

## UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMMITTEE (UAC) MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2020, 3:30 PM

Regular Member Attendees: Mike Harris, Alex Durland, Sharon Justice, Mark Moore, Charles Meadows, Peter Francia, Deborah Shoop

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

Ex-officio Members (without vote): Jon Gilbert, Mark Sanders, Alex Keddie, Chris Stansbury, Nita Boyce, Sue-L Cohen

Guests: Jennifer Bonner

1. Meeting was virtual via webex. Meeting opened with the call to approve minutes from the February 18th, 2020 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Deborah Shoop, seconded by Alex Durland, motion passed.
2. Update from Director of Athletics Jon Gilbert,: Jon gave an overview of NCAA Athletics the past few weeks, beginning with their decision to cancel the NCAA basketball tournament in leu of the covid-19 virus and ultimately the cancellation of all spring sport seasons. He went over the budget impact ranging from saving about 2 million dollars from no spring sports, to the lost revenue of no NCAA or conference tournaments, and a decline in pirate club donations and ticket sales. There is concern that cancellations could also affect sponsorship dollars in the future. Spring athletes were granted an additional year of eligibility which would significantly impact the budget with returning scholarship athletes. They are looking at ways to save other than cutting scholarships. As it relates to fall sports, he does not think football or other sports would start back without the student body returning to campus. Jon and his staff are constantly working to manage the evolving budget and its effects.
3. Update from Faculty Athletics Representative Cal Christian: Dr. Christian reviewed some of the academic effects of the covid-19 crisis and how they relate to athletics, including some students not able to take standardized testing, and the switch to pass/fail grading allowing continued eligibility. Summer school overall enrollment is down mostly limited to those who need hours for eligibility. Orientation has been moved virtual and there is still a plan to continue to have student athletes participate. Alex Keddie expanded on this, as she continues to meet with coaches to oversee compliance. She also mentions a possible June SAT test date that if cancelled with require waivers for a number of incoming student athletes. Student athletes still have access to Kristina Parrish for nutrition advice, and stay in contact with their coaches for work outs. There have been some setbacks with incoming international students in their visa application process. While there are still a lot of unknowns and ever changing issues with the student athlete and eligibility Alex and her staff have been meeting regularly to stay in compliance.
4. Update from Assistant Athletics Director for Student Development Nita Boyce. Nita went over the continuity of services contingency plan that the department has implemented for student athletes. That plan is attached below. Some of the highlights included laptops provided for students in need, mentorship as frequently as daily for high risk students,

and virtual advising/tutoring sessions. Jennifer Bonner reviewed the scheduling process for virtual webex tutoring sessions, and recorded sessions allow coordinators to review the sessions. Nita responded to a question about the role coach play in academics currently, by saying that they are still an important part meeting with students as frequently as daily to ensure academic success, and helping to set up student athletes with an academic coordinator. One concern she had was that often freshmen get a head start on eligibility and academic success with summer classes, a chance that many won't have this summer, something that could impact their overall academic success. Nita feels that the transition to virtual support services has been successful thus far.

5. Member Comments: Chris Stansbury mentioned his involvement with the transition to a virtual orientation, and a virtual graduation ceremony. He is hopeful they will be able to offer an additional recognition for graduation sometime in the fall possibly around a home football weekend. Mike Harris thanked all outgoing members for their service on this committee. The academic integrity sub-committee meeting will be postponed until an in-person meeting can be scheduled.

Next meeting is September 2020.

Respectfully submitted, Alex Durland

# **Continuity of Services – Contingency Plan**

## **Covid-19 Response**

**UAC Meeting, April 14, 2020**

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1. Student-Athlete Laptop/Internet Access
  2. Transition of Student Development Services to Online
    - a. Academic Advising and Registration Services
    - b. Academic Support Services
      - i. Academic Meetings with Coordinators and Learning Specialist
      - ii. Tutors, Mentors, APPs
      - iii. Freshman Transition
  3. Transition Evaluation
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### **1. Student-Athlete Computer/Internet Access**

All student-athletes were polled regarding computer access and internet availability.

11 = Did not have access to a computer

- 8 student-athletes picked up a student development laptop
- 3 student-athletes were shipped a student development laptop

11 = Already had a student development laptop checked out that needed updating.

- 11 student-athletes exchanged their student development laptop for an updated one.

### **2. Transition of Student Development Services to Online**

In line with campus operational guidelines and other campus offices (PASC, Writing Center, DSS, STEPP), the Office of Student Development transitioned all services, both academic advising and academic support services, to on-line as of March 23.

**a. Academic Advising and Registration Services**

- Student-athletes were given the option of conducting their advising meetings via phone, email or by video through a Webex, Facetime or other video meeting session.
- Students were provided an electronic registration form for return to their academic coordinator via email.
- Major advisor approval of courses was received via email.
- Student-athlete registration was completed by academic coordinators with no changes in normal operating procedures.

**b. Academic Support Services**

**i. Academic Meetings with Coordinators/Learning Specialists**

- Coordinators have continued their weekly academic meetings with their required student-athletes. Those are held in a video format and through whatever platform the student and coordinator agree upon. Webex, however, is the recommended system.
  - During these academic meetings, the coordinators continue, just as in F-2-F, to check grades, review due dates and announcements, help plan for upcoming work and provide general overall support for each course.
- Meetings with the learning specialist are conducted in the same online method as the academic coordinator meetings.

## **ii. Tutor, Mentor and APP Sessions**

### Number on Staff Pre/Post On-line Transition

- Prior to on-line transition = 56
- Desire to continue position virtually = 50
- Current staff = 47

### Delivery Platform – Selection Process

- Tutor coordinator and mentor/APP coordinator reviewed Webex, Zoom, Skype and MicroSoft Teams for feasibility.
- Webex was selected based on:
  - Access available to all students through [ecu.webex.com](http://ecu.webex.com)
  - Allows for the creation of a traditional classroom online
  - Provides interactive and real-time instruction
  - Allows for recorded sessions
  - Supported by ECU
  - Most compatible with ECU system
  - Security

### Trainings for New Delivery System – for both student-athletes and student staff

- Student development staff created both written and video instructions on how to sign up for and use the Webex platform.
- Tutor coordinator and mentor/APP coordinator held interactive on-line trainings for student staff through Webex.
- Additional resources (tips, integrity practices and troubleshooting documents) posted on tutor training Blackboard site.

### Scheduling Sessions

- Tutor/mentor/APP sessions are scheduled during the following time blocks:
  - 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
  - 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM.
- Academic coordinators work with their student-athletes on desired meeting times and schedule the meetings for the student-athletes.
- Every effort is made to schedule student-athletes with the same tutor, mentor or APP that they had in their F-2-F meetings to maintain consistency and continuity.

### Session Monitoring

- Academic coordinators have the ability to “pop in” on the sessions.
  - Two coordinators or GAs are assigned each day to monitor sessions.
  - Allows for troubleshooting and immediate monitoring of attendance.
- Student staff are asked to record sessions and upload them to the tutor coordinator.

### **iii. Freshmen Transition**

- Providing freshmen transition is an important component of the academic support services. Freshman study hall played an important role in that. Since study hall hours are not held in an online environment, higher risk freshmen have been assigned to mentors for regularly scheduled check-ins. The number of scheduled check-ins is determined based on the individual needs of each student.

## **3. Transition Evaluation**

### **Sessions by Week**

	Individual	Lab	TOTAL
Pre-Online			
Week of 2.2	43	30	73
Week of 2.9	54	21	75
Week of 2.16	45	19	64
Week of 2.23	60	44	104
Week of 3.1	50	71	121
Post-Online			
Week of 4.5*	71	40	108

\*Holiday week (4 vs 5 days of data)

- Summative evaluations planned for both student-athletes and student staff.