

**Outdoor Adventures Center
University of Nebraska Lincoln
Executive Summary**

Correlation to the campus master plan and mission:

As the only land-grant, comprehensive, research university in the state of Nebraska, the University's mission is to teach, conduct research and serve Nebraskans. The addition of the UNL Campus Recreation Outdoor Adventures Center (OAC) is a compliment to UNL's mission with the building's focus on education, enjoyment and escape. The OAC sits on a prominent corner of the northwest sector of the university's City Campus. UNL recently completed their 'Plan Big' master plan campaign (http://irp.unl.edu/Plan_Big_Final_Report_Revised_for_Web.pdf) utilizing this corner in a pedestrian mall concept adopted by the Board of Regents. Further discussion by the UNL Campus Planning Group includes developing the street to the south of the facility into a pedestrian mall.

The OAC is bordered on the north by one trail in the extensive trail system of the Lincoln community. The center is placed in an ideal location to aid in promoting the Bike UNL initiative. Since the OAC is a fundamental part of UNL Campus Recreation, the building is situated in close proximity to other campus recreation elements: City Campus recreation center, Mabel Lee Hall pool, Mabel Lee Hall field complex, and outside volleyball, tennis, and basketball courts.

Intended and actual impact to your recreation program:

Building the OAC was part of the overall student referendum to add, improve and enhance the current recreation facilities on campus. The campaign set out to build a stronger campus and say 'Yes 2 Better Rec Centers.' The completion of the OAC allowed the Outdoor Adventures program to vacate its floor space in the City Campus recreation center, which will become a renovation and expansion of the strength training and conditioning room. Outdoor Adventures has grown exponentially since the opening of the OAC in May 2014. The climbing wall alone has increased participation in excess of 250% in the first three months.

Unique aesthetic or architectural design features:

The OAC features an exterior rock wall that is open 24/7 for bouldering and has 3 rope lines for special events. The exterior wall designed by Eldorado Climbing Walls was sculpted to look like the upper third of Chimney Rock. Chimney Rock is an iconic landmark in western Nebraska that served as a milestone of progress for pioneers making their way west along the Oregon Trail. The building also allows for 24/7 access to the locker rooms for those renting a locker or bike locker without giving individuals full access to the facility and eliminating the need for staffing.

Facility functionality:

The OAC is the headquarters for adventure trips, academic & non-credit classes & activities, challenge course programming, outdoor gear rentals and the campus bike shop. The layout of the building

facilitates each activity areas either independently or together. There is an exterior patio area to the south of the facility with direct egress from the classroom. This allows those teaching a class to move straight into the outdoors for tent set-up, camp stove training or other various outdoor adventures' learning experiences.

Double sliding glass doors on the west entrance allow individuals needing bike repairs to easily navigate the entry and simply move into the bike repair and maintenance area. On the east side, a fenced exterior courtyard and canopy accommodates canoes, kayaks and trip trailers. The fence is secured with an automatic gate and staff have secure access into the OAC storage/workroom of the facility via an overhead garage door

Relationship between facility design and staffing:

As previously mentioned, the facility programmatic areas are able to be sectioned off to operate areas with minimal staffing. Day-use lockers, three locker rooms and a classroom may be accessed without the entire building open for operation. The bike shop can be closed off and has separate hours from the overall facility. The building's focal point - the climbing center - is door-access controlled and can be accessed independently of the building's other areas.

The professional staff offices are located in the center of the facility. The office area has storefront glass walls, making it possible for the staff to observe the daily operations of the building. Their offices also directly connect to the Resource Room which doubles as a conference room/meeting space for the staff.

There is a service counter between the climbing center and the member services area, enabling patrons to simultaneously stay within the secure area of the climbing center but directly communicate service needs to the staff members.

Innovative construction materials or methods:

The flooring surface in the climbing center and the exterior climbing wall is Playguard Safety Surfacing. This material is typically used in playground areas, used in this instance to provide the require fall rating for the wall as well as be aesthetically pleasing. There are two air pears located in the climbing center. The pears aid in circulation of the area and provide for a better balance of overall temperature of the high ceiling space.

Sustainable/Green features/Leed Rating:

The Outdoor Adventures Center was designed for LEED Silver-equivalent standards. There is recycling for plastic, aluminum, paper and steel. The staff has worked with the UNL Sustainability Coordinator to discuss composting for their trip preparation waste. There are no paper towel dispensers in the building to avoid unnecessary waste. Bathroom and locker room fixtures are automatic and the urinals have low-flow features. Occupancy sensors throughout the building accommodate lighting in use-specific areas.

A major focus of the building is to promote bike commuting to campus. The facility has 22 bike lockers (11 units) for rent; Individuals renting a bike locker have 24/7 access to the locker rooms via the door card access system. Members of the UNL community may also purchase a commuter pass allowing them access to the shower facilities. The intent is to lessen both the volume and carbon footprint of cars traveling to campus.

Use of technology and how it benefits the customer, staff and/or budget:

The building's access doors are on the University's card reader system. Doors are scheduled for open hours of operation and/or access can be granted to individuals. A security camera system is installed with eight surveillance cameras. One camera is solely dedicated to the exterior bouldering and climbing wall, allowing staff inside the building to observe the outside activities.

Several digital signage boards are placed throughout the building with up-to-the-minute details about classes, programs and other building use. This allows patrons a user-friendly method of browsing Outdoor Adventures offerings while decreasing signage budget. These signage boards are also connected with the University's alert system and can be controlled by University Communications at any time to display emergency messages.