February 25, 2011

To: Dennis Munroe, Director of Physical Education & Recreation
Kristen Gleason, SRC Club Sports Coordinator
Geoff Hale, Student, SRC Advisory Board
Brent Harrison, SRC Associate Director of Recreation Programs
Bryan Haunert, SRC Associate Director of Facilities
Derick Olsen, Student, SRC Employee
Jen Phillips, Research Associate in Neuroscience
Robert Thallon, Associate Dean for Administration, AAA
Sue Wieseke, Accountant for Physical Education & Recreation
TBD, ASUO Representative

From: Robin Holmes  
Vice President for Student Affairs

Re: User Group Charge
Student Recreation Center Expansion

Thank you for agreeing to serve on the user group for renovation of the Student Recreation Center (SRC). The user group will serve as the primary advising body to architects and planning staff on matters pertaining to building design and program. This effort will begin March 2011 with tasks necessary to select an architect. Design work will begin in earnest immediately following commencement of classes fall term 2011.

Campus Planning and Real Estate will provide the user group with necessary guidance and staffing in design processes, and will serve as project liaison to the architect. Dennis Munroe, director of the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, will serve as chair of the user group. The design process is expected to take 18 to 24 months. As such, your commitment through design completion is a prerequisite to serving on the user group.

The efforts of many students and staff over the past decade have made possible initiation of this project. Two previous studies have been conducted, the 2004 SRC Conceptual Study by Yost Grube Hall Architecture and the December 2010 Master Plan and Campus Consultation Process, Erb Memorial Union & Student Recreation Center by Brailsford & Dunlavey facility planners. These studies provide a wealth of resource and planning information, and will serve to inform and provide guidance to the user group.

The Master Plan for the Student Recreation Center has three Phases and two have been completed. Phase I, completed in the 2000, included new weight and cardio rooms, three court gym, and locker room facilities. Phase II was the construction of the Student Tennis Center. Your work is completion of Phase III. Our plan for this third major expansion of the Student Recreation Center affects the footprint currently supporting the covered tennis courts to the immediate southeast and adjacent to the SRC.
The vision is to create a facility that fully meets the needs for student recreation and academic programming into the future as the campus continues to grow in enrollment. We currently deliver programs, classes and services for 23,000 students in facilities that are sized to comfortably accommodate a university enrollment of only about 16,000. This project will eliminate overcrowding and create considerable opportunities for new and expanded programs and classes.

Physical Education and Recreation provides space and administrative oversight for an academic course curriculum that generates over 15,000 credits each year. The completed project will demonstrate integration of academic uses into the building and allow for needed growth in this area. The expanded Student Recreation Center will provide programs, services, and spaces that are fully aligned and support the academic mission and values of the institution and contribute to the overall residential quality of campus.

The future SRC will play an elevated role in recruitment and retention of students. The SRC will demonstrate high quality design and use of materials, and showcase sustainability and technology achievement in support of student scholarly expression. The new SRC will feature informal public spaces that are welcoming to campus and community constituencies.

The User Group is charged to work with the selected architect, Campus Planning and Real Estate, students, SRC staff, and campus stakeholders to design the building. As guidance to the user group, and in supplement to current building uses, special attention should be directed to the design of the following functional spaces/areas:

- A new natatorium for aquatics recreation, fitness, and education. This addition will feature not only fitness but add recreational and therapeutic features to the SRC for the first time
- New or expanded locker rooms
- Additional cardio and weight training space
- Additional gymnasium and multipurpose athletic courts
- New racquetball and squash courts
- Expansion of the existing Student Tennis Center from 6 courts to 8-10 courts
- Suitable administrative space to support the operations, programs and classes of expanded facilities
- Social and study space with juice bar (or other healthy eatery) and pro shop
- Additional multipurpose space for programming and classes
- Public spaces commensurate with a major university building and campus recreation center, adequate to support high volume daily use

The project budget has been established at $61 million to include construction and all associated costs. Project expenses must be managed within this budget. In order to accommodate the timing of when some funds for the project will become available the project design will include phased construction. At a point in the design process before construction documentation advances, the project's first phase and total cost will be established. Necessary additional phases to complete the project and associated costs will be identified during design.
Renovation of the Student Recreation Center will create a modern campus venue where recreational, social, and intellectual activities are celebrated. Completion of the project will make a substantial contribution to development of campus. To this end, members of the user group should carefully attend to policies and patterns framed in the UO Campus Plan relating to building architecture, site development and open space, universal access, parking, transportation and pedestrian movement.

Please accept my appreciation for your commitment to this exciting project. Your work will positively affect campus life for decades to come.

cc: Frances Dyke, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Chris Ramey, Associate Vice President, Campus Planning and Real Estate
Gregg Lobisser, Assistant Vice President for Capital Projects
Michael Eyster, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs