Visions in Leisure and Business

An International Journal of Personal Services, Programming, and Administration
Visions in Leisure and Business

There is a growing demand for information about leisure and business processes that apply to personal services, programming, and administration. Leisure is those services and activities engaged in during time that is free from duty or obligation. It is a vehicle that helps the individual change his life, thereby, making a more positive contribution to his organization and society.

VISIONS IN LEISURE AND BUSINESS is an interdisciplinary umbrella that seeks to improve delivery systems. Business processes in the leisure service industry are different because they are based upon freedom of decision as well as supply and demand. The purpose of the journal is isolation and integration of those business processes that relate to the leisure service industry. Leisure and its associated services have a unique impact upon the business institution, especially in its ability to act as a catalyst to improve the individual and his/her environment. This journal will help to improve and broaden current theory and applied methods through stimulation of ideas among traditional and nontraditional aspects of the leisure and business institution.

VISIONS IN LEISURE AND BUSINESS will not compete with existing journals, but act as a complement to fill the void between the application of leisure sciences and business processes. The first step is the exchange of ideas to give direction to the development of a comprehensive framework for the better application of information. There have been eight conceptual categories identified where professionals need information:

Category I: Information or models about leisure and business processes

Category II: Technology for the practical application of leisure processes

Category III: Information about the service industry to develop theory as well as practical information about how to sell and buy products and services

Category IV: Service industry characterizations, that is, new innovative products along with methodology in how to use them

Category V: Biographical characterization of individual who has made a major contribution along with ideas about the status of the profession

Category VI: Characterization of an educational program and requirements needed to enter a particular segment of profession

Category VII: Consumer related issues in terms of better utilizing resources to obtain more from products and services

Category VIII: Biographical characterizations to assess innovative programs with regard to effectiveness of techniques used

The success of the journal depends directly upon interaction among professionals and their contributions.

There is an unprecedented demand for leisure and only through better management and the application of business processes will the current demand be met by an expanding industry. The application of sound leisure and business principles is one way to control future development of the leisure institution so that it will have a major positive impact on society.
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This volume of VISIONS IN LEISURE AND BUSINESS is dedicated to papers developed from research which was presented during the 1993 Research Symposium of the Resort and Commercial Recreation Association. The 1993 Conference marked the 13th year practitioners, educators and students from all over North America came together to discuss issues related to the broad field of resort and commercial recreation.

This year's "Best Paper Award" was given to John Crotts and Laurel Reid for their paper, "Segmenting the Visitor Market by the Timing of Their Activity Decisions." Their paper, which examines the behavior of tourists, challenges us to rethink the conventional approaches used to promote destinations and programs and services offered therein. Holdnak, Drogin and Graefe also probe into the behavior of visitors in their paper, "A Comparison of Resident and Visitor Attitudes Toward Experiential Impacts, Environmental Conditions and Management Strategies on the Delaware Inland Bays." While these papers force the reader to question management and marketing strategies employed by agencies in the commercial recreation/tourism sectors, Ralston, in her paper, "The Influence of the Need for Affiliation and Travel Profiles in Shifts of Motivations for Travel," suggests that we still do not understand the primary motives of individuals traveling for pleasure and as such may not be doing an adequate job of meeting their needs.

Sheffield, et al. in their papers addressed resort and commercial recreation from the perspective of the provider. They recognize the value of resorts in the broadcast sense--from provision of traditional recreation opportunities to selling the property as a film location.

These papers and those printed in earlier versions of VISIONS provide us with a small glimpse of the concerns being faced by professionals in resort and commercial recreation. It is my hope that the work in this volume challenges your notion of resort and commercial recreation and provokes you to conduct your own research that will enhance the validity and visibility of the field.