

1999-2000: Claire Agre and Jessica Reitz

Fall Semester

Project WILD organized a Pancake Breakfast on Parent's Weekend for all staff and participants from the August trip at the Coffeehouse on East Campus.

Twelve staff members also went to the International AEE Conference in Rochester, NY and Project WILD partially subsidized the trip for everyone with the help of a grant from Dean LoBiondo in OSD.

Fall Retreat

Project WILD went rafting on the New River in West Virginia (November 13-14). We went on a full day rafting trip through North American River Runners and did mini-seminars on cooking, stoves, packfitting, games, and other skills the following day. We rented a house a couple miles from the river through Vanishing Creek Cabins.

Spring Semester

The safety committee reconvened to re-evaluate medical training, medical history and insurance forms, and ropes course procedures.

The remainder of the semester was heavily invested in Outreach and the service learning component of the house course.

House Course

The house course was extremely under-enrolled this year. We attribute this to the multitude of Break for a Change house courses offered with Spring Break trips and also choosing to begin the house course the second week of classes when the huge snow storm hit and paralyzed campus and the drop-add period.

A service learning component with Habitat for Humanity was added to the house course and met with mixed results.

A staff reading crew was formed.

March Trip

Number of participants: 41

Number of staff: 34

Course Cost: \$235 (included course pack and T-shirt)

Staff Cost: \$0

Financial Aid awarded: \$489

% of Financial Aid awarded: 100%

We decreased the ratio of participants to staff so that we could increase the number of crew leaders. This change was met with mostly positive results. We originally had two staff crews, one of 6 and one of 7 staff. Three staff crew members decided not to do the trip, so we ended up with 2 staff crews of 5. Jamborees were tried for the first time between the staff crews in the Graveyard and then with all the participants in Cove. Staff crews were extremely successful.

Summer

The Fuqua School of Business planned on building a parking lot over "the Wall" on the TCC. Project WILD presented Fuqua with a proposal to use our course for their Flagship Business Program in exchange for yearly maintenance of the course. Fuqua declined our offer

due to the cost of making the course handicap accessible and the perceived amount of work that would have to be done to the course.

We had dinner with the men and women of the Phoenix-Dove Houses twice and planned a TCC for September.

The registrar's office was five weeks late in getting mailings out to the freshmen. This caused a decline in enrollment.

August Trip

Number of participants: 63

Number of staff: 30

Course Cost: \$395

Financial Aid awarded: \$2975

% of Financial Aid awarded: 84%

We lost one of our Climbing Directors after he was injured in a car accident on the first day of staff training. Frank came to Hanging Rock to help with rock face training and Claire helped day-direct on Cedar Rock. We only had 15 staff on Djibouti.

Staff training was at Hanging Rock instead of Pisgah this year. Basecamp and crew leaders were renamed Djibouti and Bedouins, respectively. Flags were made for each tribe and an ongoing game of Capture the Flag ensued throughout the entire week. Jamborees were held at the ground school area for each crew the evening before their climbing day. There was a lot of raiding, streaking, energy, and spontaneity on Djibouti.

Sinusitis and Bronchitis circulated around Djibouti and several staff went into Brevard for medical treatment. Only two evacs occurred during the trip. In one case a freshman aggravated a pre-existing back condition while rock climbing and spent two days at Ziegler's and re-joined his crew in Cove. In Cove another freshman received a slight concussion after falling on his head coming out of a handstand. He was taken to the ER to get checked out and everything was fine.

Ropes Course/Outreach

Since the Fuqua proposal was declined, we put approximately \$3500 of maintenance into the course in July. New helmets and biners were purchased in the Spring semester. Outreach was extremely busy this year.