

University Athletic Committee Agenda  
October 26, 2021, 3:30pm Held in Teams  
Pat Draughon Study Center Conference Room/MS Teams

**Attendees: Cal Christian, Sharon Justice, Karen Vail-Smith, Peter Francia, Shannon Powell, Adriana Cowell, Timm Hackett, Michael Harris, Charles Meadows, Alex Durland, Alex Kiddie, Erik Kneubuehl, Stacy Warner, Rachel Rodriguez, Jennifer Bonner, Jillian Hall.**

1. Approval of the September 28, 2021 minutes
  - a. Motion to approve by Stacy Warner, seconded by Cal Christian
  
2. Update from Athletics Director
  - a. Update provided by Alex Keddie in Jon's absence. Woman's soccer made the AAC tournament which will be scheduled late this week. Football is 3-4, in Houston recently with 5 hour delay before game began. Upcoming nationally televised Thursday night game this week with initiative for student attendance. Jonathan Coleman a football student athlete was selected to the AAC football oversight committee. He currently serves on the department SAAC as vice president and on the racial equality committee. There has been continued education of student athletes on name image and likeness rules and compliance. The AAC recently expanded to add UNCC, UAB, FAU, University of North Texas, Rice and UTSA. Expansion is expected to create two conference divisions and not create a significant burden of travel expense as many teams still try and schedule regionally. The current TV contract is expected to remain unchanged for 6-8 years. A question was posed about how NIL will affect pirate club donations. The department has been discussing with donors their options and how their change in donations may affect the pirate club, including how their donations may affect compliance. There is information about donations on the Sabre website for the pirate club.
  
3. Update from Faculty Athletics Representative (Cal Christian)

Increase in Texas teams in conference does not create concerns for increased travel expenses.

Missed class time – University excused absence doesn't work after 10% of class is missed. If you are going to miss more than 10% of course the instructor can request that a student stop taking the course. This conflict can occur in nursing due to Thursday and Friday classes. Athletics have a form that shows all the class potentially being missed to drive a conversation with faculty. Coaches and student athletes should have a better awareness of this 10% policy.

APR – ECU has done well enough to receive financial reward for their basketball related APR. Student development has managed to maintain function in light of staffing shortages. They do have several new employees starting.

#### 4. Discussion with Rachel Rodriguez Director of Student-Athlete Development/Life Skills

Undergrad in Public Relations. Experience in sales management and project management.

Wanted to have larger impact on student athlete performance and wellbeing.

Taught first year student athlete seminar

Teach COAD for ECU student athletes in first year.

Biggest challenge is students being overwhelmed coming back to campus after COVID.

Ensuring faculty are aware of student athlete wellbeing.

Adding some programs around student athlete wellbeing and student athlete professional activity.

Would like to find opportunities for student athletes in majors to interact within majors and with faculty in research.

Discussed opportunities for athletic programs to involve faculty. Most Valuable Professor, bring your professor to practice. Ideas.

Keep Rachel in mind for thinking of ways to help student athletes develop.

#### 5. Member Comments

- a. Motion to adjourn Motion by Stacy Warner, seconded by Cal Christian  
Adjourned at 1641.