

University Athletics Academic Advisory Committee

May 1, 2012

Present: Brett Bennett, Anthony Walker, Anthony Malta, Mary Adams, Ulas Ograk, Barbara Michaelides, Tasha Fisher, Carl Thameling, Bobby Staub, Bob Cage, Wilson Campbell

Absent: Nate Brown, Roxanne Cassel, Sam Bruscato

The meeting opened at 4:05 pm. Ograk began the meeting by stating that last month's minutes were approved through email. He then introduced our first order of business: approval of next year's schedules for volleyball, football, and soccer.

After careful consideration of the schedules, the cmte concluded that minimal class days will be missed by football. Volleyball will miss approximately seven class days. Soccer will miss slightly more, with eight misses on MWF. Six of those misses are for Friday classes. Staub noted that soccer's travel schedule is somewhat heavier this year as the new coach must go on the road in order to re-establish home and home schedules with a number of schools.

Campbell asked, "Is there a specific number of MWF and TR classes they can miss?" We do not, but, as Fisher pointed out last month, it is common for universities to set specific requirements for seat time above the NCAA requirements. She reiterated here that the coaches may need a more specific policy on how much class-time can be missed. That way, the cmte can approve the number of misses rather than the schedule itself.

Staub indicated that he would like a more specific policy, saying, "If we adopt a policy with clear parameters, other things will take care of themselves." He added that Fisher has examples of what other schools are doing and that she will share some of those with the cmte.

Michaelides noted that instructors of student athletes will continue to receive memos documenting travel days. Thameling suggested that those memos include not only month and date information, but day-of-the-week details, as well.

Ultimately, Bennett moved to approve the schedules, and Malta seconded.

AD Report:

Staub reminded everyone of the Maroon and Gold Banquet on Wed, May 2nd, honoring 120 student athletes with a 3.00+ GPA.

We have hired a new Director of Communications, Alex Edwards.

Dr. Bruno has approved Ograk as head coach of Women's Sand Volleyball. The adoption of this new sport brings additional funds from the NCAA, as well as advantages with Title IX compliance. Staub pointed out that we already have the necessary facilities, and we will be able to add four scholarships. Staub also noted that several regional/Sunbelt schools have already adopted this sport, including Tulane, UAB, FIU, FAU, and Georgia State.

Fisher noted that this new program will assist us in recruiting players to our indoor volleyball team. "The timing is good because of the Summer Olympics."

Senior Compliance Administrator Report:

Fisher has compiled and submitted to the NCAA data for the Graduation Success Rate Data Review, which focused on the following teams: men's and women's indoor track, men's and women's outdoor track, football. Data was compiled from the 08/09, 09/10, and 10/11 teams.

Fisher announced that the director of compliance has accepted a job in her original business field. Fisher is now in the process of getting the position approved for posting.

Chair Report:

Ograk noted that he and Bennett are working on the draft of our cmte's year-end report, as well as our mission statement. They will share these documents with the cmte as soon as possible.

FAR Report:

Bennett reported that the Task Force's penalty structure appears to have worked well for the majority of athletes. Once final grades are posted, we will see the end result.

New Business:

Our next meeting will be held during the second week of fall classes: Tuesday, August 28th at 4 pm in the Student Success Center Conference Room. The second meeting of the academic year will be held on the first Tuesday of October.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Adams
Secretary of UAAAC
May 4, 2012