

Oregon State University
Department of Recreational Sports
RECREATIONAL SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

DATE 9/23/2022

TIME 2:00 pm

Present: Isaac Randall, Carolyn Pearce, Jon Dotter, Lindsey Hartford, Maddie Jensen, Vanessa Sellers, Shey Nchadze, Drew Duncan, Sean Newsom, Sierra Young, Jared Pratt, Guest-Joe Page

Pratt called to order at 2:02pm

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Agenda- Hartford moves to approve Randall seconds

Vote all in favor none opposed

Minutes- Pearce moves to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Hartford seconds

Vote: all in favor none opposed

Open Forum and Announcements

- Recreational Sports- Manager Positions- hired an Assistant Director of Sport Programs, 2 custodial team members, currently have 1200 more swipe in entries per week than last year at same time, our fitness and wellness staff teamed up with bridge programming (LSAMP, Trio, CAMP) to offer an event to help students transition to campus, we currently have 3 open positions all in active recruitment. One is closed and entering the interview process.
- SFC- Jared Pratt- Joe Page- explained SFC accept budget proposals and send them
- Executive Committee- Jared Pratt-Chair and Vice Chair discussion- the bylaws regarding these position were read and a discussion was had about roles and responsibilities.

Continuing Business

- FY 23 Membership
 - UHDS Representative-Carolyn Pearce
Acclimation: Pratt
 - DAS Representative- John Dotter
Acclimation: Pratt
 - At Large Applications-Grad Student At Large Lontum Nchadze (Shey)
(Application attached)
Vote: Randall moved to appoint Lontum Nchadze to the Recreational Sports Advisory Board as a Graduate Student At Large Representative, Young seconded

Vote: All in favor none opposed

- FY 23 Executive Committee
- Discussion Hartford moves to open discussion Pearce seconds
- Sylvester and Isaac were asked if they were still interested in the positions. They both answered yes. No other individuals were interested in the positions.
- Pearce moved to end discussion to Omondi seconded
- Pearce moved to vote Randall seconded
 - Chair- vote 13 yes, no abstentions, no opposition
 - Vice Chair-vote
 - Hartford moved to vote Pearce seconded
 - Vote-13 yes, no abstentions, no opposition

Adjourning Randall moved to adjourn and Omondi seconded

Meeting adjourned at 2:40- Pratt

Name: Lontum Nchadze

Do you have any relevant experience in campus involvement or leadership? If so please explain.:

I currently work with the Office of Student Orientation at OSU as an Administrative START Leader. In this position, I support the orientation process for in-coming freshmen and transfer students. During the regular school session, I teach under-graduate courses at the School of Public Policy, where I hold a graduate assistantship appointment. Previously (November 2021/February 2022), I worked with the Honors College to score application essays for aspiring students.

Division you wish to represent (check only one): Graduate Student at large

1. Please tell us why you want to serve on the advisory board.: I have a passion for education policy, and this is the focus of my concentration at the school of public policy. A key part of my interest in this position (as other campus positions I have held) is to have the opportunity to experience and participate in policy-making across several parts of the education pipeline. Also, as a user of various services at the Dixon Recreational Center, I believe I am well placed to draw from my experiences to represent the interests of graduate students at OSU as well as the core mission of the center.

2. Tell us about a time you had to make a decision that would impact others.: In 2011, while studying for my MSC in Economics at the University of Buea in Cameroon, I successfully lead an initiative to get the University to pay graduate students their allowances that had been wrongfully denied to them. I undertook this initiative despite the fact that my own allowances had been paid.

This allowance was instituted by the president of the republic in February 2010, and was paid to students who met a minimum GPA at the end of each academic year. According to the text of application, all graduate students were automatically eligible for this allowance irrespective of their academic performance. In July 2011, My University paid this allowance to students and wrongfully excluded some graduate students owing to their performance.

Because the student union was in disarray at that time, there was no standing body to advocate for these students. As a formal student union leader with experience dealing with the school administration, I immediately decided to act. I wrote a petition to the Vice Chancellor and passed it around for graduate students concerned to sign. Then I attached the signed petition to a copy of the text of application, highlighting the violated section of the text and took it to the Vice Chancellor's office. I took along other formal student union leaders as well as some of the students who had been denied payment.

During negotiations, the Vice Chancellor was focused on how our requested redress will affect the University's budget, while we focused on fairness and the law. Eventually, we came to an agreement that saw all graduate students paid.

3. Tell us about your past recreation involvement. How did that experience influence your decision to apply to serve on the advisory board?

I have limited experience with in-doors recreational sports. I come from Cameroon, where most recreational physical activity takes place out-doors. I was a member of my local veteran's club, organizations that blend collective physical activities with other social events to ensure wholistic wellness.

I came to the United States in the winter of 2020/2021, where covid restrictions and the cold weather collided to make it difficult for me to continue with the types of physical activities I was accustomed to. I

found Dixon Recreational Center when I started looking for alternatives. However, as a blind person, I still needed orientation and mobility assistance to access the center, and could not get this again due to covid restrictions and a lack of social connections. It was not until this summer that I started using the center.

My interest in serving with the Recreational Advisory board comes from my experiences using the center so far. I realize that there are so many accessibility challenges that make it difficult for me, and perhaps other persons with disabilities to fully make use of the services offered. Beyond these issues of accessibility, I have also observed that communication about the center focusses largely on creating awareness about its existence rather than its merrits. This largely restricts the population of students who benefit from the center. I hope that together with other board members, we can suggest communication strategies that expand the reach of the center beyond those who want its services to those who need it as well.

By typing my name below, I testify that all information which I have provided in this application is accurate and truthful. If elected, I agree to serve the Advisory Board to the best of my abilities and in the best interest of the students and Department of Recreational Sports. [Type your Full Name]:
Lontum Nchadze