



Esports

#Take FLIGHT
Board of Trustees
March 17, 2021

What is Esports?



A person is seen from behind, standing in a dark room and pointing their right index finger towards a large, brightly lit screen. The screen displays a game interface with various elements: a top menu bar with icons, a central map or game area, and a bottom status bar. The person is wearing a dark jacket and pants. The room is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the screen itself. The overall atmosphere is one of focus and engagement with the game.

How **BIG**
is the gaming industry?

History of Esports



- Pac-Man? Ms. Pac-Man? Space Invaders? Atari?
- “online competitive video gaming played through computers and electronic consoles” (Laramie County Community College, [n.d.], Esports: information, p.1)
- First contest held 1972
 - Prize subscription to Rolling Stone magazine
- Team size—based on game
 - 1 person to 6 people



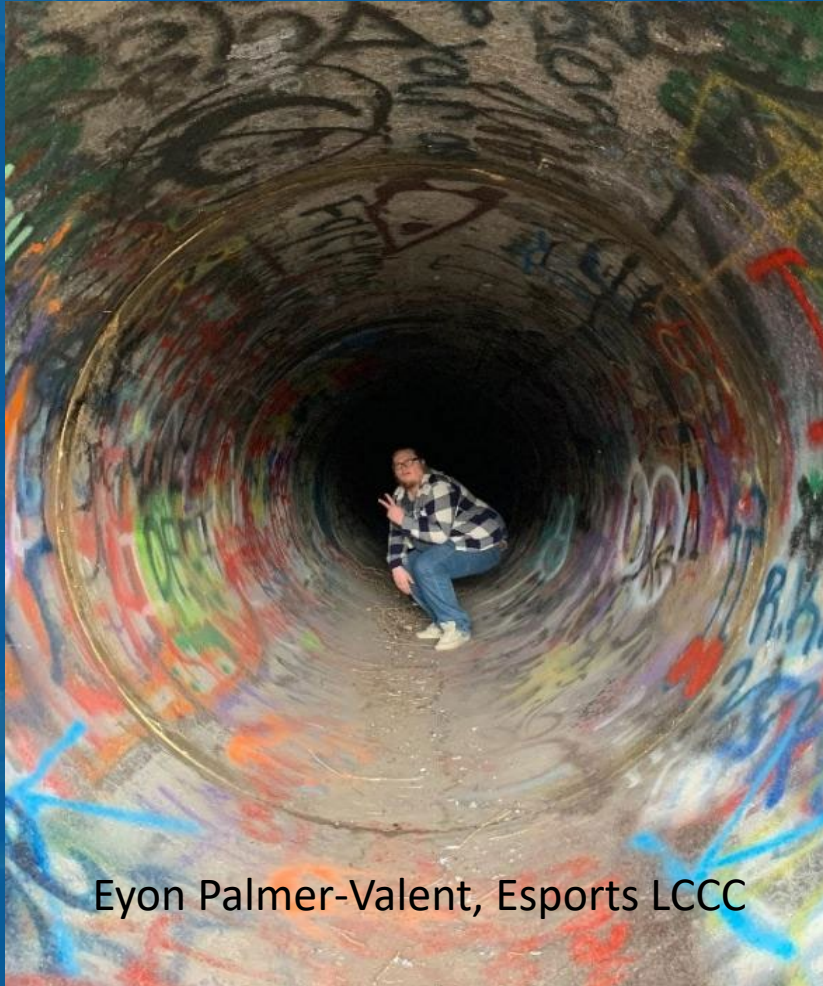
History (cont'd)



- Viewership rivals traditional sports
- 2018 League of Legends World Championships 200 million viewers
 - More than NCAA Final Four and the Super Bowl
- Competitions occur in “arenas”
 - Our arena is the Merrell Student Activity Lounge
- Season length = 12 weeks
 - Fall season & Spring season



Why Esports?



Eyon Palmer-Valent, Esports LCCC

- Emerging Sport appeals to generation that grew up with interactive, virtual reality, multi player games
 - NJCAA (established 2019) over 80 member colleges & 1100 student athletes
 - 300% increase in participation from fall to spring

Why? Esports (Cont'd)



- Inclusive nature of Esports
- LCCC Esports club growth demonstrates student interest
- Recognized experts on campus to provide coaching
 - Scholarshipped SA function as team captain
- Unique fundraising streams allow for diversification of fundraising options
 - Esports compete; winnings (equipment/money) go to LCCC
 - College decides where those winnings go
- Allows LCCC & Golden Eagle Athletics to lead

Why?



- Merrell Student Activity Lounge “home of Esports”
- Aligns with initiative to recruit & increase women in STEM
- At LCCC all the parts exist = bring together parts & implement

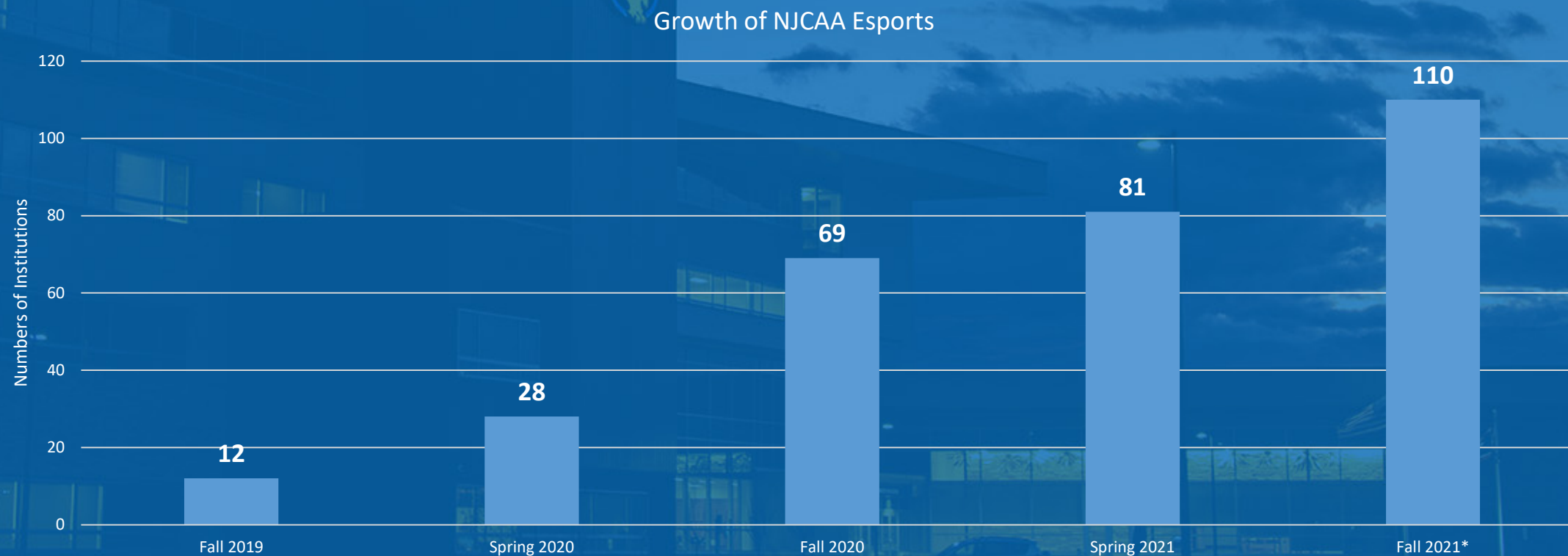
Esports at LCCC



- Fall 2018 Esports Committee developed
 - Esports Club 2019 6 students
- Fall 2019 Athletic Strategic Plan in development
- Spring 2020 Golden Eagle Athletics Strategic Plan approved
 - “wise exploration of areas for potential expansion of Golden Eagle Athletics offerings”
- Spring 2021 Esports Club 31 members—25 men; 6 women



Growth of NJCAA sports



By Semester

* Indicates anticipated membership



Esports in REGION IX

Currently Offering Esports	In the Process of Adding Esports	Esports Under Consideration	Esports Part of Long-Range Plans	Not currently Considering
Trinidad State Junior College (FA 21)	Northeastern Junior College	Lamar Community College	Casper College	Western Wyoming Community College
Northwest College (FA 21)		North Platte Community College		Luna Community College
Central Wyoming College (FA 21)		McCook Community College		
Laramie County Community College		Otero Junior College		
		Western Nebraska Community College		

Financial Forecast Esports*



Item	Revenue/ Expenditure
Coach, part-time	\$15,000
E-Sports Scholarship	\$20,000
NJCAA Membership	\$ 1,500
Team Uniforms—Jersey (20 X \$30)	\$ 600
Playing Facility--Merrell Student Activity Lounge	\$ 000
Equipment—Bring Your Own Device	\$ 000
Three in state tuition, fees, room & board	\$ 46,116
Two in state tuition, fees, (no room & board)	\$ 15,744
Five WUE tuition, fees, room, & board	\$ 84,810
Ten State of Wyoming FTE/student	\$ 34,008.70
Net	\$143,578.70

Based on 10 new students*
Minimum team size of 20 students



Nathaniel Roof, Esports LCCC

Tentative timeline



- Approval by President's Cabinet (March 2021)
- Approval by Board of Trustees (March/April 2021)
- Internal search for Esports Coach (March/April 2021)
- Recruiting of Eathletes (April – August 2021)
- Join NJCAA (July 2021)
- Team arrives on campus (August 2021)
- Season commences—Fall 2021
12 Week Season (NJCAA has not finalized dates)
 - Spring 2022 season
 - Aligned with LCCC Rodeo with fall/spring seasons

Conclusion/Recommendations



- Esports is emerging sport growing rapidly
- Unique revenue streams
- Demonstrated high interest by LCCC students
- Enhance recruiting and retention
- Develop another avenue for inclusiveness for student body
- Recommend that Laramie County Community College Board of Trustees approves the addition of Esports



Questions?



THANK YOU!

References



Laramie County Community College. (n.d). Cost of attendance. Retrieved February 20, 2021 from <https://lccc.wy.edu/services/financialaid/costofattendance>

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