620	12,290	11,668	11,626	11,157	16%
Boating/Outdoor Programs **	1,780	1,295	1,132	1,951	5,514	210%
Youth Programs	550	624	1,309	3,189	3,359	511%

* Programs adapted to accommodate loss of Student Activities Center and Intramural Field due to construction.
 ** Includes addition of Rock Wall and Challenge Course.

Table 5 – Historical Participation Numbers: UCLA Recreation Memberships

Memberships	1984	1989	1994	1999	2002	Increase 1984- 2002
Recreation Memberships	7,795	8,226	8,829*	9,985	10,776	38%
Fit Center South Memberships	-	-	-	947**	1,060**	12%
Fitness Passes Sold	-	-	3,889	4,050	4,288	10%

* Estimate based on recorded number of principal members.
 ** Includes Combo memberships, which provide access to Fit Center South along with other facilities.

¹¹ Projections using growth figures of the eight-year period 1994 through 2002 for the next eight years.

UCLA Versus Comparable Institutions

The 1987 Task Force comparison with twenty universities¹² illustrated that UCLA fell well below the average regarding the ratio of students to open playing field space. Acknowledging that the campus is located in an area where land is scarce and incredibly valuable, UCLA currently maintains 0.4 playing field acres per 1,000 students. While this is significantly lower than the accepted national standard of one acre per 1,000 students, it only enhances the perceived and actual value of the available open field space. The Intramural Field, North Athletic Field, and Marshall Field provide 16.8 square feet per student, compared to the national average¹³ of 131 square feet per student.

UCLA also has less than half the indoor recreational space per capita compared to these universities. The most recent national average for schools of this size is 10 square feet of indoor recreational space per student, while UCLA's existing inventory of facilities offers only 4.3 square feet per student. As the interest in strength training and cardiovascular fitness continues to increase, national standards in this area are rapidly approaching one square foot per student. Please see **Tables 6-8** for statistical comparisons with schools that attract similar students and faculty as UCLA.

Table 6 – National Comparison

The following table is an excerpt from a recent University of Minnesota longitudinal study of recreational facilities in major public research universities.

Institution	Enrollment	Total Indoor	Outdoor
		Recreational Square Footage	Recreational Field Acres
Colorado	25,125	220,000	18.8
Illinois	36,690	331,278	43.0
Maryland	32,864	300,000	16.9
Michigan	37,828	243,000	36.0
Michigan State	43,038	314,925	28.3
Minnesota	45,361	358,000	18.3
Ohio State	48,003	460,096	62.4
Texas	49,009	400,000	43.3
UCLA	37,504	162,800*	14.5
Washington	35,559	167,318	20.0
Wisconsin	40,740	554,943	58.0

* UCLA's Total Indoor Recreational Square Footage includes the Student Activities Center and the Wooden Center before expansion.

Table 7 – Pac-10 Recreational Consortium Comparison

Recent data on the recreation facilities of Pac-10 Conference schools.

Institution	Enrollment	Strength	Outdoor	Swimming	Tennis
		Training/Cardio Square Feet	Recreational Field Acres	Pools	Courts
Arizona	33,379	11,000	6.3	1	17
Arizona State	44,588	12,200	13	1	14
Berkeley	32,128	20,000	11.5	5	30
Oregon	17,000	15,000	--	2	17
Oregon State	14,500	5,700	20	4	12
Stanford	13,000	--	--	3	22
UCLA	37,504	11,300*	14.5	4	24
USC	28,000	9,500	3.9	3	11
Washington	35,559	--	--	3	23
Washington State	17,000	17,000	19	3	16

* UCLA's Strength Training/Cardio Square Feet includes 8,000 square feet resulting from the planned Wooden West Expansion in 2003.

¹² Georgetown, Harvard, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, MIT, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, Pittsburgh, Princeton, Stanford, Texas-Austin, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara, USC and Washington.

¹³ Schools with over 30,000 students.

Table 8 – University of California Systemwide Recreational Comparison

Data representing the recreation facilities of University of California institutions.

Institution	Enrollment	Main Recreation Center Name	Square Footage	Outdoor Recreational Field Acres	Swimming Pools	Tennis Courts
Berkeley	32,128	Recreational Sports Facility (RSF)	100,000	11.5	5	30
Davis	27,292	Recreation Hall ¹	149,000	27	1	10
Irvine	20,440	Anteater Recreation Center (ARC)	100,000	27 ²	2	12
UCLA	37,504	John R. Wooden Recreation and Sports Center	138,015 ³	14.5	4	24
Riverside	14,700	Student Recreation Center (SRC)	80,000	24	1	10
San Diego	19,496	Recreation, IntraMural, and Athletics Complex (RIMAC)	200,000	27	2	18
San Francisco	2,450	Millberry Recreation and Fitness Center	53,400	-- ⁴	-- ⁴	-- ⁴
Santa Barbara	20,000	UCSB Recreation Center	100,000 ⁵	32	3	24

¹ Does not include addition of SARC or new aquatic center
² Currently under construction
³ UCLA's Recreation Center Square Footage includes planned Wooden West Expansion in 2003
⁴ Details unavailable
⁵ Does not include current expansion

In a 2001 comparison including eighteen major universities including UCLA, the University of Texas at Austin found that twelve (67 percent) were planning the construction of new recreational facilities, and/or renovation of current ones (see **Table 9** on page 17). Further, three other UC campuses have major projects currently underway to enhance their own recreation programs and meet the needs of their growing campuses. UC Davis has recently undertaken a project to build a new 110,000 square foot Student Activity and Recreation Center adjacent to Recreation Hall as well as a new aquatic center and stadium. UC Irvine has recently completed the development of an additional 27 acres of outdoor recreational field space including nine playing fields, eight hard courts,¹⁴ a roller hockey rink and a ropes course. UC Santa Barbara is also already in the process of improving their recreation center, which just opened in 1995. The addition, scheduled to be completed in 2004, includes an additional weight room, multipurpose gym, climbing wall, Jacuzzi, classrooms and locker spaces.

¹⁴ Playing fields include five soccer fields, three softball fields, and a club sports field. Courts include six tennis and two basketball courts.

The Changing Face of the UCLA Community

A highly respected institution in the largest metropolitan setting in the United States, UCLA has become one of the most desired universities in the country, with the number of applications for its approximately 4,000 student freshmen class now exceeding 40,000 each year. As a result, UCLA has become increasingly competitive, with average GPAs and SAT scores of admitted students tending to increase nearly every year, one of many factors making UCLA one of the most elite schools in the world.

Since 1987, the campus has also become increasingly crowded, adding approximately 10% to the size of our student body, bringing the total in 2001 to approximately 37,000 enrolled students. With a main campus of only 375 acres that includes a full-scale academic health center and hospital and a 36-acre southwest campus, this population makes it by far the most dense general campus in the University of California system, other than UC San Francisco. The percentage of students living on campus or within a mile from campus has also jumped from 33 percent to 46 percent, further taxing available space, as housing proximity to campus is a key factor in the decision to take advantage of campus programs and services. The objective of the UCLA Housing Master Plan to have this reach 50 percent or greater will only put further demands on UCLA's recreational facilities.

Just as important from a recreation standpoint is the fact that a 53 percent majority of the student population is now comprised of women,¹⁵ which partially accounts for a shift in the types of programs demanded.

Table 9 – Nationwide University Recreational Expansion Plans

Twelve of the eighteen schools that participated in the University of Texas at Austin survey plan to renovate or expand their recreational facilities.

University	Construction	Renovation
Arizona	DNR	Y
ASU	Y	Y
Berkeley	N	DNR
UCLA	Y	Y
Illinois	Y	Y
Indiana	N	N
Maryland	Y	Y
Michigan	DNR	Y
Michigan State	N	N
Minnesota	Y	DNR
Nebraska	N	N
North Carolina	Y	DNR
Ohio State	Y	Y
Purdue	DNR	DNR
Texas A&M	Y	DNR
Texas	Y	Y
Washington	Y	Y
Wisconsin	Y	DNR

DNR = Did Not Report

¹⁵ 55 percent of undergraduate students.

Challenge of Limited Land

UCLA is in a unique geographical situation. It is one of the largest public institutions on the fewest acres, is located amidst some of the most valuable real estate in the country, and has the benefit of a mild climate that promotes activity year-round.¹⁶ As a result, the biggest challenge to providing recreational opportunities to the UCLA community is the limited amount of open space that can be devoted to such activities. It is difficult to fulfill the needs of the current student body and campus community, and the system will be taxed even further as the University of California system increases the student body with the oncoming “Tidal Wave II” and accompanying on-campus housing, as outlined by the Student Housing Master Plan published in 2000. According to the Office of Academic Planning and Budget, UCLA will add up to 2,840 undergraduate and 1,260 graduate student FTEs to the campus population by 2010. According to the UCLA Student Housing Master Plan, the number of students housed either on campus or within one mile of campus will grow from 16,775 in 2000-2001 to 21,724 in 2010-2011. While this plan acknowledges the importance of integrating recreational facilities and programs into the campus community, it also points out that the increase in population will further strain the current facilities.¹⁷



It is also crucial to note that maintaining sufficient amounts of open space for recreational use keeps the campus in line with the important goals laid out in the 1990 update of the UCLA Long Range Development Plan. Although it has been more than ten years since that plan was adopted, as the 1987 report highlights, recreation facilities are “integrally involved” in the commitment that **no more than 25 percent** of the campus be covered with buildings. One need only point to Sunset Canyon Recreation Center or the North Athletic Field to show how such space enhances the renowned aesthetic quality of the UCLA campus. Such open areas are also many times the only venues in which larger on-campus events can be held. From freshman convocation in the Los Angeles Tennis Center to graduation ceremonies in Pauley Pavilion and many events in-between, such as the annual Jazz and Reggae Festival on the Intramural Field and the Mercedes Benz Cup Hospitality Center in Drake Stadium, facilities built for recreational use enhance the lives of UCLA community members and add to UCLA’s tradition of excellence even when they are not being used strictly for physical well-being.



¹⁶ More than two-thirds (68%) of adults (all ages) living in the Western part of the country engage in at least some leisure-time physical activity, compared to 62% of those living in the Northeast and 56% of those living in the South. Although statistics for the Los Angeles metropolitan area have not been located, it is highly likely that the rate is even higher here.

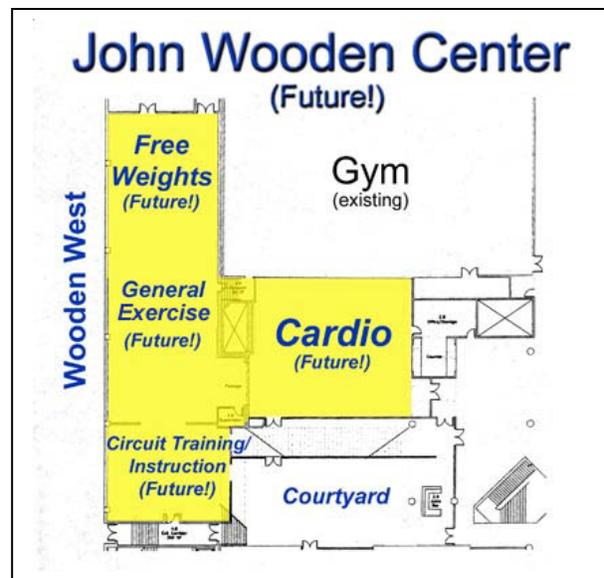
¹⁷ *UCLA Student Housing Master Plan 2000-2010*, 11.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Today...

Understanding the physical challenge created by the limited amount of unused land, Cultural and Recreational Affairs is committed to creatively managing the existing facilities and available land to increase recreational space on campus. The department has already added 30,000 square feet to the John Wooden Center and expanded its hours of operation to 116 per week, and is in the process of creating a permanent, lighted intramural field resulting from the construction of UCLA's newest underground parking structure. A multi-school fitness survey sponsored by Arizona State University¹⁸ highlighted that, despite the fact that UCLA has less facility space than all other institutions surveyed, the Department of Cultural and Recreational Affairs "managed to offer just as many programs, a more diverse program, and had higher participation numbers than all of the other schools." While this is encouraging for UCLA, the Department still must continue to address the needs of a growing student population. The size of the proposed Northwest Campus Housing Complex and the plan to create a more residential character for the University by housing at least 50 percent of all students on or within one mile of campus necessitates that the impact of such developments on recreation facilities and programs be considered. It is important to stress that retaining an emphasis on recreation facilities and programs provides relief from the highly dense urban setting and is integral to creating a sense of community and institutional identification.

Figure 4 – Planned Expansion of John Wooden Center



Current plans to address these issues include a West addition to the John Wooden Center (**Figure 4**). This construction, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2003, will nearly triple the area available for weight and cardio equipment and will create a dedicated Outdoor Adventure center allowing expanded trip programming, additional resources and an equipment rental program. Additionally, the renovation of the Student Activities Center will provide significantly more functional multiuse space.

¹⁸ ASU, Cincinnati, Kansas, Maryland, Nebraska, Oregon State University, UCLA and Washington.

...And in the Future

The Department of Cultural and Recreational Affairs strongly recommends developing an additional 10,000 square foot recreation facility and pool/park area within the proposed Northwest Campus Housing Complex, and a 7,800 square foot recreation/fitness facility to serve graduate students in the future Southwest Campus Graduate Housing Complex.

Additionally, as the Sunset Canyon Recreation Center continues to play an invaluable role as both campus open space and in meeting the diverse needs of recreation and leisure interests, significant capital improvements are necessary for this 35-year old facility.

A commitment must also be made to preserve and enhance Pauley Pavilion in order to maintain its role as a preeminent sports arena, desirable location for special events, and as a multiuse recreational facility that can be used for student activities and community events.

Furthermore, with the advancements in synthetic turf grass products, review and consideration should be given for options on the multiuse playing field areas to increase their functionality and usability, and to minimize maintenance and repair costs.

Northwest Campus Recreational Needs

Recent trends are such that demands on outdoor space vary greatly among the different facets of the UCLA community. The Sunset Canyon Recreation Center, for example, was constructed in 1966 to provide a total campus community recreational and cultural center, eliminating the need for separate swimming pools at the four original high-rise student residence halls constructed between 1959 and 1966. The capacity of the SCRC has not increased since its initial construction in 1966 when the on-campus student population was just 3,200 students in those four residence halls. Today, with the student residential population on campus and within one mile of campus at approximately 16,775 and scheduled to increase by another 5,000 by 2010, the SCRC must meet the demands of students and family constituents seeking leisure activities, while simultaneously fulfilling the needs of UCLA's intercollegiate athletic teams. The campus currently maintains only one pool (SCRC's 50-meter Park Pool) that meets NCAA standards for swimming and water polo competition and allows access to



long course recreational lap swimming. Since SCRC is the most obvious place on campus for residential students, conference guests, and others to spend outdoor leisure time and escape the sometimes claustrophobic urban atmosphere of Los Angeles, the schedules of these interest groups often cause conflicts that are difficult to mitigate given current facilities. The additional interests of Recreation Card holders who use the facility for personal fitness, as well as patrons participating in youth and family offerings only complicates the issue further. The result is a trifurcated system of interests, namely the student/leisure oriented activities, the family group patrons, and the high-level recreational swimmers and competitive athletes, who also have separate schedules that necessarily must be coordinated. It is important to note that, although

SCRC also maintains the smaller Family Pool, for many of the listed demands the use of that pool is simply not an option, as the pool is not designed to handle either the volumes of people nor the activities in which they wish to partake.

For these reasons, the Department proposes that the most effective way to relieve some of this strain on SCRC is to emphasize student leisure and select on-campus guest activities at the proposed recreation zone in the new Northwest Campus Housing Complex. Fitness opportunities would add to this living-learning environment and help students reduce stress and remain healthy, enhancing their academic experience. Developing an outdoor park-like setting would allow seamless integration of the existing Sycamore tennis and golf green facilities with the addition of a new leisure pool, and a 10,000-15,000 square foot fitness and cardio center. All of this in a clubhouse-like setting will make this facility one of the truly remarkable areas of campus and serve as an enormously positive addition to the student residential community.

Southwest Campus Graduate Housing Complex

The Department fully supports the concept of building satellite recreational facilities, especially for graduate students, who have been paying mandatory fees without the convenience of having facilities available in the areas of campus with a heavy focus on graduate study, e.g. law on the east side and medicine in south campus. Considering the intense academic and time demands placed on graduate students, it will be necessary to help provide them with the means to manage stress and maintain a healthy lifestyle. With the endorsement of the John Wooden Center Board of Governors, the department recommends holding \$2.0 million in reserve to invest in a combined Commons Building/Recreation-Fitness Center as part of the Southwest Campus Housing Complex.

Sunset Canyon Recreation Center Improvements

As noted above, the Sunset Canyon Recreation Center was built in 1966 with the goal of providing a site where the UCLA community could find serenity within the dense campus and city setting. The relaxing, park-like environment has been a home for competitive sports, recreational and leisure activities, summer camps and special events, and has reached out to a wide audience including students, faculty, staff, alumni and other members of the community.



The pressure to add on-campus swimming pools has continued to intensify. Competitive intercollegiate teams now include women's swimming/diving and men's and women's water polo. Participation in Bruin Masters Swim has significantly grown, and fitness and leisure swimming as well as social water use continues to be in high demand. With this in mind and in spite of limited land, the Department proposes not only adding a leisure pool in the Northwest campus recreation area, but also either 1) reconfiguring the SAC Pool to a 35-meter competition

pool and/or adding a 50-meter pool, or 2) reconfiguring the existing SCRC Park Pool to a 55-meter by 25-yard pool with diving area.

In addition, the wooden structure, which has provided a natural feel to the facility for more than 35 years, is in need of major renovation. In order to preserve the role and value of the SCRC, the facility will require significant capital investment in the upcoming years.



Pauley Pavilion Renovation

As legendary Pauley Pavilion approaches its 40th year, it is in need of renovation and requires enhancements in order to operate as a premier venue for today's diverse functions. The addition of spectator and service amenities, such as concessions and gathering spaces, would allow this multiuse facility to continue to fulfill its roles for recreation, athletics and campus community events.



Playing Fields - Turf Options

Over the last five years, significant advancements have been made in synthetic grass products. New synthetic systems are now more durable and aesthetically pleasing, in addition to meeting recognized safety provisions. With limited playing field acres, synthetic turf grass options on portions of the Intramural Field, North Athletic Field and/or Spaulding Field would result in significant long term maintenance and cost savings, as well as create a net gain in field space that would normally be lost to repair, annual maintenance, or weather.

Financing Recreational Facilities

Funding the development of UCLA’s recreational facilities was initially based on the assumption that these facilities could be constructed on a cash basis with no maintenance, depreciation or expansion reserves needed because the State of California would fund such expenses. The construction of Pauley Pavilion in 1965 (student registration fees, gifts and state funds), the SCRC in 1966 (student registration fees), Drake Stadium in 1969 (student registration fees) and the Los Angeles Tennis Center in 1984 (Olympics income, gifts, and campus funds) were the primary examples of this philosophy. Since then, significantly changed circumstances in state funding policies and the absence of annual mandatory student fees for these facilities have led to major funding challenges as three of these buildings also near the 40-year mark.

The 1978 student referendum that approved a mandatory student fee for the new recreation center, matched by an alumni fundraising campaign to honor the legacy of John Wooden, fortunately introduced a new paradigm. This approach, with a fee indexed to respond to inflation, included a long-term algorithm for indefinite continuation at a slightly reduced level for maintenance, repair, equipment replacement, and expansion purposes. The 1978 student referendum for a new recreation center building at UCLA was duplicated in subsequent years by several other UC campuses – Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, San Diego – and served as a model for the William Lyons Recreation Center at USC.

The Student Programs and Activities Resource Complex (SPARC) student referendum of 2000 has now established a second long-term, indexed fee structure, both for the Student Activities Center renovations and for the westward expansion of the Wooden Center. Even more importantly, the language of the SPARC referendum measure, overwhelmingly approved by the student body, established a new provision permitting the use of excess fee revenues for maintenance, repair and even expansion or replacement of the other student facilities originally constructed with no such reserves. The intermediate and long-term funding schedules of revenues and expense require further analysis. At the same time, when comparing the student fee amounts at UCLA with other UC campuses (see **Table 10**), the question of an additional student fee referendum for facilities at UCLA needs to be discussed with student leaders.

Having this potential funding source available provides great opportunity for much needed renovations and future development. However, the students alone cannot be expected to fund all necessary projects; therefore alternative funding sources and project partnerships, including continued collaborative ventures with Intercollegiate Athletics, will need to be explored. The students’ show of interest in the enhancement of recreational facilities thus far clearly illustrates the high demand for such improvements and growth.

Table 10 – UC Campus Recreational Facilities Mandatory Student Fees

Berkeley	\$ 57/year
Davis	\$272/year
Irvine	\$264/year
Riverside	\$177/year
San Diego	\$261/year
Santa Barbara	\$134/year
Santa Cruz	\$ 45/year
UCLA	\$ 39/year *

* Plus \$84/year in 2003-04 for SPARC

Our Unwavering Commitment

It is the University's responsibility to support students, faculty, and staff in their quest for academic and professional excellence. The 1987 Recreational Space Master Plan states, "Without physical well-being, it's hard to achieve anything else." In the increasingly competitive environment of university life, and in consideration of the opportunities and challenges that face students upon graduation, it is as important today as ever to cultivate the numerous benefits that recreational facilities and activities can have on the UCLA community.



While significant progress has been made over the past 15 years in terms of using available space in a creative and efficient manner, there is still much left to do. In the very near future, the UCLA campus will be considerably more populated. This potentially offers many benefits, and the commitment that has been made to preserve outdoor open-use space must be recognized and strengthened. Indoor recreational facilities must also continue to be considered in campus planning and development in order to meet the needs of those served.

This review, completed as CRA passes its 40th year, should most likely be renewed every ten years as a periodic report card for the Department and the campus. Its review by all segments of the campus leadership structure – student government councils and other ASUCLA committees, the Academic Senate (particularly the Faculty Welfare Committee), the Alumni Association (particularly the Student Relations Committee), and the campus executive administration is urged.

Further, while there is no physical link, the interconnected nature of all of the buildings in the Westwood Plaza/Bruin Walk zone of the main campus brings administrative coordination challenges that increase as usage and demand increase. The completion of the Student Activities Center in 2003 introduces additional student facilities sorely needed.



The oversight of the Student Activities Center will be an additional and welcomed challenge for the Department and will require even closer coordination with ASUCLA and its operation of the Ackerman Union/Kerckhoff Hall complex.

