

*Kennesaw State University*

*Athletics Board Committee Meeting*

*Summary Notes February 19, 2014*

*Present:* Janeen Amason, Stephen Braden, Maria Britt, Chris Brown for J.C. Bradbury, Richard Franza, Jim Herbert, Tom Keene, Kristina Llanes, Randy Kennedy, Nancy King, Rebecca Makus, Bob Mattox, Maureen McCarthy, Donald McGarey, Sara Metroka, Daniel Niederjohn, Karen Pfeifer, Jerome Ratchford, Michael Redd, Heath Senour, Rick Siegel, Lynn Stallings, Randy Stuart, Scott Whitlock, and Vaughn Williams

Dr. Franza welcomed all and introductions around the room were given.

The Faculty Academic Representative (FAR) is transitioning from Randy Stuart to Daniel Niederjohn in a few days. The committee thanked and honored Randy for her outstanding work for the entire KSU athletic community. Dr. Papp extended his personal appreciation via a letter expressly to Randy for her commitment to the job, championing academic integrity, and ensuring student athlete welfare. Vaughn Williams and Scott Whitlock also thanked Randy for her service and presented her with a KSU football helmet.

The "Coaches Corner" presentation was provided by Kristina Llanes, Head Coach of women's lacrosse team. In the second year of the program, they currently have 23 student athletes representing 5 different states. Not many people are familiar with lacrosse; many compare it to a combination of hockey and soccer. It is the fastest growing collegiate sport. Their team model is "PUSH": perseverance, unity, strength and heart. Coach Llanes wishes to build the lacrosse program fostering an environment of academic integrity and community leadership. She is very appreciative to the KSU support programs such as SASS and Sterling Brown and Tiffany Weaver for their emphasis on character development.

The KSU Athletic Board minutes from November 6, 2013 were approved.

Athletic Director, Vaughn Williams gave the state of the department report. 2014 has had a great start at KSU. 189 student athletes are averaging 3.0 GPA or higher, which is approximately 70% of the program. Student-Athlete Development personnel are working with Cobb Chamber on an internship program targeting our students. This could be a difference maker in helping student athletes prepare for their future. Corporate sponsors, WellStar and Superior Plumbing, have committed to long term support to the athletic program. Symbolizing the direction we are going with in football, the number one player in the state of Georgia will be coming to KSU. To date, over 2500 tickets have been sold for football.

The compliance report was given by Heath Senour. He provided several reports including: 1) A list of NLI signees for 2014-15. Currently there are 71 prospects signed to compete with us next year. 2) A list of compliance self-reports for the 2013-14 academic year used to track issues and timing on how reports get processed. 3) Rules Education Sessions, as our student athletes and coaches are partnering with community members, we provide rules education services to high schools. Heath and staff members go out to high schools and visit guidance counselors, prospective student athletes, and parents regarding NCAA initial eligibility rules and regulations.

There were no required Financial Reports to be brought forward to the Board for discussion.

Karen Pfeifer provided the basics of Title IX. F13 enrollment was 42% male 58% female – our athletic program should mirror those enrollment numbers. We were right on track last year with our updated report. This year, we have swung high on the female side. We are high on female athletes because we added women's lacrosse. With football approaching it will swing back. In regard to scholarships, we were over awarding women. Title IX does not work that way and currently being fixed. With Title IX, there are different components: effective accommodation of student interests and abilities, athletic financial assistance (scholarships), equal opportunity and the equivalence standard. Dr. Papp has made a commitment that we will reach Title IX via proportionality. Unknowns still exists with Southern Poly consolidation which is composed heavily of male population, which will move us closer to 50%-50%. This will make a difference in how many women we need to add. That will become clearer as the consolidation shakes out. EADA (Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act) data also includes coach's salary which the market, responsibility, and experience determine. It is hard to find female head coaches due to work-life balance challenges. At the end of the day, we want to have all our teams coached by the best individual, regardless of gender.

Randy Stuart reported on the KSU Athlete End of Season Survey. The purpose of this survey is to give the student athlete an opportunity to provide input in pursuit of making their team better. After spring, Randy asked the coaches and athletic team management to please review the survey and respond with recommendations. Randy submitted the revised version of the survey to the Board for their review and vote on approval. The End of Season Survey recommended changes were approved.

Dr. Franza reminded the Board we have three oversight committees. One of which is the Academic Support Committee (ASC), will be meeting soon to discuss the transition to football.

The Minority, Gender, Life, Skills Committee (MGLS) report was given by Nancy King. This committee is charged with coming up with a five year plan looking at minority, gender, and life skills equity. The main headline is we are now in much better shape than five years ago. The low number of female head coaches is still an issue, but working on it. Regarding the minority section, we need emphasis on continuing diversity and inclusion training and keeping our athletes, coaches, and staff knowledgeable of all KSU resources. It is important to monitor the Exit and End of Season surveys from student athletes to keep a pulse on any issues with diversity.

The Admissions Advisory Committee (AAC) reported by Tom Keene presented an update on the special admits process. Tom gave an overview on three changes since November: the overall task was to integrate the document and team risk concept into Students First Policy. That required close to a total rewrite of several sections of Students First Policy. The one area where new principals were considered was regarding international students stated on page 4. The committee met with Julio Espana and Admissions faculty and learned that they have a high level of confidence in the transcript services assigning an equivalent GPA evaluations coming from different countries. The NCAA uses these assigned equivalent scores. The one addition to the system is the use of the TOEFL exam to evaluate English fluency and the addition of TOEFL scores to determine the international students' admission classifications. Finally, we separated out the process timeline by making a few changes, tweaking the dates to fit projected timelines; which will likely shift. Motion was made to approve the document and a vote was taken. Approved with one opposed.

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