

August 25th University Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes Submitted by Sharon Justice, Secretary

Meeting was called to order by chair of the faculty senate: Purificacion Martinez

Attendees:

Mike Harris	Sharon Justice
Jon Gilbert	Alex Keddie
Alex Durland	Erik Kneubuehl
Rachel Baker	Purificacion Martinez
Nita Boyce	Charles Meadows
Chris Buddo	Mark Sanders
Cal Christian	Jean-Luc Scemama
Thompson Forbes	William West
Peter Francia	

The committee kicked off the year with introductions and was welcomed by the chair of the Faculty senate, Purificacion Martinez.

The ECU Faculty Senate webpage, Team Channel, and SharePoint site and other administrative support tools were reviewed with the membership. The role and charge of the committee was reviewed and is documented in the UAC home page.

Executive Committee Selections:

- Mike Harris was nominated and voted as chair
- Alex Durland nominated and elected as vice chair.
- Sharon Justice nominated and elected as Secretary

Puri brought additional topics:

- Committee should have the liberty to decide to change the meeting times if needed. Committee will meet at 3:30 pm on the identified dates.
- Memo from Student Academic Appellate committee of concern was identified as a topic to be addressed at a later date and time.

AD Jon Gilbert provided an update to the committee:

Our football team is in a pause until further notice.

Stadium capacity: Jon spoke with the health department officials last week and is working on a multiple option for fan attendance: 0%-25% attendance is a floating target week to week based on the

directives of the Governor. We will need to be flexible each week on how capacity needs will be resolved.

Grady White Boats gift and partnership with Eddie Smith. Gift was significant, signage is complete and Jon is very excited

Pirate club Executive Director position is still on pause given our current revenue position. Ryan Robinson is continuing to serve as interim director.

Revenue will take significant hits this fall. ECU is in a position of a refund model based on attendance restriction. Marketing dollars is expected to be down. We will be faced with really tough decisions in the days and weeks ahead.

AAC will make an announcement later today, August 25th about moving soccer and volleyball to the spring.

Football is the only fall sport. We will have all our sports teams still on campus. Hours per week is TBD. Speculation is around 12 hours per week in contact/practice.

Jon expressed his concern to online delivery and the 8 week block. He wants to ensure we are providing as much structure and guidance as possible to our at risk population, new students, transfers, or those that tend to struggle academically.

The floor was opened to Questions:

Regarding lower attendance capacity: students will be included in this number. However, there is a difference in telling a family of 4 they can sit together. He expressed concern that will students be directed to social distance and the adherence. Operationally, logistics will be a challenge.

How will football be handled if team plays or not if outbreak of Covid happens during game week. Belief that football season will mirror MLB in starting/stoppage during season.

There is an additional year of eligibility for all athletes and their scholarship would not count against the limits. There is concern about budget restraints, so conversations are happening with students and coaches about returning, transferring, or graduating.

Cal Christian , Faculty Athletics Rep: This was a busy summer with transfer waivers working with Alex Keddie. Cal worked with Nita over the summer in academic support, study halls, virtual transition and other student support requirements.

Nita Boyce: Our biggest concern is with the freshman class. Missing the face to face contact is a concern. They are missing the important transition, group and cohort programming.

Alex Keddie answered a question from the floor about scheduling and expense management. There has been talk about regional scheduling with non-conference components to control expenses.

Mike Harris then asked the committee about goals for the year.

1. Study the Scholarship appeals committee process and provide education and supporting documentation to educate the SAAC:

Note: All decisions have moved to the Academic Appellate committee and there is concern about the lack of understanding of athletics. Understanding the NCAA legislation is complex and must be considered when managing the appeal process.

Alex Keddie will create a resource document to accompany the scholarship appeal process.

Committee will provide the support and documentation to educate the appellate committee and ask they adhere to the NCAA guidelines and know who to contact for support or further education.

Other Goals discussed:

2. Host one or more head coaches to meet with the committee and educate about the scholarship and performance expectation process during a future meeting.
3. Review Budget and maintain awareness of the implications of each decision during the year
4. Host Alex Keddie to meet with the committee to provide compliance updates during a future meeting
5. Consider the feasibility to provide an update to faculty about student athletes, from UAC on any or all of the following topics.
 - a. Review the effects of online learning on SA to report to faculty senate?
 - b. Looking at gpa trends?
 - c. Review 8 week block class vs 15 week student performance
 - d. Explore impact on mentor and student tutor resources due to covid, online and schedule changes.
6. Explore the Student-Athlete Experience in a COVID world by hosting a few students and hearing their experience, their success and concerns
7. Conduct Academic Integrity Sub-committee meetings each semester and analyze data to understand academic trends among student athletes.

Follow up items:

1. Jon would like to have further discussion around the SAAC memo. Jon has serious concerns with the scholarship appeal committee and would like to meet immediately and not wait until the next committee meeting to discuss the memo.
 - a. Group will review the memo, and provide thoughts and comments in Teams by Tuesday Sept 1.

Future Meeting Schedule:

September 22, 2020

October 27, 2020

November 17, 2020

January 19, 2021

February 16, 2021

March 23, 2021

April 20, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30