

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE (UAC) MEETING MINUTES

September 24, 2019, 3:30 PM

Regular Member Attendees: Alex Durland, Mark Moore, Deborah Shoop, Mike Harris, Charles Meadows

Ex-officio Members (with vote): Cal Christian, Bob Kulesher, Matthew Miller

Ex-officio Members (without vote): Nita Boyce, Mark Sander, Alex Keddie, Sue-L Cohen

Guests: Crystal Chambers

1. Crystal Chambers, Vice Chair of the Faculty reviewed the charge and opened elections for chair of the committee. Deborah Shoop was elected chair and took over the meeting. Mike Harris was elected Vice Chair, and Alex Durland was elected Secretary.
2. Member Discussion:

Discussion began about establishing goals for the year. Several points of interest into the athletics program were brought up including: creating a subcommittee from the UAC to have individual contacts for different areas of athletics hoping to connect the department to this committee, looking into undergrad research opportunities, internships and study abroad/service learning for athletes and helping to better align university academics with academics from other AAC schools. We also discussed how to better involve athletes in typical undergrad student extracurricular activities, and the possibility of faculty mentors/points of contact for the different teams in athletics. Several ideas to better involve students in less popular sports including more exposure on main campus, broadcasting games and involvement with SGA.

Discussion about several speakers for the year to give us insight to athletics and direction toward this committee's goals, included further presentation from Alex Keddie on compliance, bringing in Jay Golden to discuss research opportunities, hearing more from student concerns with athletics, Danielle Morin life skills coordinator and other members of the athletic department.
3. Update from Faculty Athletics Representative (Cal Christian) Dr. Christian reported his role as Faculty Athletics Representative, and the importance of faculty oversight from this committee for the benefit of the student-athlete.
4. Goals for the new year will be proposed as follows:
 - a. Establish a method to educate/encourage involvement of student athletes as it relates to opportunities available to undergraduate students including but not limited to research involvement, extracurricular events, study abroad/service learning credits and internships.
 - b. Develop a plan to provide academic mentorship/faculty involvement as a reference for each of the different sports teams.
 - c. Facilitate better routes of communication between the athletics department and the student body as it relates to not only finance but marketing and exposure to all athletics events.

Next meeting is October 29, 2019 at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Alex Durland