

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE (UAC) MEETING MINUTES

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

1. Athletic dept. report by Jeff Compher

Compher provided an update on athletics events including homecoming, visiting a band practice, and other events including a career night for the student-athletes and a lacrosse scrimmage as well as updates on various teams' performance/records. Reported that Nita Boyce and Compher are doing an academic check with each team including Starfish reviews and conversations with the teams' leadership. Indicated that he would like to avoid academic surprises and this proactive approach helps them keep on top of academics. Compher also passed out the Athletics organizational chart and reviewed it with the committee. Described a new system of having a secondary team administrator which is a change from previous years where there was only one team administrator. This provides more resources for each team. Compher informed the committee they would start receiving the biweekly email "Pirate Outlook" that has all the events going on in athletics including community service, games, and other events.

2. FAR update

Christian provided an update about FAR activities. He invited the committee to come to events and even team practices to learn more about the student-athletes. Christian reported how much the students do appreciate faculty taking an interest in their activities. Christian and Boyce reported that they have about 50% feedback on the student-athlete reports they request from faculty each semester. The committee was encouraged to remind their colleges to have their faculty to increase responsiveness to these requests for academic updates. Christian reported there will be renovations to the study hall area for the student-athletes in the near future. Christian reminded the committee to help recruit proposals for the AAC FAR conference.

3. Discussion with Danielle Morrin, Director of Life Skills, Athletics

Morrin explained the Life Skills and the seven commitments it focuses on. Their big focus this year is an increase in career services with a specific career counselor designated for the student-athletes (Sarah Lage). Morris described the student-athlete career networking event with 20 employers to have student-athletes practice how they present themselves to employers. Ninety-seven student athletes attended the event. They felt like this was a good number and feedback from the students and employers was good. Another feature will be including the student-athletes resumes' with the press release on student-athlete graduations. In the future there will be events focused on the needs of specific student-athletes such as first-year students, sophomores who need to have a major and need help choosing, and other focused groups. They are using the COAD classes to help provide consistency with the messages they get regarding student life topics. She described numerous programs provided through her office to ensure the student-athletes receive well-rounded support in life skills development. With NCAA time management legislation that came last year, they have had

to scale back community service events. They can no longer require students to attend community service events on their off days. This has helped increase the students' interest in events because they can choose ones that fit their schedule rather than being told to be in a certain place on a specific day. She also explained the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and its activities. Rogers had a question about tracking students after graduation and Morrin provided some details on the tracking they are trying to do prior to graduation to then keep up with them after graduation as well. She explained the Most Valuable Professor program and noted how the student-athletes really enjoy inviting faculty to this event each game.

Next meeting is November 28, 2017 at 3:30 PM in the Pat Draughon Conference Room in the Ward Sports Medicine Building.

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 PM

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Cox