

COMMITTEE: University Athletics Committee
MEETING DATE: January 26, 2012
PERSON PRESIDING: Stacey Altman

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Stacey Altman, Mike Felts, A.J. Jacobs, Stephanie Jilcott, Ziwei Lin, Rodney Roberts

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS (with vote) IN ATTENDANCE: David Dosser

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS (without vote) IN ATTENDANCE:

Cal Christian, Nita Boyce, Rosie Thompson, Mike Albers, Nick Floyd, Nancy Mize, Kelly Derby (for Rachel Fuller –SAAC representative)

Others in attendance: Gary Overton, Jamie Johnson

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: 1.0 Call to order 3:30 p.m. 265 Ward Sports Medicine Building

Agenda Item: 2.0 Consideration of Approval of minutes from December 8, 2011 meeting

Action Taken: Minutes from December 8th approved.

Agenda Item: 3.0 Reports from Athletic Department Representatives

Discussion

3.1. David Dosser, Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) Report

3.1.1 Update in ASC Activities: D. Dosser updated the UAC on the activities of the ASC (Academic Success Committee). His report included an update on the attendance policy and its enforcement. D. Dosser noted that upon his arrival, Coach Holland implemented a policy and the policy and process have been evolving ever since. The current process seems to be working well. N. Boyce and N. Floyd described the process and noted that feedback from the athletes and coaches has been considered and incorporated (e.g. Monday rather than Sunday midnight deadline). K. Derby, ECU SAAC representative (sitting in for R. Fuller) to the UAC, noted that a second reminder email (after the initial Thursday reminder) might be helpful and she provided N. Boyce with some feedback regarding what might help with “at-risk” athletes. N. Floyd noted that an across the board approach to activities (i.e. attendance in class) that have the potential to affect the APR scores of individual teams is needed as the success (or lack thereof) can have implications for the entire athletic program in terms of penalties issued by the NCAA and of course, to institutional reputation. N. Floyd also confirmed that the department has hired some additional graduate assistants to help with implementing the policy and improving the academic performance of students that are also part of university sponsored athletics.

3.1.2 Other: D. Dosser provided information regarding the NCAA Convention he recently attended. Discussion regarding the “collegiate model” ensued. S. Altman suggested some interaction with the College Sports Research Institute that may be useful for interested members of the group. Admission standards and continuing eligibility requirements are always topics of great debate and discussion. Financial situations and financial interests were also discussed. For example, the challenged presented by an athletic department with a \$30 million budget (like ECU’s) trying to compete with athletic

departments with more than \$100 million budgets. Again, all will be keeping an eye to the NCAA President's (Mark Emmert) leadership. (see <http://www.ncaa.org/president>) Some scholars and practitioners recommend seeking a Congressional revisiting on the NCAA and its position as it relates to antitrust law and the resulting issues. The role of faculty at institutions that are NCAA members is unclear at this time.

Finally D. Dosser briefly addressed and took questions on the disposition of the major NCAA violation that occurred last year. All Department of Athletics staff conveyed that they remain confident that the NCAA was, and continues to be, very satisfied with the way the incident was addressed by ECU (e.g task force, follow up on best practices, etc). That is also the case with the minor violation that occurred this year and is being addressed currently. It was noted that Coach Godwin has been suspended for two-week period and that the volunteer coaches that unknowingly committed the violation have paid restitution equivalent to the benefit received. Staff praised Jamie Johnson (and compliance staff) in his investigation and stewarding of the university through the process of a quick and certain response to the violation. Members of the UAC acknowledged J. Johnson and expressed again how important it is that the Compliance Office (reporting to the Chancellor) and Student Development Services (reporting to Enrollment Services) remain as independent as possible while still collaborating closely with the athletes, coaches, and administrators they serve in Athletics. Both J. Johnson and N. Boyce expressed to the Committee that the structure is a productive one. While no one complained of a lack of resources, it did/does appear to the UAC members that additional resources need to be directed to these areas.

3.2 Other Athletic Department Representatives

3.2.1 N. Floyd updated the group on potential conference affiliation options. Currently C-USA and the Mountain West are in talks regarding a merger of the two conferences. Many issues must be discussed, but of course, UAC was most interested in the impact to students that participate in athletics. A discussion regarding travel revealed some potential for improvement (e.g. not having to travel to UTEP each year). That discussion of travel led to a discussion of how a travel plan/option is reached. It was revealed that coaches, for the most part, have considerable influence, if not control, in the option selected. With the time it takes for commercial air travel, some coaches are opting for busing. It was also noted that chartering flights does reduce time away from campus and permits for planning (e.g. can better take advantage of academic support programs at host schools). Graduation rates from 03-04 cohort discussed.

Action Taken: NA

Assigned additional duties to: N. Boyce will provide information on graduation rates at the next meeting. S. Altman will post some information from ASC to the UAC SharePoint site (collab.ecu.edu/sites/uac) (e.g. attendance policy, readings)

Agenda Item: 4.0 Subcommittee Reports

4.1 Gender Equity Plan Review Subcommittee (M. Felts reporting)

Proposed that the membership of the Gender Equity Plan Review Subcommittee be as follows: S. Altman, D. Dosser, M. Felts, R. Fuller, S. Jilcott, N. Mize, G. Overton, S. Rogers, P. Rolf, and R.Thompson-Smaw. The first meeting is scheduled for 3:30 on Tuesday January 31, 2012 in 265 Ward Sports Medicine Bldg.

4.2. Diversity Plan Review Subcommittee (S. Altman reporting)

Proposed that the membership of the Diversity Plan Review Subcommittee be as follows: S. Altman, Holly Bowen, A.J. Jacobs, Jordan Lewis, G. Overton, Patrick Roberts, and Melanie Sartore. A tentative date of February 9 has been forwarded for consideration for a meeting time.

The Office of Equity, Diversity, & Comm Relations agreed to be a resource for both subcommittees.

Action Taken: The membership of each subcommittee was approved by the UAC.

Assigned additional duties to: NA

S. Altman reminded the group that resources for this Committee are on the UAC SharePoint site and agreed to send a reminder as the web address of the site.

Agenda Item: 5.0 New Business

S. Altman reminded UAC of charge related to catalog and asked other than that, if the group had any ideas regarding the work of the UAC for the future

Action taken: NA

Assigned additional duties to: S. Altman will bring the catalog issues, if any, forward for consideration at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: February 9th, 2012 - 3:30pm, in 265 Ward Sports Medicine Building

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- Progress on plan reviews, Catalog review, graduation rate

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacey Altman Chair, University Athletics Committee

(S. Jilcott was in attendance for the later portion of the meeting but because of a presentation could not be attendance for the full meeting, thus S. Altman took the minutes).