

University Athletics Committee

February 21, 2018

President's Suite, Lane Stadium

Members Present: Holly Scoggins (Chair), Joe Gabbard, Kevin Gehr, Rachel Holloway, Robena Hughes, Jennifer Hundley, Bill Lansden, Irene Leech, Matt Mayotte, Jay Poole, Dwight Shelton, Brian Strahm, Terry Swecker, Joe Tront, Steve Trost, Chris Wise (for Patty Perillo)

Members Absent: Whit Babcock, Gordan Bryan, Kristine Loscalzo, Thomas Mills, Robert Owen, Robert Parker, John Pinkerton, Tim Stelter, Susan Sumner, Paul Winistorfer

Guests Present: Ryan Connolly, Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Angie Littlejohn

Recorder: Megan Griesemer, Assistant Director Compliance

Holly Scoggins, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

1. Presentation by President Sands

- Proud of the student-athlete experience at Virginia Tech
 - Great focus on the student-athlete as a person
 - Ahead of the curve
- Athletics Challenges
 - Financial
 - SA subsidiary situation
- Pride in Athletics leading the way in several areas
 - Nutrition improvements
 - Efforts in compliance and integrity
 - Stressing the student-athlete experience
 - Excitement surrounding television transition
- Athletics as “the Front Porch”
 - Need to have values aligned with the University
 - Important consideration of our continued growth
 - Ex: Buzz Williams emphasis on the importance of respecting the flag

Questions/Comments:

- How do we address situations that come up in the news?
 - Always room to do a better job, however impressed with the work that is being done. Important that advising is tied into the campus vision.
- Do you feel like we could communicate with the faculty?
 - Important to have information sharing in both directions
- Student involvement in community or internships

- University has seen this interest decline over the past few years in the student body
- As we have more active learning classrooms, this impacts athletes and makes it more challenging
 - Our scheduling is the toughest issue overall and impacts athletes heavily
 - How do we provide more opportunities/sections/etc
 - We have to keep an eye on it and continue to improve
- Coaches values must be aligned with Whit and the University to maintain integrity . . this is fundamental to avoiding issues in the press
- What does the NCAA look like in ten years?
 - Struggling with issue of what is their role?
 - How much to intervene with academic issues, etc
 - Hard to predict which way they will go

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda, and was passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 24, 2018

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of January 24, 2018. The motion was passed unanimously.

Business

4. Athletics Update and Q&A

Angie Littlejohn

- First baseball game will be played at home in new stadium
 - Many amenities in the stadium will not be open
 - Seating only on terrace side
- Several championships upcoming
 - Swimming
 - Indoor Track
 - Women's Basketball – don't know seeding
 - Men's Basketball
 - Wrestling (March 3rd)
- Letter from VCOM regard Larry Nassar situation
 - Will take questions during next meeting

Questions/Comments:

- Spread the word that's in the VCOM letter
- Many people are more hesitant to visit doctors and in particular DO
- Mike Goforth has shared our departmental policy to remind everyone about the right way to do things – Danny will present more on the next meeting

5. Report from 2018 NCAA Convention

Joseph Tront, Faculty Athletics Rep (FAR) and Reyna Gilbert-Lowry, Associate Athletics Director of Student-Athlete Development and Senior Woman administrator (SWA)

- Updates on Legislation that has been adopted

- Addition of Graduate Assistant in the sport of Diving
- Recruiting coordination functions for on-campus evaluation and selection of PSAs
- Student Host Entertainment Allowance increased to \$75/day
- Medical Expenses – Medical Coverage up to 2 years beyond separation from the institution (PAC12 already does this for 4 yrs)
 - Up to the institution to decide some parameters
 - Will go into effect on August 1, 2018
 - Will share with group once finalized
- Basketball Time limits for RARA (allow 3-day winter break)
 - ACC votes very close
- ACC Business
 - Proposal No. 2017-106
 - Basketball days off (RARA)
 - Proposal No. 2017-104
 - Medical Expenses, coverage after separation
 - Proposal No. 2017-95
 - Permissible benefits for significant other
 - Transfer Working Group
 - NCAA looking at policies for SAs who decide to transfer
 - Have formed a working group to investigate all issues
 - Fears of unethical recruiting contact, etc
- State of College Sports Address
 - NCAA Mark Emmert
 - Sexual misconduct
 - Basketball situation

Questions/Comments:

- “Kernel of truth”- media only pays attention to bad stuff
 - this speech was prior to Michigan State Athletics piece

6. Academic Update: Fall 2017

Matt Mayotte, Director of SAASS

- 17 Teams at 3.0 or higher (Term and Cumulative)
- WCC 3.67 Term GPA; WTE 3.48 Cumulative GPA
- 573 students on rosters
 - < 2.5, 19% of SAs (student body is 18.5%)
 - consistent representation of general student body
- Resources
 - Tutoring
 - Learning Assistance Coach
 - Study Hall
 - Individualized Academic Coaching
 - Daily/Weekly Updates to Coaching Staff
 - Care Report (vehicle for communication to sport administrators)

Questions/Comments:

- Is there a printed report to share with the group with more detail?
 - There is a hard copy report the goes across campus
 - Historical data

- Are teams performing in the right direction?
 - This group can lobby for more resources if needed
- Have requested a third learning specialist
 - Providing 1-on-1 support is very beneficial
 - Intensive academic coaching
- Overall upward trend

7. Other Business

- Committee on basketball
 - Soliciting information
 - Accepting letters, March 14th deadline
- ACC will generate a report
- 1A FARs are generating a report

Meeting Adjourned at 5:01 pm.