Starting From Scratch: Creating a Business Plan That Works



NIRSA 2004 Annual Conference April 21st

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Why Business Planning Is Important
- Understanding The Basics
- Using Financial Models To Support Your Plan
- Q & A
- Wrap-up



Introduction





Introduction



Today's Speaker

- Paul Brailsford CEO, Brailsford & Dunlavey
 - Firm Has Worked on Over 100 Sports & Recreation Projects (ranging from 35,000 SF to over 400,000 SF)
 - ► Economics / Project Finance / Strategic Planning



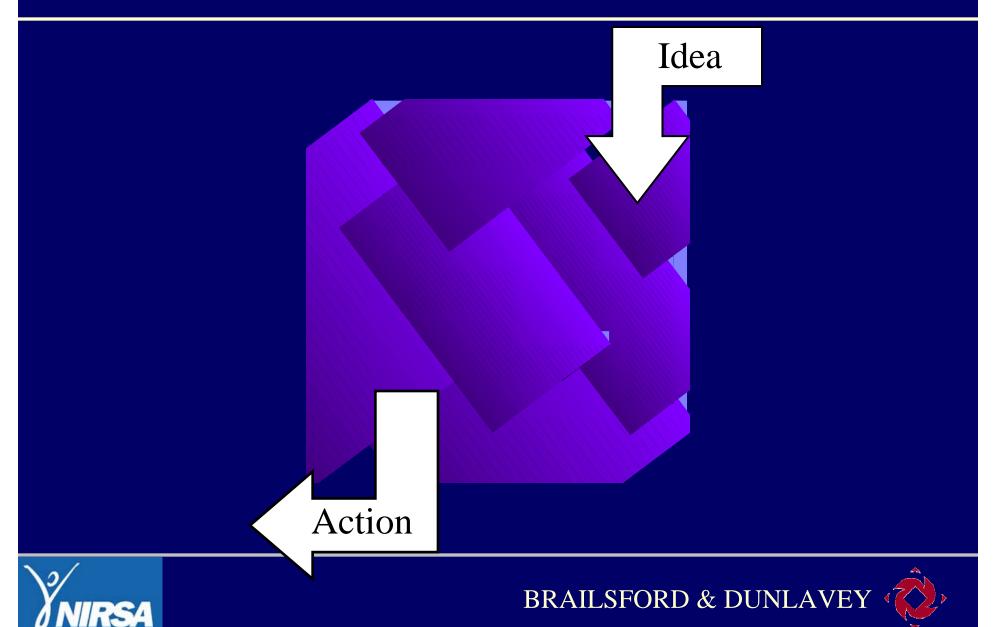


Ray Meyer Center - A Case Study





Why Business Planning Is Important



Operating Principle

The greatest impediment to progress

is not ignorance,

but the illusion of knowledge



Why Do We Need A Business Plan?

- Internal Decision-making
 - ▶ Programming, Design & Construction
 - ► Annual Operating Issues & Non-capital Investments
- Management Tool
 - Blueprint for Managers
 - Annual Performance Evaluation
 - Institutionalization of Culture
- External Decision-making & Approvals



About Design

"Design is an integrated and disciplined process of solving the problems and satisfying the requirements that are documented in the building program"



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Therefore, design is inextricably linked to a previous planning process called programming



What is Programming?

Programming is the iterative process of seeking, defining and documenting the problems that must be solved by the project's design team.



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Problem Seeking?

What are we looking for and where do we start looking?





What is a Recreation Center?

- Speculative Building Choice (market forces)
- Community Building Shared Value (target markets)
- Sports Facility
 Scheduling (priorities)
- Business Operation
 Efficiency (bottom line)
- Strategic Asset
 Mission (the reason)





What is a Recreation Center?

- Speculative Building
- Community Building
- Sports Facility
- Learning Center
- Business Operation
- Strategic Asset

Programming is inextricably linked to market analysis, financial analysis, business planning & strategic planning



Market Forces - Demand Shifts

Conservative Funding Aggressive Financing

Student Focus Entire University
Community Focus

Modest Customer

Expectations

Increasingly Consumer

Oriented Society

Limited Range of Increased Service Quality /
Services & Programs Expanded Menu of Value

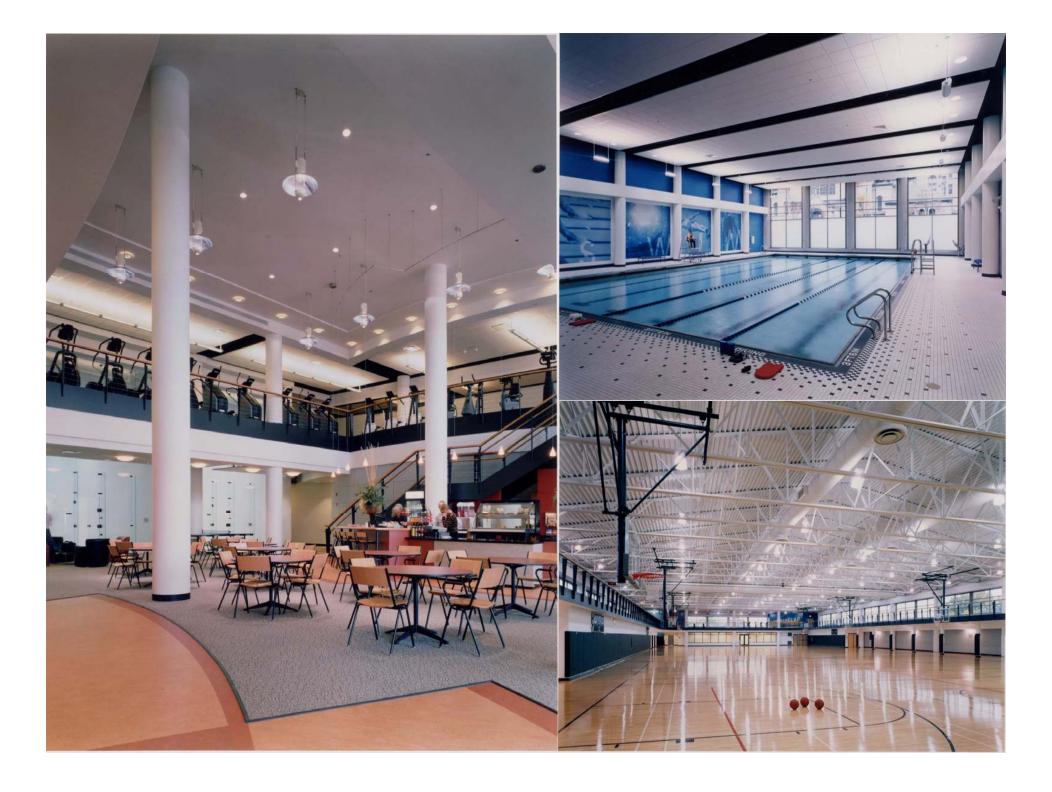
Increased Financial New Entrepreneurial
Performance Mindset Required



Added Services







- 1. Case Statement
- 2. Feasibility / Economic Justification
- 3. Operating Paradigm / Service Delivery & Pricing Strategy
- 4. Organizational Structure & Staffing Plan
- 5. Marketing Plan & Budget
- 6. Risk Mitigation Plan
- 7. Implementation Schedule



- 1. Case Statement
 - a. Mission Statement
 - i. What services?
 - ii. Services for who?
 - iii. What are the targeted outcomes?
 - iv. Why are the outcomes mission relevant?



- 1. Case Statement
 - a. Mission Statement
 - b. Current Conditions / Practices / Limitations
 - i. Facilities
 - ii. Financial condition (operating budget / reserves)
 - iii. Staff (quantity & skills)







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 - iv. Services & Policies
 - v. Outcomes (positive / unattainable / negative)



- 1. Case Statement
 - a. Mission Statement
 - b. Current Conditions / Practices / Limitations
 - c. Projected Conditions & Targeted Outcomes
 - i. Facilities
 - ii. Financial condition (operating budget / reserves)
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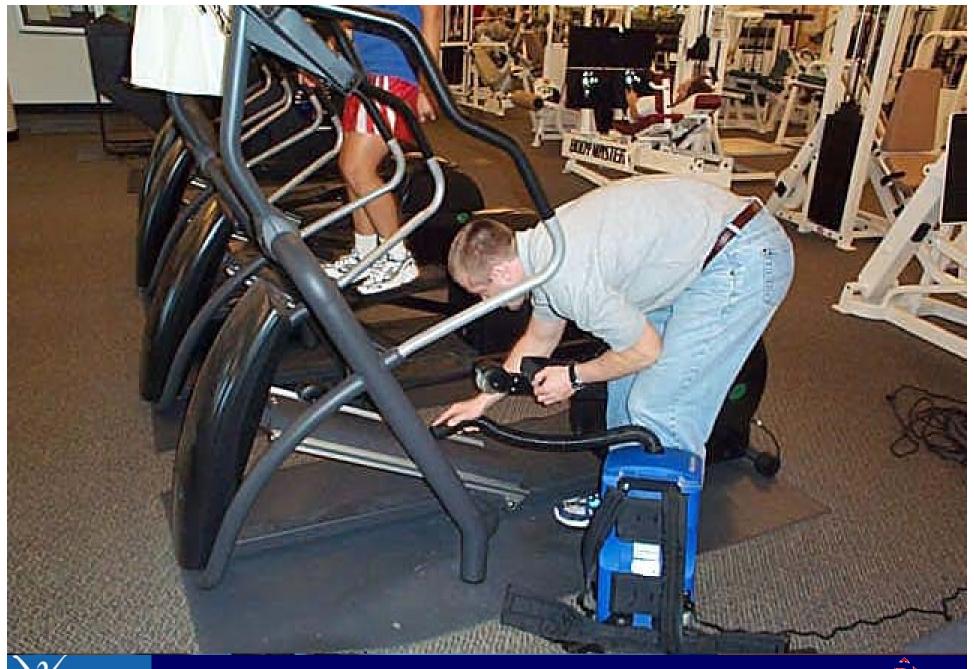


BRAILSFORD & DUNLAVEY



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 - i. Facilities
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 - iv. Services & Policies
 - v. Outcomes (positive)







- 1. Case Statement
 - a. Mission Statement
 - b. Current Conditions / Practices / Limitations
 - c. Projected Conditions & Targeted Outcomes
 - d. Investment or Action Decision(s) Required
 - i. Facility / student fee / debt
 - ii. Additional staff (FTE)
 - iii. Related policies



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- 2. Financial Feasibility & Justification
 - a. Direct Market Research
 - b. Competitive Analysis
 - c. Financial Analysis & Projections
 - d. Industry Standards & Benchmarks
 - e. Third Party Authority & Other Factual Support
 - f. The Risk of Doing Nothing



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- 3. Operating Paradigm / Service Delivery / Prices
 - a. Income Generating Strategy
 - b. Target Service Quality
 - c. Membership Benefit Packages









- 3. Operating Paradigm / Service Delivery / Prices
 - a. Income Generating Strategy
 - b. Target Service Quality
 - c. Membership Benefit Packages
 - d. Pricing & Constituent Access Philosophy



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- 4. Organizational Structure & Staffing Plan
 - a. Reporting Structure & Managerial Responsibilities







- 4. Organizational Structure & Staffing Plan
 - a. Reporting Structure & Managerial Responsibilities
 - b. Recruiting Strategy
 - c. Compensation Plan
 - d. Full-time / Part-time Staff Distribution By Function







- 4. Organizational Structure & Staffing Plan
 - a. Reporting Structure & Managerial Responsibilities
 - b. Recruiting Strategy
 - c. Compensation Plan
 - d. Full-time / Part-time Staff Distribution By Function
 - e. Contracting Strategy (in-house vs. outsourced capacities)







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- 5. Marketing Plan & Budget
 - a. Media Utilization (budget)
 - b. Direct Mail Plan (budget)
 - c. Patron Development / Customer Service Plan (budget)
 - d. Information Technology Plan (budget)



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- 6. Risk Mitigation Plan
 - a. Identification of Potential Problems
 - i. Market demand shifts
 - ii. Fee base (enrollment stability)
 - iii. Increased competition (off-campus / other schools)
 - iv. Increased operating costs (utilities, salaries, replacements)
 - b. Risk Mitigation & Contingency Plans
 - i. Pre-opening period
 - ii. Start-up period
 - iii. On-going research & quality control initiatives





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- 7. Implementation Schedule
 - a. Pre-opening period
 - i. Design & construction
 - ii. Staff development (recruitment, training & contracting)
 - iii. Systems development & integration (marketing, memberships, service delivery)
 - iv. Program development
 - v. Marketing & public relations
 - b. Start-up period

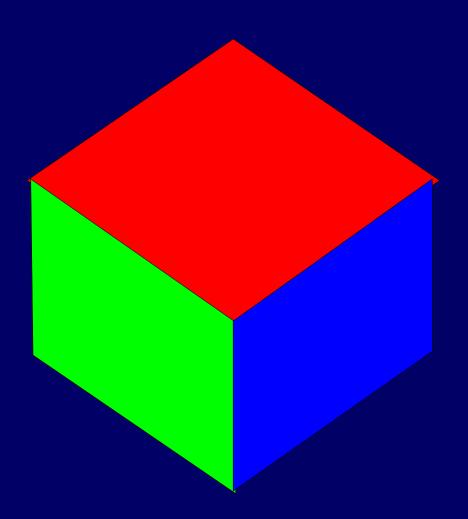


Key Quality Control Tips

- Address the Audience Appropriately
 - Background Knowledge
 - Target The Right Issues / Questions / Concerns
- ✓ Treat "Why" Explanations as the Most Important
- ✓ Be Specific & Back-up Facts
- Limit the Length (40 pages + exhibits)
- **✓** Ensure Internal Consistency

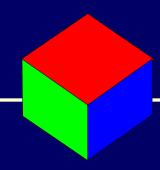


Using Integrated Financial Models





Using Financial Models



Integrated Model Components

- Outline Program
- Target Building Efficiency Model
- Capital Budget With FF&E Schedule
- Building Capacity Model
- Preliminary Income Statement



Using Financial Models

Integrated Comprehensive Model Components

Detailed Assumptions

■Ten Year Pro forma

Start-up vs Stability











A Word From Yogi

"What gets us in trouble is not what we don't know, it's what we know for certain that just ain't so."



Key Points



- Plan Your Planning Effort
 - ► Use an Appropriate Level of Detail
 - ► Macro (strategies & targets) => Micro (detailed answers)
 - ▶ Target Your Audience & Answer The Right Questions
- Commit To An Integrated & Iterative Process
 - Reconcile Revenues With Building Capacities & Expenses
 - Be Prepared to Respond to Market & Societal Trends With Innovative Ideas
 - Create Living Models to Support Long-term Planning Continuity





Looking Forward

"The future is not a result of choices among alternative paths offered by the present, but rather a place that is created - created first in mind and will, created next in activity. The future is not some place we are going to, but one we are creating."

John Schaar - Futurist



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