

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why does UNC Greensboro need a new Student Recreation Center?**

The current Student Recreation Center opened in 1992 with 89,676 gross square feet (gsq ft). The new Recreation Center is designed to serve 18,000 students and is approximately 216,000 sq ft. Existing spaces are only able to accommodate between 50% and 65% of current demand for high priority activities of cardiovascular fitness, group fitness, free weights, weight machines and indoor walking. As a result of significant student enrollment growth since 1992 and facility usage by students, UNC Greensboro is now near the bottom of the UNC system in amount of indoor and outdoor recreation space.

The new student recreation center will limit overcrowding and ensure equipment and programs are easily accessed to provide students with a healthy avenue for engagement. The new center will also have the ability to host campus events that have grown too large for the Elliott University Center and respond to student demand for concerts, dances, career fairs, etc. The facility will respond to and continue to work with academic areas in developing partnerships. The new Student Recreation Center is designed for recreational purposes that all students can use. Currently, Campus Recreation is the largest employer of students with over 150 student employees. The new Student Recreation Center will result in the hiring of more students to work in the facility increasing the number of student jobs on campus.

### **Where will the new Student Recreation Center be located?**

In keeping with the University's plans for the future, a new Student Recreation Center will be constructed as part of the Village Development Project on West Lee Street. This area includes the new Spartan Village residence halls and the new UNC Greensboro police station.

### **When will the new Student Recreation Center open?**

Construction of the Student Recreation Center began in 2014, and will open in the Fall of 2016.

### **Why is the Student Recreation Center important?**

Studies have shown that first-year students who used campus recreation facilities not only persisted at a greater rate than those who did not, but their GPA and number of credit hours earned were higher as well (Belch, Gebel, & Maas, 2001). Campus recreation has important responsibilities in terms of promoting the overall well-being of students, helping to reduce negative or destructive forms of play, extending and enriching academic learning and contributing to other college and university goals (McLean, Hurd, & Rogers, 2005). UNC Greensboro believes the addition of this facility will encourage more students to live on campus as well as expand their opportunities for developing healthy lifestyles and improving their academic success, key components of our university's strategic plan. Freshman-to-sophomore [retention rates](#) as well as the four-year [graduation rates](#) for UNC Greensboro students living on-campus are consistently higher than for students living off-campus.

### **Have students been involved in the process?**

There have been opportunities for student input and approval regarding the new Student Recreation Center. As early as 2007, student surveys and focus groups were conducted to assess campus recreation needs. UNC Greensboro has since held a series of open forums, as recently as March 4, 2014, on campus and in the community to receive input on the project. Changes in the size, location and design of the SRC have been made as a result of the feedback. To access the Student Recreation Timeline please visit: <http://campusrec.uncg.edu/recreation-center/timeline>.

### **Have the UNC Greensboro Board of Trustees and other governing boards been involved in the process?**

Financing, land acquisition, and/or design for the construction of the SRC has been reviewed and approved by the UNC Greensboro Board of Trustees, UNC system Board of Governors, NC General Assembly, and the NC Council of State. Although NC General Statute 143-135.1 exempts State buildings from municipal building requirements, UNC Greensboro has verified with the City's Planning and Community Development Department that this facility is still consistent with the allowable uses under the current City of Greensboro zoning on the property.

### **How will the Recreation Center be financed?**

The university will issue 25-year bonds during a time of historically low interest rates.

### **What is the cost of the new Student Recreation Center (SRC)?**

The overall budget is estimated at \$91 million—100% funded by student fees. The budget for the Student Recreation Center includes land acquisition, design fees, and construction costs. Actual costs may be less based on modifications of the SRC design.

### **Is UNC Greensboro currently collecting student fees to fund the SRC?**

Students are currently paying \$435 annually in “facilities” fees for the SRC alone; upon completion, an additional “activities” fee will be added to maintain the new facility. The current estimate for the “activities” fee is \$156 although this cost may be reduced based on modifications of the SRC operating budget. UNC Greensboro has collected \$8.2 million in student fees towards the project through 2012-13. More than \$7 million has been spent on SRC expenses.

### **How do the City of Greensboro's plans fit with the Recreation Center?**

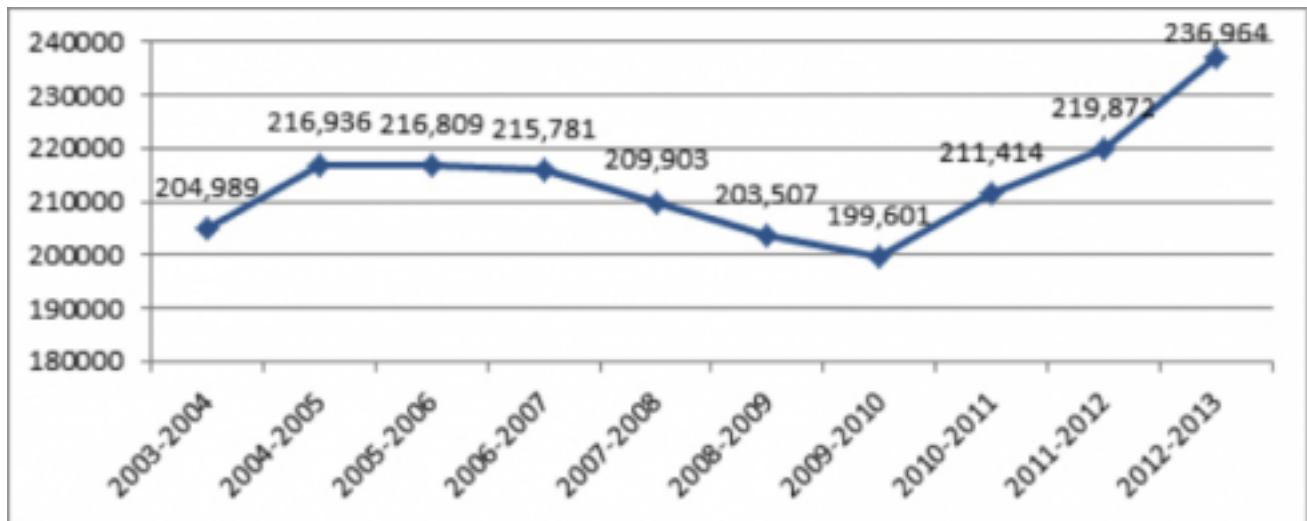
The [High Point Road/West Lee Street Corridor Plan](#) calls for “building on the existing anchor uses, including the Coliseum and UNC Greensboro, to create a cluster of sports and recreation facilities and associated uses. This hub is roughly located between Lexington Avenue and Ellington Street.” (page 23 of the Plan). Further, the Plan states “The corridor can benefit from the extension of the university's good image onto West Lee Street, both as a contributor to the character of the roadway and as an economic engine.” (page 26).

## How is UNC Greensboro working with members of the Glenwood Community?

UNC Greensboro has held several open meetings with members of the Glenwood neighborhood (which is adjacent to the site for the new center). Feedback from the Glenwood Community resulted in the recreation center site being moved one block west. Consideration for the residential neighborhood has also shaped the building design. UNC Greensboro is working on a Memorandum of Understanding specifically regarding the Recreation Center, which addresses landscaping, parking, site placement of the facility and number of other issues important to both the Glenwood and UNC Greensboro communities. There were a number of residents appointed by the Greater Glenwood Neighborhood Association to work with the University regarding the exterior elevations and site planning for the new Recreation Center.

UNC Greensboro is currently exploring options and ways to use the space. The State's capital improvement plan addresses long term needs and must include all projects, however financed. A project to renovate the existing Recreation Center was included on UNC Greensboro's last plan. It is not unusual for the exact nature of any project on the plan to change in scope prior to finalization.

## How much use does the current Student Recreation Center have from students?



*10 year history of recreation participations - the number of times cards were swiped for access to the Student Recreation Center*

**What are some other resources regarding the Recreation Center project?**

There are several websites that may be of interest. The Campus Community Development website includes links to the City's High Point Road/West Lee Street plan, UNC Greensboro's Master Plan, Greater Glenwood Plan, FAQ regarding the entire Spartan Village development, tree conservation, sustainable strategies and Brailsford & Dunlavey Campus Needs Study:

<http://campuserprises.uncg.edu/communitydevelopment/>.

Campus Recreation has FAQ's regarding the program and renderings of the new recreation center: <http://campusrec.uncg.edu/recreation-center>.