EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
ACADEMIC AND APPELLATE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018 Academic Year

COMMITTEE: University Athletics Committee
(4 page limit, please)

1. Membership (include ex-officio members).

Regular Members: Michael Harris, Mark Moore, Vice-Chair, Kathy Cox, Secretary, Scott Carter, Chal Benson, Liz Doster, Alex Durland.
Ex-officio Members w/ vote: Cal Christian, Eli Hvastkovs, Pamela Hopkins, Imran Ahmed.
Ex-officio Members w/o vote: Matt Militello, Sharon Rogers, Jeff Compher, Nita Boyce, Jamie Johnson, Becky Jordan.

2. Meeting Dates (include members present).

Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 3:30 PM
Regular Member Attendees: Michael Harris, Kathleen Cox, Scott Carter, Chal Benson, Alex Durland, Mark Moore. Ex-officio Members (with vote): Eli Hvastkovs, Cal Christian, Pam Hopkins Ex-officio Members (without vote): Jeff Compher, Matt Militello, Sharon Rogers, Nita Boyce
Guests: Donna Kain

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 3:30 PM
Regular Member Attendees: Michael Harris, Kathleen Cox, Scott Carter, Chal Benson, Alex Durland, Mark Moore, Liz Doster
Ex-officio Members (with vote): Cal Christian, Imran Ahmed
Ex-officio Members (without vote): Jeff Compher, Sharon Rogers, Nita Boyce, Becky Jordan
Guests: Danielle Morrin

Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 3:30 PM
Regular Member Attendees: Michael Harris, Kathleen Cox, Scott Carter, Chal Benson, Alex Durland, Mark Moore
Ex-officio Members (with vote): Imran Ahmed, Eli Hvastkovs, Pam Hopkins
Ex-officio Members (without vote): Jeff Compher, Sharon Rogers, Nita Boyce
Guests: Jennifer Bonner

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 3:30 PM
Regular Member Attendees: Michael Harris, Kathleen Cox, Scott Carter, Chal Benson, Alex Durland, Mark Moore
Ex-officio Members (with vote): Imran Ahmed, Eli Hvastkovs
Ex-officio Members (without vote): Nita Boyce, Matt Militello, Jamie Johnson
Guests: Shelley Vinegar

February 27, 2018, 3:30 PM
Regular Member Attendees: Michael Harris, Kathleen Cox, Scott Carter, Chal Benson, Alex Durland, Liz Doster Taft
Ex-officio Members (with vote): Eli Hvastkovs, Cal Christian, Pamela Hopkins
Ex-officio Members (without vote): Jeff Compher, Nita Boyce, Sharon Rogers Moore, Becky Jordan
Guests: Jacob Moore
March 27, 2018, 3:30 PM
Regular Member Attendees:  Michael Harris, Mark Moore, Alex Durland, Chal Benson
Ex-officio Members (with vote):  Cal Christian, Imran Ahmed
Ex-officio Members (without vote):  Matt Militello, Sharon Rogers Moore, Nita Boyce, Becky Jordan
Guests:  Kelly Barnhill, Mike Hanley

3. Subcommittees established during the year (include progress and/or completion of work).

October 24, 2017, 4:15 PM

Meeting of Fall 2017 Academic Performance Sub-Committee. Members present for this portion of the meeting: Cox, Harris, Benson, Carter, Durland, Hvastkovs, Hopkins, Christian, Boyce

The Academic Performance Sub Committee, consisting of faculty members with a vote (regular members and ex-officio) met with Nita Boyce to review Spring 2017 GPAs for all student athletes on all sports. Discussion regarding individual teams took place and Boyce provided clarification as needed for certain sports. The committee did not have any specific areas of concern to report.

Meeting of Spring 2018 Academic Performance Sub-Committee. Members present for this portion of the meeting: Cox, Harris, Benson, Carter, Christian, Boyce

The academic comparison of previous fall semesters was reviewed. Boyce answered questions as needed. The Fall 2017 Academic Report was also reviewed. Christian provided background information when questions were asked about specific sports. Christian recommended putting forward a memo to Compher about any committee concerns, particularly for football and men's basketball. The committee agreed and a memo will be drafted and distributed to Jeff Compher on March 14, 2018.

4. Accomplishments during the year. Please include recommendations made to any University agency other than the Faculty Senate.

- Received monthly updates from AD, FAR, and support services from the Department of Athletics. Guests ranged from life skills coordinator to athletic trainers and compliance. In addition, the committee heard from student athletes representing SAAC.
- Also received monthly information about facilities improvements and strategic directions of the Department of Athletics.
- Worked with Department of Athletics support team to share faculty concerns and learn more detailed information about the student-athlete experience.
- Continued to review of the academic progress reports by the Academic Integrity Sub-Committee.
- Continued to review of the student athlete questionnaire which generates feedback from the students on various topics.
- Reviewed the course clustering audit performed this past year in the Department of Athletics.

5. Reports to the Faculty Senate (include dates and resolution numbers).

Eli Hvastkovs (Chair from 2016-17 AY) represented the UAC at the Faculty Senate meeting on November 14, 2017. The recommendation from the UAC was to withdraw from The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. This recommendation was supported and approved as outlined below.
Resolution #17-72
Request that ECU withdraw from The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics.
Approved by the Faculty Senate: November 14, 2017
Approved by the Chancellor: December 14, 2017

6. Business carried over to next year (list in priority order).

b. Discussion of changes to the academic support suite in the Ward Sports Med Building, with a focus on how this impacts tutoring schedules, classroom assignments, and other academic services.
c. Discussion on communication between athletics and academic services to ensure consistent policies. This includes the connection between practice schedules and course registration, and the need for effective communication between coaches, administrators and academic services to best serve the needs of student-athletes.

7. Evaluation of the committee (include anything that hindered or assisted the committee's work during the year).
A. Charge: Appropriate
B. Personnel: Appropriate, with the need to fill any openings. Also, the UAC supports the addition of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (or designee) as an ex-officio member without vote on the committee (as proposed by the Committee on Committees)
C. Attendance: Good
D. Responsibilities: The Committee is concerned with issues pertaining to intercollegiate athletics at East Carolina University. The Committee's primary functions are oversight responsibility in the area of academic integrity, compliance with NCAA rules and regulations, and the overall development of student athletes.
E. Activities: Appropriate and productive

8. Suggestion(s) to the Chair of the Faculty for improving the effectiveness of the committee. None

9. Does the Committee's organizational meeting next year need to be earlier than the date set this year? No
If yes, when do you prefer: ________________________________

Signed: Chairperson ________________
Vice Chair ________________
Secretary ________________

Please forward the completed, approved annual report to the Faculty Senate office via email (facultysenate@ecu.edu) no later than May 1, 2018.
Memo

To:    Jeff Compher, Director of Athletics

From:  Michael Harris, Chair of the University Athletics Committee

Date:  March 14, 2018

RE:  Concerns from the UAC academic sub-committee

The members of the UAC held our semi-annual academic sub-committee meeting after our last regular meeting on February 27. We discussed the materials provided by Nita Boyce in regards to the academic performance of all ECU athletic teams. Overall, our student-athletes are performing very well in the classroom and the cumulative GPA remains above a 3.0. This is certainly a point of pride for the Department of Athletics and the University.

However, there are outliers that the sub-committee members felt that we must acknowledge. Two teams, men’s basketball and football, had several players performing well below academic standards for the Fall 2017 semester. Unfortunately, for men’s basketball this seems to be a trend as this was also problematic when we reviewed academic performance last year. We as faculty members are concerned about the academic performance of these teams and hope that leaders of these programs have an appropriate plan in place to remedy the situation. Each ECU team impacts our reputation and we are all committed to the academic mission of the University. This review of academic performance, along with the number of dismissals, transfers, or non-graduating players on these two teams can potentially impact the academic reputation of all our student-athletes.

The past record of the Department of Athletics indicates a willingness to address academic concerns based on feedback from the UAC sub-committee. Therefore, we want to convey our concerns to you through this memo and ask that you share any steps to rectify this academic situation at a future UAC meeting. Thank you for your timely attention to this matter.