

Memorandum

To: Dr. Erika Paterson, ENGL 301 99A Professor

From: Claire Eccles, ENGL 301 99A Student

Date: November 14, 2020

As per the Lesson 2:3 assignment, here is my progress report for implementing a female varsity baseball program at UBC.

Audience

The research conducted for this report will be directed towards UBC Athletics and proposes to initiate a varsity baseball program for women. Specifically, the Director of Athletics and Recreation, Kavie Toor, will be presented with the final report.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to offer recommendations for establishing a female varsity baseball program at UBC.

Significance of the Report

There are hundreds of collegiate varsity baseball programs across Canada and the United States, all principally exclusive to men. There are over 100,000 girls playing baseball at the youth level in these two countries combined, yet not one baseball program is offered for women at the college level. British Columbia boasts strong numbers for female baseball players with a desire to continue their play post-secondary.

Research Plan

Problem:

- identify the logistics for establishing a varsity program at UBC (financially, where games/practices would be held, how much interest must be displayed)

Primary data:

- Survey Baseball BC's Girls Program, Baseball Canada's women's national team and UBC men's baseball team
- Interview UBC Athletics and Recreation department head Kavie Toor

Secondary data:

- Statistics of women playing baseball

Writing Schedule

Nov 15: Write reflection for Unit 3 and revise proposal

Nov 16: Begin running interviews and releasing survey

Nov 20: Begin secondary data source research

Nov 26: Use the interview, survey and secondary source search results to put together first draft

Dec 1: Post formal report draft to team forum

Dec 7: Write and post peer review for formal report draft

Dec 12: Begin to revise formal report based off of peer review feedback

Dec 17: Post final formal report

Women in Baseball Survey

I am a UBC student who is currently conducting a report for a technical writing course. The purpose of this survey is to obtain data on the opinions of Canadian female baseball players and the opportunities provided at post-secondary institutions. The final report will be addressed to the Director of UBC Athletics and Recreation. This survey along with interviews with the UBC Athletics and Recreation department will lead to a discussion to implement a female varsity program at UBC. The survey contains 5 multiple-choice questions and 1 written question and should take less than 5 minutes of your time. Your responses are voluntary and anonymous. Thank you, I appreciate your generous participation in my survey.

- 1) I identify as:
 - a) Female
 - b) Male
 - c) Prefer not to say
 - d) Other

- 2) In comparison to any other sport, baseball takes my first priority.
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
 - c) N/A

- 3) I will compete, I currently compete, or I have competed in a sport other than baseball at the post-secondary level.
 - a) Yes
 - b) No

- 4) If a female baseball program was available
 - a) I would participate as an athlete
 - b) I would participate as a fan
 - c) I am not interested in baseball

- 5) The lack of opportunities for female baseball past the high-school level
 - a) Makes the sport less interesting for me as a fan
 - b) Discourages me from playing baseball as an athlete
 - c) Makes no difference to me

- 6) Would you like to see more opportunities for women to play baseball?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
 - c) Indifferent

- 7) What opportunities to play baseball do you wish women had? (Written Answer)

Interview Questions

1. What kind of support would be needed to establish a varsity program?
2. What are the financial costs of establishing a varsity program? How would funding be provided?
3. What are issues that can arise in terms of practice/play space, finding a league to compete in, choosing a coaching staff, etc?
4. What are strategies used for increasing a prospective student-athletes desire to attend UBC and compete for this school?
5. How different is it to create a club sport rather than a varsity sport?