In fall 2018, a workgroup was created to update the mission of the department. The strategic focus of the department and the collegiate recreation industry has evolved over time, and as the Burdick Hall expansion was completed, we felt it prudent to update our mission. The updated vision, mission, and values convey our contributions to the success of our students and the Towson University community.

**Vision**
Enhance student success and the pursuit of lifelong well-being.

**Mission**
Create opportunities that foster engagement and well-being for the TU community through diverse programs, services, facilities, and employment.

**Values**
Everything we do in Campus Recreation, from our programming decisions to the way we operate day-to-day, is driven by our core values.

**FUN**
We strive to create an enjoyable environment that encourages participation and social engagement of our participants and employees.

**EDUCATION**
We aim to deliver traditional and innovative experiential learning opportunities for our participants and employees.

**CIVILITY**
We believe in treating ourselves with respect and encourage those with whom we engage to treat one another and the spaces we utilize with respect, despite our differences or responsibilities.

**COMMUNITY**
We believe in fostering an environment centered on teamwork, belonging, and healthy relationships.

**SAFETY**
We are proactive in providing training and education to all in order to offer a trustworthy and safe environment.

**INCLUSION**
We appreciate the diversity of our participants and staff and believe in providing an accessible, welcoming environment that supports everyone’s right to participate.

**LEADERSHIP**
We strive to offer staff and participants practical learning opportunities to increase their ability to positively influence others, problem solve, and think critically.
a. **OPEN REC**
Open recreation basketball is one of the most popular activities in our facility and is great as a social or fitness activity.

b. **OUR EMPLOYEES**
Student employees make Campus Rec a welcoming place for all!

c. **BADMINTON**
Badminton has become quite popular both as an Intramural Sport and a Sport Club!

d. **GETTING CONNECTED**
Sport Clubs are one of the best ways for new students and transfer students to get connected with their new community, make friends, and participate in sports competitively.

e. **TIGER TROT 5K**
Our annual Tiger Trot 5K is a great way to engage with the TU community during homecoming.

f. **A HAPPY PLACE**
We love that our students see Campus Rec as their happy place!

g. **STRESS RELIEVER**
Nothing relieves stress better than a dodgeball game with friends!
Our annual Night of RECOgnition honors our graduating seniors.

In January, we celebrate the anniversary of “Bigger Better Burdick!”

An Adaptive Rec Showcase is a great way to educate students on all the adaptive and inclusive recreation opportunities available.

Baltimore Rampage is an annual climbing competition amongst college students from universities across the region.

Students truly embrace the adventure of spring break while backpacking at the Grand Canyon!

NIRSA recognizes “Bigger Better Burdick” as an Outstanding Sports Facility. The NIRSA Outstanding Sports Facility award recognizes excellence in newly-constructed, renovated, or expanded recreational sports facilities at NIRSA member institutions.

We will miss our graduating seniors and hope they always feel like a “Campus Rec Alum!”
Spring Semester 2019
STUDENT PARTICIPATION

When Justin Robinson decided to transfer from a community college to Towson University in fall 2017, he wanted to make sure that he took advantage of all the things traditional 4-year schools like TU have to offer. So, he joined the Track Sport Club. Sport Clubs and Intramural Sports are an excellent way for transfer students to get involved and quickly feel connected. However, that wasn’t all that he tried.

A newfound love for adventure and all things outdoors is what clicked for him. Robinson was looking online for something different to do and came across a rock climbing trip offered by Outdoor Adventures. “I didn’t have any friends interested in rock climbing, hiking, or nature so I signed up alone. It was so entertaining to be out in nature and to take a moment to escape. The trip leaders were amazing, so naturally friendly and just happy to be out in nature that it put me at ease, made me feel welcome.” Robinson has since attended six outdoor trips, including the unforgettable spring break trip to the Grand Canyon. After participating in four trips, the trip leaders and the Assistant Director of Outdoor Adventures began encouraging Justin to join the Campus Rec team. “I thought it would be really nice to work for Campus Rec, to become part of that community. And it has been great. It even helped me break out of my shell.” Robinson now works as a Belay Attendant at the Climbing Wall in the Outdoor Adventure Center. He loves helping other students climb for the first time, achieve something they didn’t think possible, and being there ready to give a high five when they come down from their climb.

I met a lot of nice people and developed strong friendships that made me feel like a part of TU.
OUR GRADUATING GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Graduate Assistantships (GA) provide an excellent learning environment, exposing students to what it is like to be in the workforce while also financing their graduate school education. GAs are essential to the work we accomplish every day. With two graduating GAs continuing their careers in the recreation field, we asked them to share about the experiences that led them to their first full-time jobs. Taylor Payne served as the Marketing & Communications Graduate Assistant and Julz Harvey served as the Sport Clubs Graduate Assistant.

What accomplishment during your assistantship are you most proud of?

Taylor: Although I feel accomplished in so many projects during my time, assisting in the Civility and Inclusion Committee lesson plans and the resulting infographics made a huge impact on my assistantship and career. Not only in taking initiative early in my assistantship to be a member of the committee, but feeling that my voice was heard whenever I shared my opinion allowed me to truly feel like a professional in the workplace. In addition, I quickly learned during the job search process that not every collegiate recreation department is going to hold civility and inclusion at such a high priority, and that influenced my decision on what position I would take upon leaving TU.

What made you choose this as a career field?

Julz: I joined the women’s rugby club team my second day in college. Not only did I love the sport, I loved the people and community I joined. Rugby taught me who I was. Because being in a club was so formative for me, it’s really fulfilling for me to be able to give back to students and cultivate an environment where they can learn and grow into themselves.

Taylor: Definitely my experience at TU Campus Rec. Working with the students and seeing them succeed was fulfilling in an incredibly unexpected way. I remember working with a student on a project and giving her a small piece of advice on how she was accomplishing a task. After our discussion, I noticed her productivity rate increased significantly. She informed me the tip helped her in her classes as well. That feeling is one that I knew I would want to replicate throughout my career. This, in addition to the overall environment of Campus Rec, made me decide to pursue a career in student affairs.

What career ready skills/abilities/experiences can you attribute to your time as a GA?

Julz: I learned so much about working with people, especially in regards to being a part of a team. I learned that my focus for the day isn’t necessarily the same as the person sitting next to me, but at the end of the day, we’re all working toward the goal of improving the student experience.

Taylor: I significantly improved my adaptability skills throughout my time as a GA. Going through a huge expansion, working in a trailer across campus, and starting in a time of transition has given me the confidence to say “If I can do that, I can do just about anything.”

Q & A with GAs

Update: Taylor earned her M.A. in Professional Studies in May 2019 and accepted the position of Coordinator of Marketing & Membership for Mylan Park (Morgantown, WV).

Update: Julz earned her M.S. in Professional Writing in May 2019 and accepted the position of Assistant Director – Club Sports for Pittsburg State University (Kansas).
My first year of college has presented some ups and downs and sometimes I get very stressed. Taking some of these classes just gave me an outlet and chance to relieve some of this stress.

–Allen Betrand, Group Fitness Participant

I am so happy I have begun to live a healthier lifestyle since attending classes at Burdick Hall. This is a wonderful gym filled with wonderful staff, instructors, and students that continue to impact me.

–Fall Survey Participant

Campus Rec has helped me acclimate to the university, has provided positive reinforcement during difficult periods of my life, and has supported campus wellness for faculty and staff.

–Fall Survey Participant

When applying for internship positions, this job has stood out to employers. They are interested in my role and the [CPR/First Aid] first responder requirement.

–Ashley Doyle, Facility Manager

Campus Recreation has transformed my college experience for the best. I had the chance to grow and develop other skills that were hidden in me like networking and the sense of responsibility. My job at Campus Recreation gave me the tools to gain more confidence in everything I do.

–Methan Ouattara, IM Sports Supervisor
By the Numbers

$732,480 budget for student wages
1,653 guest passes sold
950+ facility tours
345,048 total facility visits
1,594 average daily users
126,406 equipment checkouts

22,000 sq. ft. of fitness space

21,140 total Group Fitness participants
80 Group Fitness classes per week

Total square ft.: 235,000

40,000 event attendees

10,300 Intramural Sports participants

44 Intramural Sports & recreation activities

281 design requests completed
1,200 Instagram followers
1,748 Twitter followers
1,846 Facebook likes

1,570 Sport Club athletes

$204,406 raised by Sport Clubs

251 gear rentals such as snowboards, stand up paddleboards, backpacks, and tents

33 ft. climbing wall

216 Kayak Clinic participants

57 hours of open swim each week

5,338 hours spent outside by participants