

**Kennesaw State University**  
**Athletics Board**  
**September 11, 2013**  
**Meeting notes**

Voting Members Present: Janeen Amason, Maria Britt, J. C. Bradbury, Ronald Bullock, Gary Cook for Barbara Calhoun, Rick Franza, Jim Herbert, Rebecca Makus, Don McGarey, Sara Metroka, Kandice Porter, Jerome Ratchford, Susan Rouse, Lynn Stallings, Randy Stuart, and Vaughn Williams

Voting Members Not Present: Stephen Braden, Dara Hudson, Ronco Johnson, Bob Mattox, Dan Papp, Rick Siegel

Non-Voting Members Present: Michael Redd, Randy Kennedy, Maureen McCarthy, Karen Pfeifer, Heath Senour, Brenda Stopher

Non-Voting Members Not Present: Mike Harders, Erik Malewski, Kim West

Guest: Jay Moseley

Rick Franza welcomed everyone and requested all attendees to introduce themselves and what area they are representing. Also, Dr. Franza thanked Dr. Tom Keene for his past leadership with the Board and his continued and valuable advice and counsel. At that time, Dr. Franza took a moment to talk about what the Athletic Board does and what is the role and responsibilities of the Board.

In an effort to better understand what our athletes and coaches do, Dr. Franza implemented the "Coaches Corner". The first presenter was Men's Golf Coach, Jay Moseley. Jay has been at Kennesaw State University for 5 years. Jay stated that his entire job is involved with recruitment and player development. Recruiting is the lifeline to every college team and there is no team too good to ignore recruiting. It can make or break a team. It is necessary to find the right fit; a great player may not mold into the atmosphere of the team. Jay trusts his mind, heart, and gut and are the determining factors on what athletes bring to the table as a potential player. Player development is a process of learning. In coaching, he has to remember the age group and make learning opportunities from mistakes. Jay helps his players find balance with their academic goals and have fun along the way. The golf team last year had a 3.66 GPA which was top 10 in the country for Division I!

Minutes of the May 1, 2013 KSU Athletics Board were approved.

Director of KSU Athletics, Vaughn Williams gave a State of the Department address to the Board. Academically, the athletes are doing well with last spring an overall GPA of 2.99, summer overall GPA of 3.03, last year a combined 3.02 GPA. 60% of student athletes had a 3.0 or better GPA. In community service, KSU athletes are spreading the black and gold. Over the last two years they have stepped up the game via engagement opportunities such as: MUST Ministries, Big Shanty Festivals, Taste of Kennesaw, College Colors Day. Sports report included: volleyball is hosting tournament this weekend and coming soon is the unveiling the football helmet. Currently, 1400+ season tickets for football have been sold. "Flight Night" is scheduled for October 19, and is an introduction into the basketball program. At that time, they will unveil the name of the live owl mascot. Director Williams reinforced the importance of being truly committed to impacting lives of our student athletes with support and personal engagement. Athletics is part of the academic experience and a valuable role in building the whole person.

Heath Senour spoke regarding compliance and NCAA developments. Heath and his staff protect the university from violating rules. Touching over 300 people, the spreadsheet that Heath distributed represents rules education, policy and procedures, and documentation shared since the beginning of the academic year. Fall compliance meetings also involved being invited to speak to local high schools and talk about initial eligibility requirements, NCAA processes, and recruiting regulations.

Dr. Franza explained the KSU Athletics Board is mostly on the academic, institutional control side of the university. The KSU Athletic Association is on the fiscal side. One of the purposes of this body being formed is to separate academic funds from athletics funds. This enables providing multi-year contracts for our coaches. It is critically important to understand the financial dynamics of athletics.

Brenda Stopher presented regarding the KSU Athletics Association. The University created KSUAA about 2 years ago, collecting the student fees on their behalf, processing employees, and scholarships are processed through Financial Aid. Brenda consolidates the activities on both entities and ensures that we are staying on budget collectively. She has already shared her report with KSUAA Board and Finance Committee. Last fiscal year, they budgeted for a loss with the anticipation of football coming. Because of enrollment, we ended the year with further loss. Donations and sponsorships did not come in on a timely manner, mostly due to the delay with the football announcement. The Board of Regents requires a certain degree of reserve. We have committed as part of our football plan at the end of this fiscal year to have \$2 million in reserve. Our primary revenue source is approximately \$12.5 million that will be driven by student fees alone.

Randy Stuart (FAR) reported that end of season and exit interviews have been completed. Randy conducted 39 out of 41 in-person exit interviews. Highlights included were that student athletes considered it an honor and privilege to be a part of the athletics program at KSU. They enjoyed both the athletic and academic experience. Two areas of concern were time management and a problem with our equipment distribution. Both interview vehicles were consistent with the same results. The report was voted on and approved and will be posted to the I drive for access. Vaughn Williams said this information is a very valuable tool to look at ourselves and the timing is perfect.

The Minority Gender and Life Skills Committee report is not ready yet and will be provided at the next meeting. Dr. Franza requested the Board to consider open positions on Executive Committee, Appeals Committee, Admissions Advisory Committee, Academic Support Committee. More descriptions of the committees are found on the web site.

Rick Franza spoke on Department Liaison and Mentors Program. The Mentors Program involves a faculty member assigned to one or more student athletes, usually freshmen or transfer students, who they can go to, ask questions, and help communicate for them. Mentors are now going to be called "Coaches Outside the Lines" available for faculty and staff. A new part of this program is development of a Department Liaison. The mission is to have a point person in every academic department for student athletes and parents to inquire about their specific academic area of interest. This program cultivates zero perception of undue influence between coaches speaking directly with faculty regarding a particular student athlete. Please provide Dr. Franza and JuLee Childre the names of people in your department.

Rick Franza requested to move the next Athletics Board meeting on November 13 to November 6. Request was approved with no objections. Calendars will be updated accordingly.

Team academic awards have not been presented in the last year. So we want to make sure to reinstate these awards and update the plaques. The Board wishes for the student athletes and their teams to be recognized for their academic performance and other accomplishments at halftime in basketball games and so forth. Also recognize the coaches in front of coaching meetings.

The Admissions Advisory Committee is reconsidering our current method for evaluating special admits. For review, read Students First Policy on the website, which refers to our current admissions policy. The Type I admits is now a streamlined process. Type II admits have multiple or are substantially below in one area of the admission requirements. Previously, the board would meet and consider each case individually. Problems with this are timeliness and it hampers the coaches with recruitment. Our committee is meeting a week from Friday to discuss a draft proposal, with the goal to bring something to the Athletic Committee on November 6. Michael Redd from the Registrar's office stated that the committee's findings are only a recommendation to the University Admissions Committee for final decision. This is not a separate football admissions policy, the system will hold for all sports. Vaughn Williams, commented on the relevance to this vote with impacting lives and wanting the best for Kennesaw State academically and athletically.

With no further business, Dr. Franza adjourned the meeting.