Robert Fornof Dr. McDonald 1 page summary January 23, 2012

Summary of JagTram System

Background:

I learned the most about the Jag Tram system when I was a freshman. At first, I was confused.

Where do the jag trams go? why they go on certain routes? Why are they not as time-dependable as most of the city transit systems?

I remember as a freshman waiting at the student center one time and then asking an upperclassman which one went to the humanities building. He said "the red route goes by there and the library, but it would be faster to just walk in that direction", I walked. I reached my class on time. This worked well. However, If I were this confused as a freshman, what about other newcomers? Most students as freshmen are so concerned with their classes and scheduling that most tend to not pay attention to transportation or how they get there. We currently have no freshman orientation video that covers where locations are in relation to the dorms or how to use all the transportation offered to them. As a result, newcomers can get confused to what goes where, and their modes of transportation.

My Experiences:

I took the JagTram from the top of the rec center parking lot to the student center. The route was the green one. There was one other person waiting at that stop. When I got on board, ten people were on already. The driver has a communication device (radio?) where he signals where he is leaving from. I am not sure where this communication goes. Is there a central location? Are there any outside sources that can help us with the system? Unfortunately I did not interview the driver -

I think they require focus on the road, but I do think that if we want to build a good system that will get used, we need to ask the drivers what specifications or ideas they might like implemented since they will most likely be the ones taking care of the android powered devices.

Most of the student were going back to the student center. I noticed we did this really inefficient loop around the bottom of the engineering building area. I do not recall seeing anyone get on or off there throughout my three years here. so why is this location here? How can we make it more accessible? Is there a better place for the stop? There was going to be a stop at the top of the hill, next to the gammas - near the track where I see a steady stream of people going back and forth to class. However, I noticed this stop at the top is only half built.

Is there a way to sync the class schedules of students with the jag tram system so its more efficient for all students?

I noticed the wait time is about 5-7 minutes during the lunch rush, and about 20-30 minutes on the late route (green route anyway)

I ride the tram if it is available and I found it is very useful getting from the student center to the dining hall.

In conclusion, I only rode it once "on purpose" last week for the report, but I am a "frequent flyer" on the JagTram system. The system works fine the way it is, but there is always room for improvement.