

Field Notes:

Dunn Bros Back Patio

10/11/2023

10:52am

Slightly chilly– comfortable to be outside with a jacket, but cold without

(10:52 am)

I decided to emphasize participation during this observation by conducting my observation as a member of a group during a weekly meeting with three of my teammates/fellow captains. I arrived at Dunn Bros at 10:52 AM. I did not want a drink, so I entered the back patio using the stairs. I was the first of my group to arrive, so I chose to sit at P3, because it offered me a decent vantage point of the space. Prior to my arrival, three people were already present on the patio. The first was an older man sitting on B2. He wore a lightweight red jacket and a yellow bandana around his neck. He had black wired headphones in, and was taking notes/writing by hand in a spiral notebook, using his legs as a desk. On the bench beside him was a canvas “New Yorker” tote bag and a robin’s egg blue backpack with buttons attached to it. The second was a pair of older men sitting at P2. I did not have the greatest view of them– the tree obscured them, but they were each wearing gloves and beanies/hats and lightweight jackets. They were dressed in relatively neutral colors and were chatting.

(10:56)

The first of my co-captains, Lucy, arrives. She waves and says hello to me as she walks up to my table, and sits directly across from me at the 4-bench table. She is wearing a black crew neck sweater and carrying a cold to-go cup. Amie enters the patio moments later and loudly says hello in a sing-songy voice. She gives me a big, drawn-out hug. When it’s over, Lucy says “my turn!” excitedly, and Amie repeats the process before sitting on the bench to my right (Lucy’s left). Amie states her “crisis of the moment” to be not knowing what she is wearing for winter ball– Lucy and I echo her concerns.

(11:00)

Olivia arrives at the table and greets each of us. She is holding a warm drink in a to-go cup and is wearing a mask. We chat loudly for a few minutes before mellowing out and beginning our work. Olivia asks Amie if she would like to take on merchandise design/communications with vendors and Amie enthusiastically says yes.

(11:10)

Amie leaves to go to work. She says that she will get to work on the merchandise plan and have it ready by November 4th, the day before our open-participation scrimmage. Lucy, Olivia, and I stay to continue our meeting, discussing our plan for the week and the emails that we need to send as practice reminders.

(11:18)

An employee, possibly the proprietor, wearing a red button down shirt and gray pants, takes an empty push cart through the patio. He shortly returns with a large, burlap bag of coffee beans and takes them inside through the employees only door.

(11:24)

A Mac student, an acquaintance of mine, enters from inside, carrying a warm to-go cup and a brown paper pastry bag. He wears a yellow crew neck waffle shirt and a windbreaker. On his way through the patio he acknowledges us/me by waving and nodding hello. He sits at P4 and opens his laptop to do work alone and silently. Lucy, Olivia, and I continue our meeting, planning a team bonding activity for Sunday the 15th.

(11:36)

Two new female-presenting individuals enter the patio from inside. The first sits at B2 with a hot drink in a to-go cup on T1 to her left. She wears a denim jacket, striped pants, black boots, has a claw clip in her hair, and a black crossbody bag that she does not take off. She uses her phone. The second woman sits at P1. She wears green sweatpants and a white knit cardigan with over the ear headphones. She places a canvas tote bag on the table in front of her. She does work on her laptop, but also takes notes by hand in a little notebook.

(11:41)

Another male-presenting Mac student enters the patio from the back parking lot. He wears a red sweater and jeans, carries a canvas tote bag, and wears over the ear headphones. He acknowledges the Mac student at P4, but does not stop or slow down to chat. He enters the establishment through the door. Shortly after the Mac student at P4 gathers his things to leave. He exits quietly and uses the stairs– he does not go inside.

(11:46)

Lucy stands up to leave for her epidemiology class. She says goodbye to Olivia and I, but continues standing up by the table and chatting with us before exiting the patio at 11:50. As she leaves she puts on her over-ear headphones and leaves up the stairs, throwing out her to-go cup in the trash can as she passes it.

(11:50)

Olivia and I stay sitting at the table, but we do not continue chatting– I continue my observation and she works silently beside me. The men at P2 stand up to leave. They are not very loud, but their conversation can be heard throughout the patio. They each say goodbye and that it was nice to see the other, then both leave the patio through the indoor space.

(11:52)

I inform Olivia that my observation is wrapping up and that I am heading out. I wish her luck with all of her homework and her potential covid exposure, and give her a quick hug before leaving the field. I leave the patio at 11:54am, and I exit using the stairs.